

# Bridging VESPA and NASA/PDS

- **VESPA**: uses TAP + EPNcore for data discovery.
- **PDS**: NASA planetary science archive
- **Aim**: build a VESPA-EPNcore keyword dictionary to allow the use of EPNcore keywords in PDS4

# NASA PDS v4

- PDS = Planetary Science Archive.
- PDS v4 is an implementation of the Open Archival Information System (OAIS) Reference Model.
- PDS Information model (IM) = data model.  
Archive oriented (preservation, reusability)
- Each PDS entity is a “product” (an object + a label).
- PDS v4 labels are XML files.
- Hierarchy of governance for defining and maintaining dictionaries.

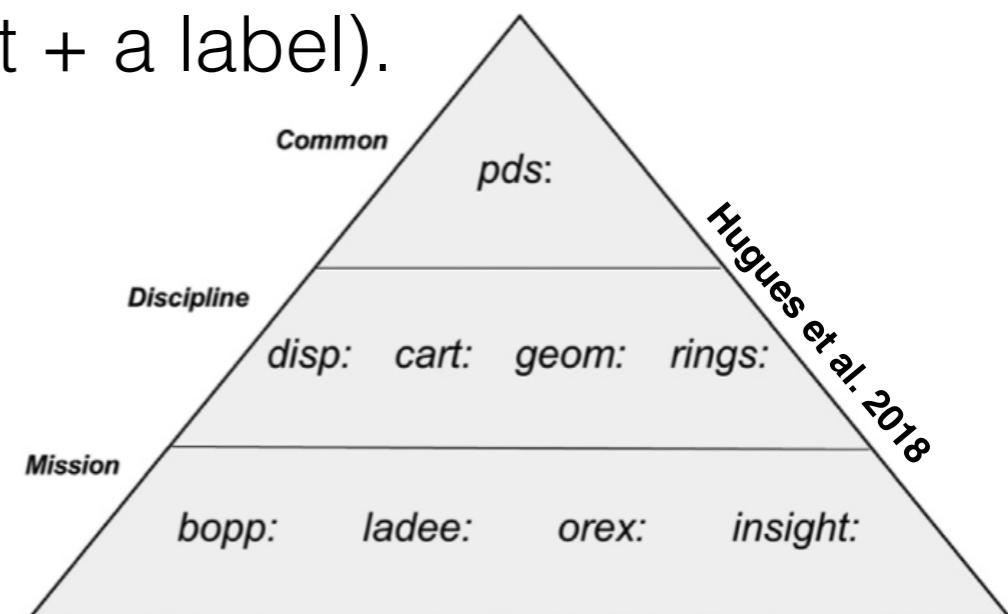


Fig. 1. - Multi-level Governance in the PDS4 Information Model.

# PDS Local Data Dictionary

- Local Data Dictionaries (LDD): extension of PDS4 IM  
Possibility to add new concepts into information model.
- LDD = XML schema + Schematron rules.
- LDD is built with LDDtool: input = simple XML file
- See here:  
[http://sbndev.astro.umd.edu/wiki/Installing\\_and\\_Configuring\\_LDDTool](http://sbndev.astro.umd.edu/wiki/Installing_and_Configuring_LDDTool)

# VESPA EPNcore data model

- EPNcore = set of keywords for science data products:  
coverage (ranges, resolutions), observation system,  
measured quantity, access...  
Data discovery oriented
- Flat data model v2.0:  
<https://voparis-confluence.obspm.fr/display/VES/EPNcore+v2>

# EPNcore into PDS LDD

option	name	features	issues
Option 1	original flat	simple EPNcore translation	coordinates, ranges, units, validation
Option 2	original nested	grouped keywords fix: ranges, units	coordinates, validation
Option 3	multidictionary	several dictionaries to fix multiple definitions of same keyword name	not implemented
Option 4	detailed coords	explicit coordinate names	coordinates definitions differ from EPNCORE model
Option 5	detailed coords single values	explicit coordinates names explicit single values/ranges	coordinates definitions differ from EPNCORE model

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Option 5	detailed coords single values	explicit coordinates names explicit single values/ranges	coordinates definitions differ from EPNCORE model

# EPNcore LDD option 1

## Original Flat schema

- This EPN VESPA LDD version propose a flat architecture corresponding to EPN VESPA attributes.
- **Features:**
  - all EPN VESPA attributes at same level in XML label
- **Current issues:**
  - c1min, c1max, c2min, c2max, c3min and c3max can't have @unit. This will be problematic for mapping with other LDDs, and make validation more complex.
  - s\_region is provided is an STC string. No validation process.
  - bib\_reference should be split in various subtypes for validation
  - particle\_spectral\_\*\_min and particle\_spectral\_\*\_max units can't be described (no @unit)
  - access\_format missing ASCII\_Mime\_Type value\_data\_type
  - attributes missing \_min/\_max split: subsolar\_longitude, subsolar\_latitude, subobserver\_longitude, subobserver\_latitude, ra, dec, radial\_distance, altitude\_fromshape, mass, sidereal\_rotation\_period, mean\_radius, equatorial\_radius, polar\_radius

# EPNcore LDD option 1

## Original Flat schema

Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of time\_min keyword

```
<!-- time axis attributes -->

<DD_Attribute> <!-- time_min [mandatory] -->
  <name>time_min</name>
  <version_id>2.0</version_id>
  <local_identifier>time_min</local_identifier>
  <nillable_flag>true</nillable_flag>
  <submitter_name>Baptiste Cecconi</submitter_name>
  <definition>The time_min parameter provide the start date and time of acquisition in the observer frame.
    Time parameters are provided in UTC and formatted in Julian days (expressed as a double precision
    float).</definition>
  <DD_Value_Domain>
    <enumeration_flag>false</enumeration_flag>
    <value_data_type>ASCII_Real</value_data_type>
    <unit_of_measure_type>Units_of_Time</unit_of_measure_type>
    <specified_unit_id>julian day</specified_unit_id>
  </DD_Value_Domain>
</DD_Attribute>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 1

## Original Flat schema

Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of schematron rules

```
<!-- Schematron rules -->

<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_range_bounds -->
  <local_identifier>check_time_range_bounds</local_identifier>
  <rule_context>epn:VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters</rule_context>
  <DD_Rule_Statement>
    <rule_type>Assert</rule_type>
    <rule_test>not(epn:time_min) or not(epn:time_max) or epn:time_min &lt;= epn:time_max</rule_test>
    <rule_message>time_min must be lower or equal than time_max</rule_message>
  </DD_Rule_Statement>
</DD_Rule>
<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_sampling_step_bounds --> [9 lines]
<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_exp_bounds --> [9 lines]
```

# EPNcore LDD option 1

## Original Flat schema

Example\_label.xml – begin of fil, with several keywords

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-model href="Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.sch" type="application/xml" schematypens="http://purl.oclc.org/dsdl/schematron"?>
<VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1 Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.xsd">
  <granule_uid>test</granule_uid>
  <granule_gid>test</granule_gid>
  <obs_id>test</obs_id>
  <dataproduct_type>ts</dataproduct_type>
  <measurement_type>phys.magField</measurement_type>
  <processing_level>2</processing_level>
  <target_name>Jupiter</target_name>
  <target_class>planet</target_class>
  <time_min unit="julian day">2455000.5</time_min>
  <time_max unit="julian day">2455001.5</time_max>
  <time_sampling_step_min unit="s">1</time_sampling_step_min>
  <time_sampling_step_max unit="s">10</time_sampling_step_max>
  <time_exp_min unit="s">5</time_exp_min>
  <time_exp_max unit="s">5</time_exp_max>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 2

## Original nested schema

- This EPN VESPA LDD version propose a nested architecture corresponding to EPN VESPA attributes classification in the EPN VESPA documentation
- **Features:**
  - nested EPN VESPA attributes in XML label
  - s\_region is decomposed into pieces, making validation possible
  - added \_min/\_max to subsolar\_longitude, subsolar\_latitude, subobserver\_longitude, subobserver\_latitude, ra, dec, radial\_distance, altitude\_fromshape
  - bib\_reference is describes either as a bibref, a doi or an url.
- **Current issues:**
  - c1min, c1max, c2min, c2max, c3min and c3max names are defined several times (with different local\_identifier).  
This confuses the validation engine and false errors on units are reported.

# EPNcore LDD option 2

## Original nested schema

Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of time\_range class

```
<!-- time_axis classes -->

<DD_Class> <!-- time_range class -->
  <name>time_range</name>
  <version_id>2.0</version_id>
  <local_identifier>time_range</local_identifier>
  <submitter_name>Baptiste Cecconi</submitter_name>
  <definition>The time_min and time_max parameter provide the start date and time of acquisition in the observer frame. Time parameters are provided in UTC and formatted in Julian days (expressed as a double precision float). Although ObsCore uses Modified JD, EPNCore uses standard JD to avoid ambiguity with time origin. With double precision floats, the accuracy is on the order of 1 ms, which is considered sufficient to identify data of interest (the initial accuracy is preserved in the data itself). The two values min/max permit to handle long periods. Whenever acquisition time is a scalar (rather than an interval), both time_min and time_max must contain the same value in the table. There is no limiting value to this parameter</definition>
  <DD_Association>
    <identifier_reference>time_min</identifier_reference>
    <reference_type>attribute_of</reference_type>
    <minimum_occurrences>0</minimum_occurrences>
    <maximum_occurrences>1</maximum_occurrences>
  </DD_Association>
  <DD_Association>
    <identifier_reference>time_max</identifier_reference>
    <reference_type>attribute_of</reference_type>
    <minimum_occurrences>0</minimum_occurrences>
    <maximum_occurrences>1</maximum_occurrences>
  </DD_Association>
</DD_Class>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 2

## Original nested schema

Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of schematron rules

```
<!-- Schematron rules -->

<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_range_bounds -->
  <local_identifier>check_time_range_bounds</local_identifier>
  <rule_context>epn:VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters</rule_context>
  <DD_Rule_Statement>
    <rule_type>Assert</rule_type>
    <rule_test>not(epn:time_min) or not(epn:time_max) or epn:time_min &lt;= epn:time_max</rule_test>
    <rule_message>time_min must be lower or equal than time_max</rule_message>
  </DD_Rule_Statement>

<!-- Schematron rules -->

<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_range_bounds -->
  <local_identifier>check_time_frame_bounds</local_identifier>
  <rule_context>epn:VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters,epn:time_axis,epn:time_range</rule_context>
  <DD_Rule_Statement>
    <rule_type>Assert</rule_type>
    <rule_test>not(epn:time_min) or not(epn:time_max) or epn:time_min &lt;= epn:time_max</rule_test>
    <rule_message>time_min must be lower or equal than time_max</rule_message>
  </DD_Rule_Statement>
</DD_Rule>
<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_sampling_step_bounds --> [9 lines]
<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_exp_bounds --> [9 lines]
```

# EPNcore LDD option 2

## Original nested schema

Example\_label.xml – begin of file, with several keywords

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-model href="Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.sch" type="application/xml" schematypens="http://purl.oclc.org/dsdl/schematron"?>
<VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1" xsi:schemaLocation="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1 Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.xsd">
  <granule>
    <granule_uid>test</granule_uid>
    <granule_gid>test</granule_gid>
    <obs_id>test</obs_id>
  </granule>
  <data_description>
    <dataprodut_type>ts</dataprodut_type>
    <measurement_type>phys.magField</measurement_type>
    <processing_level>2</processing_level>
  </data_description>
  <target>
    <target_class>planet</target_class>
    <target_name>Jupiter</target_name>
  </target>
  <observation_system>
    <instrument_host_name>Cassini</instrument_host_name>
    <instrument_name>Mag</instrument_name>
  </observation_system>
  <time_axis>
    <time_range>
      <time_min unit="julian day">2455000.5</time_min>
      <time_max unit="julian day">2455001.5</time_max>
    </time_range>
    <time_sampling_step>
      <time_sampling_step_min unit="s">10</time_sampling_step_min>
      <time_sampling_step_max unit="s">10</time_sampling_step_max>
    </time_sampling_step>
    <time_exp>
      <time_exp_min unit="s">5</time_exp_min>
      <time_exp_max unit="s">5</time_exp_max>
    </time_exp>
  </time_axis>
</VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 4

## Detailed coords schema

- This EPN VESPA LDD version propose a nested architecture corresponding to EPN VESPA attributes classification in the EPN VESPA documentation, except for the c1min, c1max, c2min, c2max, c3min and c3max elements, that are replaced by explicit attribute names.
- **Features:**
  - nested EPN VESPA attributes in XML label
  - explicit c1min, c1max, c2min, c2max, c3min and c3max coordinate names
  - s\_region is decomposed into pieces, making validation possible
  - added \_min/\_max to subsolar\_longitude, subsolar\_latitude, subobserver\_longitude, subobserver\_latitude, ra, dec, radial\_distance, altitude\_fromshape
  - bib\_reference is described (and is validated) either as a bibref, a doi or an url.
  - Detached extension classes:
    - + Particle\_Spectroscopy\_Extension\_Parameters,
    - + Solar\_System\_Objects\_Extension\_Parameters
    - + Experimental\_Spectroscopy\_Extension\_Parameters
    - + APIS\_Extension\_Parameters
- **Current issues:**
  - c1min, c1max, c2min, c2max, c3min and c3max not defined as the VESPA EPNcore model

# EPNcore LDD option 4

## Detailed coords schema

Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of spatial axis keywords

```
<!-- spatial axes attributes -->

<DD_Attribute> <!-- spatial_frame_type [mandatory] --> [60 lines]

<DD_Attribute> <!-- ra_min (c1 in celestial frame) [mandatory] -->
  <name>ra_min</name>
  <version_id>2.0</version_id>
  <local_identifier>ra_min</local_identifier>
  <nillable_flag>true</nillable_flag>
  <submitter_name>Baptiste Cecconi</submitter_name>
  <definition>The ra_min (c1min in celestial frame) parameter provides the lowest bound of the Right Ascension celestial coordinate.
  </definition>
  <DD_Value_Domain>
    <enumeration_flag>false</enumeration_flag>
    <value_data_type>ASCII_Real</value_data_type>
    <minimum_value>0</minimum_value>
    <maximum_value>360</maximum_value>
    <unit_of_measure_type>Units_of_Angle</unit_of_measure_type>
    <specified_unit_id>deg</specified_unit_id>
  </DD_Value_Domain>
</DD_Attribute>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 4

## Detailed coords schema

Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of schematron rules

```
<DD_Rule> <!-- check_spatial_frame_type_and_class -->
  <local_identifier>check_spatial_frame_type_and_class</local_identifier>
  <rule_context>epn:VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters,epn:spatial_axes</rule_context>
  <DD_Rule_Statement>
    <rule_type>Assert</rule_type>
    <rule_test>epn:spatial_frame_type = 'none' or
      (epn:spatial_frame_type = 'celestial' and epn:celestial_frame_axes) or
      (epn:spatial_frame_type = 'body' and epn:body_frame_axes) or
      (epn:spatial_frame_type = 'cartesian' and epn:cartesian_frame_axes) or
      (epn:spatial_frame_type = 'spherical' and epn:spherical_frame_axes) or
      (epn:spatial_frame_type = 'sylindrical' and epn:cylindrical_frame_axes)</rule_test>
    <rule_message>The *_frame_axes element corresponding to the spatial_frame_type must be present</rule_message>
  </DD_Rule_Statement>
</DD_Rule>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 4

## Detailed coords schema

Example\_label.xml – section of file, with spatial keywords

```
<spatial_axes>
  <spatial_frame_type>cartesian</spatial_frame_type>
  <spatial_coordinate_description>Jupiter_III</spatial_coordinate_description>
  <spatial_origin>Jupiter</spatial_origin>
  <cartesian_frame_axes>
    <x_min unit="m">10</x_min>
    <x_max unit="m">100</x_max>
    <y_min unit="m">-5</y_min>
    <y_max unit="m">5</y_max>
    <z_min unit="m">100</z_min>
    <z_max unit="m">10000</z_max>
  </cartesian_frame_axes>
  <s_region>
    <s_region_type>polygon</s_region_type>
    <s_region_polygon_point>
      <s_region_lon unit="deg">10</s_region_lon>
      <s_region_lat unit="deg">-5</s_region_lat>
    </s_region_polygon_point>
    <s_region_polygon_point>
      <s_region_lon unit="deg">10</s_region_lon>
      <s_region_lat unit="deg">5</s_region_lat>
    </s_region_polygon_point>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 5

## Detailed coords + single values schema

- This EPN VESPA LDD version propose a nested architecture corresponding to EPN VESPA attributes classification in the EPN VESPA documentation, except the issues mentionned below.
- **Features:**
  - explicit c1min, c1max, c2min, c2max, c3min and c3max coordinate names
  - single value specification enabled when range bounds are the same.
  - s\_region is decomposed into pieces, making validation possible
  - added \_min/\_max to subsolar\_longitude, subsolar\_latitude, subobserver\_longitude, subobserver\_latitude, ra, dec, radial\_distance, altitude\_fromshape
  - bib\_reference is described (and is validated) either as a bibref, a doi or an url.
  - Detached extension classes:
    - + Particle\_Spectroscopy\_Extension\_Parameters,
    - + Solar\_System\_Objects\_Extension\_Parameters
    - + Experimental\_Spectroscopy\_Extension\_Parameters
    - + APIS\_Extension\_Parameters
  - when \*\_min and \*\_max values are equal, the user can select the corresponding \*\_value attribute instead of the \*\_min and \*\_max attributes.
- **Current issues:**
  - c1min, c1max, c2min, c2max, c3min and c3max not defined as the VESPA EPNcore model. Each axis is explicitly defined, with proper names and units.
  - \*\_value keyword not in VESPA EPNcore model

# EPNcore LDD option 5

## Detailed coords + single values schema

### Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of time\_range class

```
<!-- time_axis classes -->

<DD_Class> <!-- time_range class -->
  <name>time_range</name>
  <version_id>2.0</version_id>
  <local_identifier>time_range</local_identifier>
  <submitter_name>Baptiste Ceconci</submitter_name>
  <definition>The parameters available in this class provides range or value of the date and time of acquisition in the observer frame. Use time_min and time_max in case of a range, and time_value for a single event. Time parameters are provided in UTC and formatted in Julian days (expressed as a double precision float). Although ObsCore uses Modified JD, EPNCORE uses standard JD to avoid ambiguity with time origin. With double precision floats, the accuracy is on the order of 1 ms, which is considered sufficient to identify data of interest (the initial accuracy is preserved in the data itself). The two values min/max permit to handle long periods.</definition>

  <DD_Association>
    <identifier_reference>time_value</identifier_reference>
    <reference_type>attribute_of</reference_type>
    <minimum_occurrences>0</minimum_occurrences>
    <maximum_occurrences>1</maximum_occurrences>
  </DD_Association>

  <DD_Association>
    <identifier_reference>time_min</identifier_reference>
    <reference_type>attribute_of</reference_type>
    <minimum_occurrences>0</minimum_occurrences>
    <maximum_occurrences>1</maximum_occurrences>
  </DD_Association>

  <DD_Association>
    <identifier_reference>time_max</identifier_reference>
    <reference_type>attribute_of</reference_type>
    <minimum_occurrences>0</minimum_occurrences>
    <maximum_occurrences>1</maximum_occurrences>
  </DD_Association>
</DD_Class>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 5

## Detailed coords + single values schema

Ingest\_LDD\_VESPA.xml – definition of schematron rules

```
<!-- Schematron rules -->

<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_range_value -->
  <local_identifier>check_time_range_value</local_identifier>
  <rule_context>epn:VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters/epn:time_axis/epn:time_range</rule_context>
  <DD_Rule_Statement>
    <rule_type>Assert</rule_type>
    <rule_test>boolean(epn:time_value) != boolean(epn:time_min or epn:time_max)</rule_test>
    <rule_message>Use either time_value or time_min and time_max</rule_message>
  </DD_Rule_Statement>
</DD_Rule>
<DD_Rule> <!-- check_time_bounds -->
  <local_identifier>check_time_bounds</local_identifier>
  <rule_context>epn:VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters/epn:time_axis/epn:time_range</rule_context>
  <DD_Rule_Statement>
    <rule_type>Assert</rule_type>
    <rule_test>not(epn:time_min) or not(epn:time_max) or epn:time_min &lt;= epn:time_max</rule_test>
    <rule_message>time_min must be lower or equal than time_max</rule_message>
  </DD_Rule_Statement>
</DD_Rule>
```

# EPNcore LDD option 5

## Detailed coords + single values schema

Example\_label.xml – begin of file, with time\_axis keywords  
(ranges and and value)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-model href="Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.sch" type="application/xml" schematypens="http://purl.oclc.org/dsdl/schematron"?>
<VESPA_EPNcore_Parameters xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1 Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.xsd">
  <granule_uid>o4bda5kaq_1D_pdf</granule_uid>
  <granule_gid>1D_spectra</granule_gid>
  <obs_id>o4bda5kaq</obs_id>
  <service_title>APIS</service_title>
  <dataproduct_type>sp</dataproduct_type>
  <measurement_type>phot.flux.density;em.UV.100-200nm</measurement_type>
  <processing_level>5</processing_level>
  <target_class>planet</target_class>
  <target_name>Saturn</target_name>
  <target_region>magnetosphere</target_region>
  <feature_name>planetary aurorae</feature_name>
  <instrument_host_name>hst</instrument_host_name>
  <instrument_name>STIS</instrument_name>
  <filter>52X0.5</filter>
  <time_axis>
    <time_range>
      <time_min unit="julian day">2450787.7134216</time_min>
      <time_max unit="julian day">2450787.72499787</time_max>
    </time_range>
    <time_exp>
      <time_exp_value unit="s">1000.1899</time_exp_value>
    </time_exp>
  </time_axis>
```

# Real use case

## Cassini/RPWS/HFR/QTN collection

- PDS4 Archive bundle preparation for Cassini/RPWS/HFR/QTN

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-model href="https://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/pds/v1/PDS4_PDS_1A10.sch" type="application/xml"
schematypens="http://purl.oclc.org/dsdl/schematron"?><?xml-model href="Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.sch"
type="application/xml"?><Product_Observational xmlns="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/pds/v1"
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xmlns:epn="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1"
xsi:schemaLocation="http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/pds/v1 https://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/pds/v1/PDS4_PDS_1A10.xsd
http://pds.nasa.gov/pds4/epn/v1 Ingest_LDD_VESPA_EPN_1x8000.xml">
<Identification_Area>
  <logical_identifier>urn:nasa:pds:co-rpws-saturn:hfr-qtn-data:200406301642-200407010951-cdf</logical_identifier>
  <version_id>1.0</version_id>
  <title>Quasi Thermal Noise spectroscopy on High Frequency Receiver Data</title>
  <information_model_version>1.10.1.0</information_model_version>
  <product_class>Product_Observational</product_class>
  <Citation_Information>
    <publication_year>2018</publication_year>
    <description>This product contains RPWS-HFR Quasi Thermal Noise Data. The data are generated by the QTN analysis. The QTN analysis contains a time series of thermal plasma moments (density, temperature, and pressure) that are generated only when the QTN analysis is applicable.</description>
  </Citation_Information>
  <Modification_History>
    <Modification_Detail>
      <modification_date>2018-11-06</modification_date>
      <version_id>1.0</version_id>
      <description>HFR-QTN Initial Release</description>
    </Modification_Detail>
  </Modification_History>
</Identification_Area>
<Observation_Area>
  <Time_Coordinates>
    <start_date_time>2004-06-30T16:42:09.819Z</start_date_time>
    <stop_date_time>2004-07-01T09:51:13.419Z</stop_date_time>
  </Time_Coordinates>
  <Investigation_Area>
    <name>Cassini-Huygens</name>
    <type>Mission</type>
    <Internal_Reference>
      <lid_reference>urn:nasa:pds:context:investigation:cassini-huygens</lid_reference>
      <reference_type>data_to_investigation</reference_type>
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# Next steps

- Select option to implement (personal preference = option 5)
- Check on real cases. Cassini/RPWS/QTN Higher level data collection is current test bench.

=> goal: use VESPA\_EPNcore\_LDD on this data collection and prototype query of EPNcore keywords using PDS4 search interface.
- Build PDS4 “mapping” product between EPNcore and PDS IM (and other LDDs)
- Improved definition of EPNcore model?