Precision GNSS Module Evaluation Kit User Manual

v1.2

Introduction

This document provides setup and usage reference for the Swift Navigation's Precision GNSS Module (PGM) Evaluation Kit.

The Evaluation Kit - featuring Swift's mPCIe format PGM receiver installed in an IoT computer platform - provides a turn-key demonstration of Swift's precision positioning solution. The PGM provides real-time precision GNSS and IMU measurements, and is designed specifically for Swift's Starling® positioning engine running on a host application processor. When used with Swift's Skylark™ cloud-based precise corrections service, the PGM Evaluation Platform (PEP) delivers even stronger performance and higher accuracy levels. The Evaluation Kit is ideal for customers building industrial, last mile and Internet of Things (IoT) platforms that require the ability to quickly install on a target platform and test performance in the field.

The PGM Evaluation Kit includes everything needed to install this GNSS system in your application and quickly get started with precise RTK positioning. It also comes with a 30-day Skylark trial.

Fig 1. PGM Evaluation Platform

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Evaluation Kit Content

Fig 1. PGM Evaluation Kit Content

1. GNSS L1/L5 magnet-mount antenna
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6. RS232 null modem for serial port connection
7. Vehicle signals cable
8. Power supply cable for direct 12 V supply
9. 12 V DC power supply 100-240 V AC input with international plugs
10. RJ45 Ethernet cable
11. DisplayPort to HDMI adapter cable

PGM Evaluation Platform

The PGM Evaluation platform is based on the Onlogic CL200 series industrial computer. The Swift Navigation PGM module occupies one of the internal mPCIe slots. Additionally, the platform contains a Wi-Fi / Bluetooth mPCIe module for wireless connectivity, RS232 serial port for GNSS data output, Ethernet port, display port and three USB ports. Platform runs Ubuntu 20.04 Linux server out of the micro SD card.

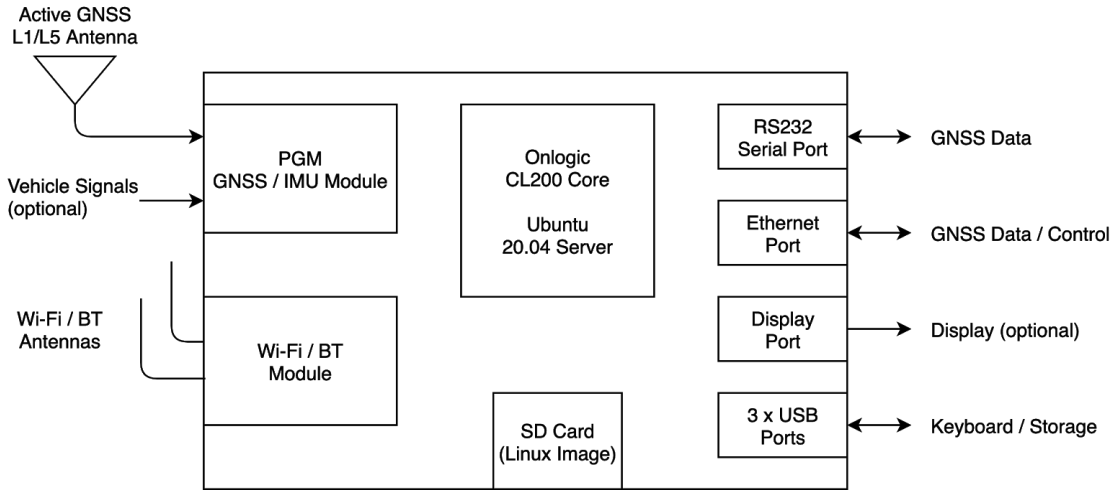


Fig 2. PGM Evaluation Platform Block Diagram

By default, the Wi-Fi module is configured as an access point enabling users to connect to the platform from any modern PC/laptop to configure the system and receive GNSS position data.

The Wi-Fi module can simultaneously work as a client to connect to a cell modem device for Internet access to receive GNSS corrections data. Note: both access point and Wi-Fi client must use the same Wi-Fi channel.

By default, the platform starts after applying power. To stop the platform use the power button or the terminal command for a graceful system shut down or just disconnect the power. Disconnecting power may result in data corruption, especially if recording.

Fig 3. PEP Connectors

1. Wi-Fi antenna RP (Reverse Polarity) SMA connector
2. GNSS antenna SMA connector
3. Vehicle signals receptacle (Hirose HR10A-7R-6P(73))
4. Wi-Fi antenna RP SMA connector
5. Micro SD card slot (Linux image)

Fig 4. PEP Connectors

1. 12 V power supply 2.5/5.5 mm barrel jack connector
2. USB 2.0 port connector
3. RS232 serial port connector (use adapter cable for DE 9 connector)

4. Power button and power status LED
5. Two USB 3.0 port connectors
6. Ethernet port RJ45 connector
7. Mini DisplayPort connector
8. IMU orientation labels. The orange dot indicates the IMU center.

Operating Conditions

1. Supply voltage: 12 V DC.
2. Power consumption: about 6 W during normal operation.
3. Operational temperature: 0 to 40°C with a non-condensing relative humidity of 10 - 90%.
4. The device shall not be used outdoors without an additional environmental protection.

Installation in the Vehicle

For proper system operation it is essential to mount both the PEP and the GNSS antenna securely and firmly to the vehicle body. During operation, the antenna and PEP must remain in the same position relative to each other (i.e., both must be mounted on the same frame).

The GNSS antenna needs to be mounted on the vehicle where there are no obstructions and with a correct ground plane. Typical car's roof is a good enough ground plane. Place the antenna at the center of the roof as much as possible. Do not place the antenna close to the roof edge. If the ground plane is not available by vehicle construction, place a round or square metal plate of 10 to 15 cm (4" to 6") radius under the antenna.

To maximize inertial sensors sensitivity, mounting PEP in an orientation orthogonal to the vehicle-body is recommended. This means that PEP should be mounted with all three axes forming angles in multiples of 90° (0°, 90°, 180°, 270°), with respect to the primary direction of vehicle motion.

For easier installation and setup, it is recommended to align the X-axis direction of the PEP with the primary direction of vehicle motion.

PEP must be rigidly mounted to the body of the vehicle. Any vibration which is not directly related to vehicular motion will degrade the quality of the inertial data. Installing PEP on a flexible vehicle rooftop, engine cover, or fender - where the mounting surface can flex and vibrate independently of the vehicle body - should be avoided. Similarly, placing the sensor on plush seating of a vehicle with the antenna on the rigid part of the vehicle will yield poor results.

Record lever arm X, Y and Z vectors after installation. Measure from the orange dots printed on the PEP enclosure to the center of the antenna.

Refer to Appendix A for Starling settings euler angles of typical installations.

Evaluation Platform Connections

The PEP platform requires connections to power source, GNSS antenna, control/recording computer, and correction data source. Connections to the correction data and control/recording computer may be wired or wireless.

Power Connections

The platform requires 12 V DC power supply with a rate of 3 A. Use included in the kit wall power adapter or other power supply device with 12 V / 3 A DC output.

GNSS Antenna Connections

PEP requires an active GPS/Galileo/BeiDou L1/L5 antenna. The device provides 3.3 V antenna bias voltage through the SMA antenna connector (max. 100 mA). For the best results the antenna LNA gain should be between 15 to 25 dB and with NF < 2-3 dB.

Vehicle Signals

Optionally, the Vehicle Speed Signal (VSS) and Reverse can be connected to the platform for improved Dead Reckoning performance. See Appendix D for connection details.

Control/Recording Computer Connections

Use one of the following methods to control the platform:

1. Connect your PC/laptop over Wi-Fi to PEP's access point named **SwiftNav-PEP-xxxx**, where xxxx is the last 4 digits of the device serial number (printed on the device side). The Wi-Fi password is `swiftnav`. Upon successful connection open SSH client (like PuTTY on Windows) and connect to PEP using the IP address **10.42.0.1**.
2. Connect your PC via Ethernet. By default, PEP Ethernet is set to the DHCP mode and therefore PEP must be connected to a network router with a DHCP server. Check in the router settings for the assigned IP address or scan the network for the device IP. Once IP is known, open SSH client (like PuTTY on Windows) and connect to PEP using the assigned IP address.
3. Connect a monitor to the DisplayPort and a USB keyboard to control the platform.

Correction Source Connections

To obtain Skylark corrections data PEP needs Internet access. Use one of the following methods to enable PEP's Internet access:

1. Connect PEP to the Internet access point over Wi-Fi (cell modem with router, cell phone with Personal Hotspot, etc.). The connection must use the same Wi-Fi channel as the PEP's Wi-Fi access point.
2. Connect PEP over the Ethernet to the cell modem / router with Internet access. By default, PEP Ethernet is set to the DHCP mode and therefore PEP must be connected to a network with a DHCP server. PEP Ethernet network can also be set to static IP if required for networks without a DHCP server.

Evaluation Platform Usage

The platform runs Ubuntu 20.04 Linux server. Use SSH to control the platform. Default credentials:

Username: `swiftnav`
Password: `swiftnav`

Starling and networking use text configuration files. Connect to the PEP Linux shell to modify the configuration files.

Home Directory Files

Configuration files are saved in the home directory as shown below:

/home/swiftnav/

Name	Size	Changed	Rights	Owner
..		12/4/2020 11:06:05 PM	rwxr-xr-x	root
cfg		12/5/2020 2:05:53 AM	rwxrwxr-x	swiftnav
pgm		12/4/2020 11:40:46 PM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
starling		12/7/2020 9:28:24 PM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
tools		12/5/2020 12:39:31 AM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
eth-edit.sh	1 KB	12/7/2020 9:31:23 PM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
starling-edit.sh	1 KB	12/7/2020 9:27:47 PM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
starling-restart.sh	1 KB	12/7/2020 9:29:02 PM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
wifi-connect.sh	1 KB	12/5/2020 1:18:51 AM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
wifi-delete.sh	1 KB	12/5/2020 2:15:09 AM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
wifi-disconnect.sh	1 KB	12/5/2020 1:59:10 AM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
wifi-edit.sh	1 KB	12/5/2020 1:24:27 AM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav
wifi-list.sh	1 KB	12/5/2020 1:16:08 AM	rwxr-xr-x	swiftnav

Fig 5. Files in home directory

Note: Instead of using the command line SSH interface you can also use a program like WinSCP (on Windows) to edit configuration files using GUI interface.

Files Description:

Directory: `cfg/`

`swiftnav-ap.sh`	- PEP Wi-Fi access point configuration
`swiftnav-pgm.sh`	- PGM module serial port to TCP server routing configuration

Directory: `pgm/`

`pgm-update.py`	- PGM firmware updater Python script
`pgm-v1.1.5.4.zip`	- PGM firmware bundle
`t.sh`	- script to launch mini terminal
`u.sh`	- script to launch PGM firmware updater

Directory: `starling/`

`logs/`	- directory for Starling system logs
`config.yaml`	- Starling configuration file
`starling`	- Starling program (binary)
`start.sh`	- Starling start script (called from starling service)

Directory: `tools/`

`str2str`	- stream to stream routing program (binary)

Control Scripts

Following shell scripts are provided for convenience for common operations over SSH:

`eth-edit.sh`	- Opens Ethernet configuration file for editing
`starling-edit.sh`	- Opens Starling configuration file for editing
`starling-restart.sh`	- Restarts Starling service (required after changing configuration)
`wifi-connect.sh`	- Connects to a Wi-Fi access point. Requires SSID and password Parameters. Usage: `./wifi-connect.sh <SSID> <PASSWORD>`
`wifi-delete.sh`	- Deletes (forgets) Wi-Fi network. Requires SSID parameter. Usage: `./wifi-delete.sh <SSID>`
`wifi-disconnect.sh`	- Disconnects from Wi-Fi access point
`wifi-edit.sh`	- Opens Wi-Fi access point configuration file
`wifi-list.sh`	- Scans and lists nearby Wi-Fi networks

Refer to Appendix E for scripts content.

Platform Setup Example with Wi-Fi Connections

This section provides step-by-step instructions on how to setup the PEP system using Wi-Fi connections to a control laptop and a cellular modem.

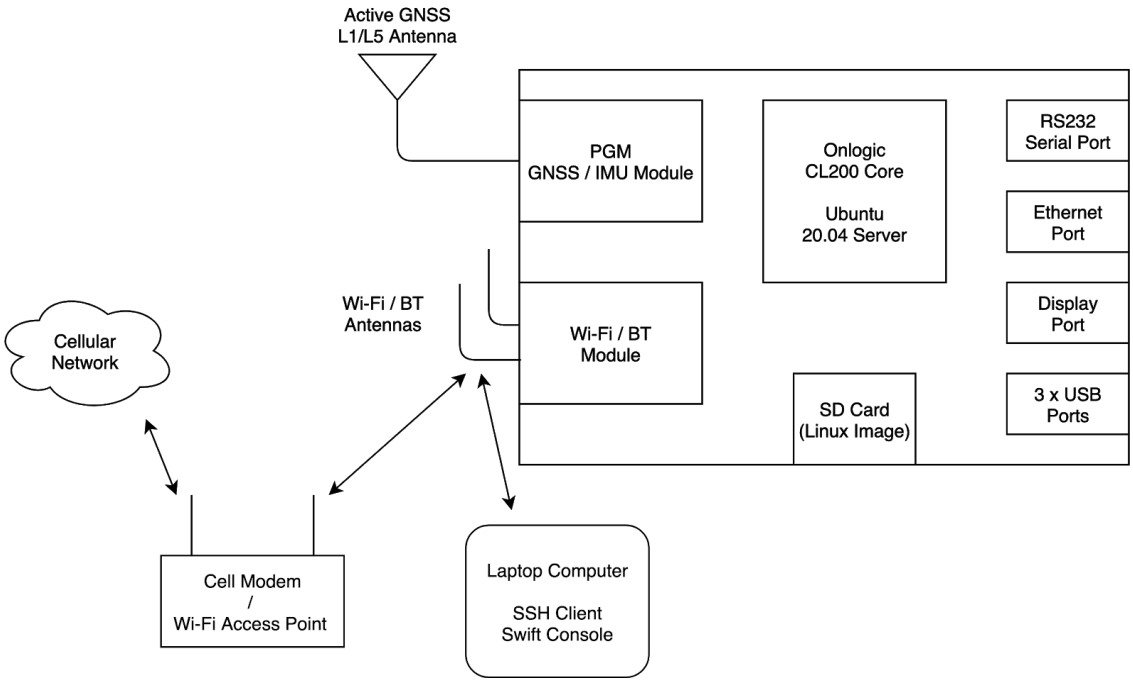


Fig 6. Platform Setup Example with Wi-Fi Connections

Required equipment:

1. PEP device with GNSS and Wi-Fi antennas.
2. Laptop computer (Windows, Linux or macOS) with Wi-Fi networking.
3. Cellular modem with Wi-Fi access point. It can be a dedicated device or a cellphone with a personal hotspot.

Example presented below uses:

- PEP with serial number T102795
- Cell modem / Wi-Fi access point with SSID “SwiftNav Mobile 4” and password “centimeter”
- Windows laptop for control

Follow the steps described below to setup and configure the system.

Connecting and bringing up the PEP system

- Connect GNSS and Wi-Fi antennas to PEP.
- The GNSS antenna needs to be outdoors with a good sky view.
- Power up PEP and let it boot up (about 2 minutes). White LED shows power status.

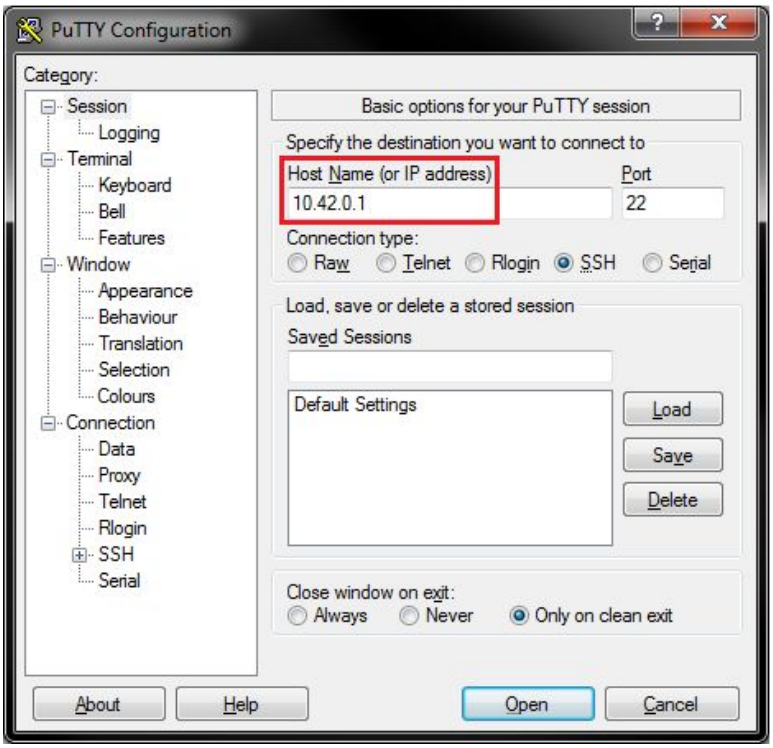
Connecting computer to PEP over Wi-Fi for the system control

- Open Wi-Fi network selection window and select **SwiftNav-PEP-xxxx** network:

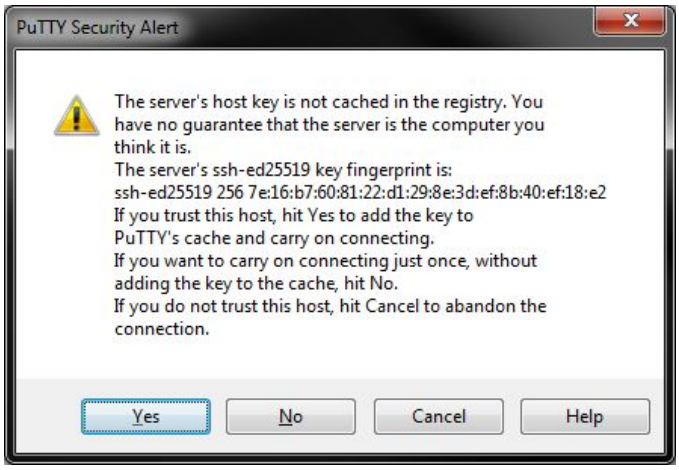
- Enter password (`swiftnav` by default):

- Network is connected:

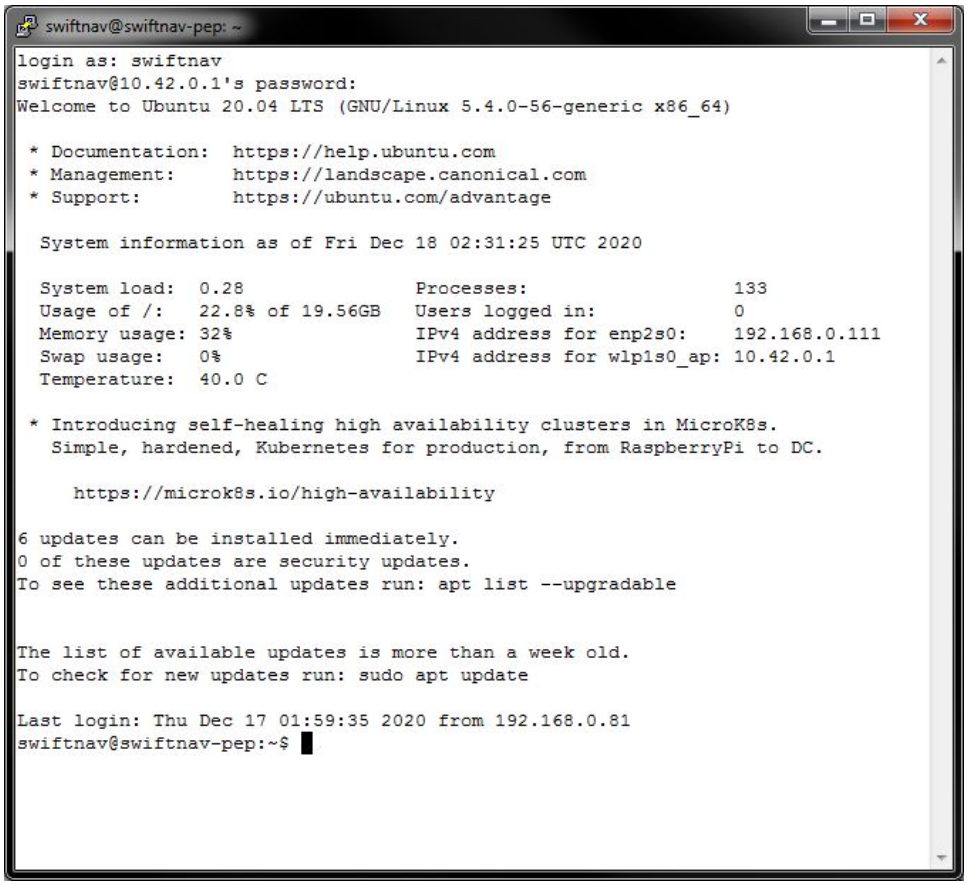
- Open SSH client (eg. PuTTY on Windows) and open connection at IP address **10.42.0.1**:



- Accept server's key (this will show only once):

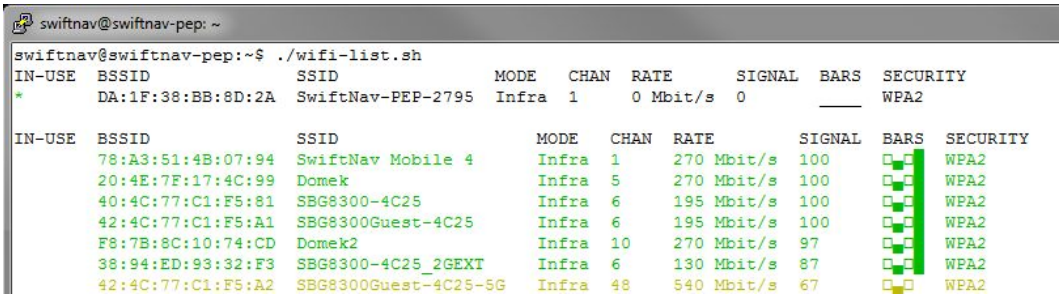


- Login as `swiftnav` and enter password (`swiftnav` by default):



Connecting PEP to the Wi-Fi access point for Internet access

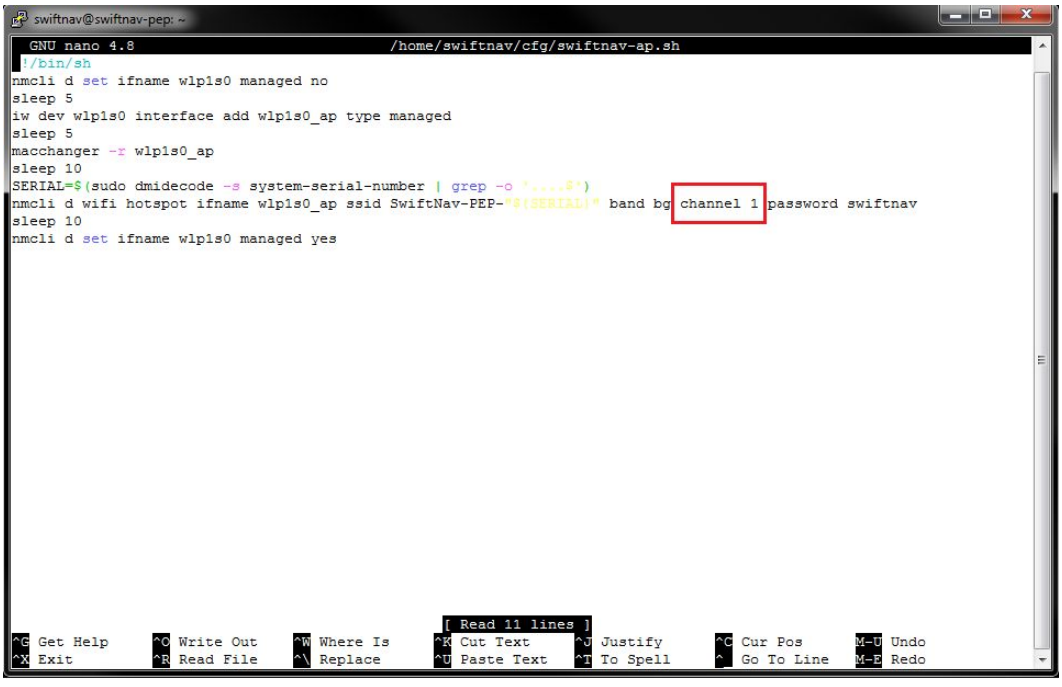
- Use `wifi-list.sh` script to list nearby networks:



- Check for the network to connect (SSID) and note the channel it uses. The Wi-Fi channel must be the same to the one PEP uses for its access point.

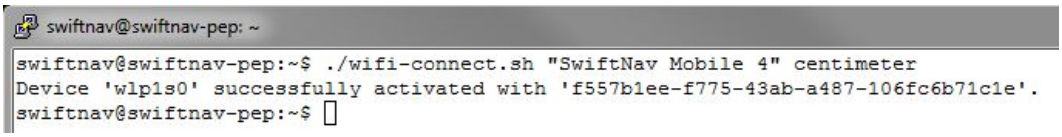
  If the PEP's channel is the same as the cell modem's channel, skip this step.

  If the cell modem channel is different from the PEP channel (by default 1) then use `wifi-edit.sh` script to open PEP Wi-Fi configuration file and change the PEP's channel number to match the cell modem:



  After changing the channel, restart PEP (power cycle) for changes to take effect.

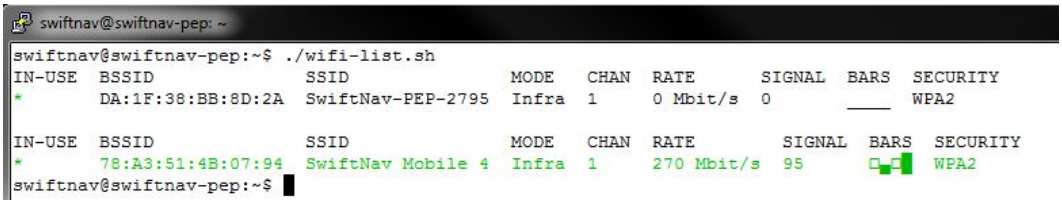
- Use `wifi-connect.sh` script to connect to the cell modem access point. The script uses two parameters: SSID and password. If any of them contain spaces use double quotes.



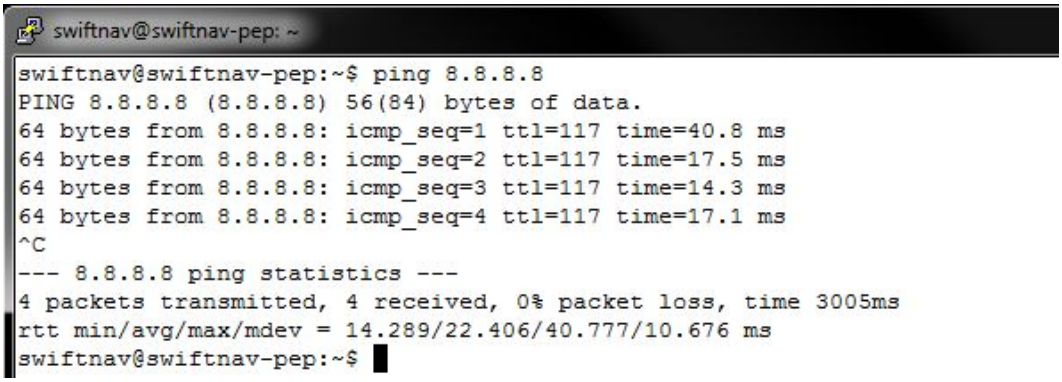
Command can also be used directly:

```
sudo nmcli d wifi connect <SSID> password <PASSWORD> ifname wlp1s0
```

- Run `wifi-list.sh` again to check connection:



- A simple test to verify Internet connection is to ping server at IP address 8.8.8.8:

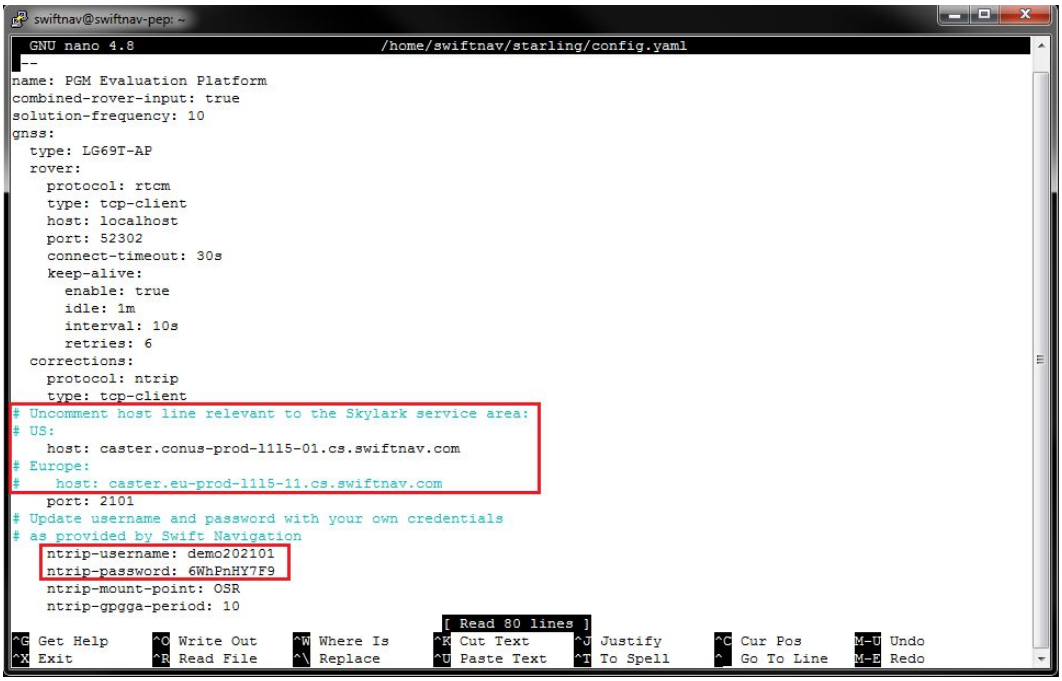


Configuring and running Starling

Starling GNSS position engine requires a simple configuration before using it. Configuration is stored in `config.yaml` file in the `starling/` directory. Following items need to be configured:

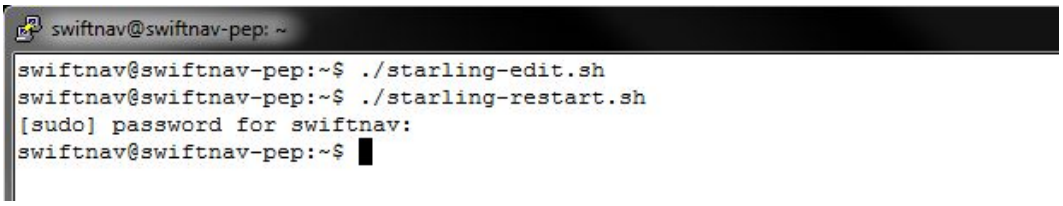
- Corrections service
- Inertial Fusion settings

- Use `skylark-edit.sh` to open the Starling configuration file for editing.
- Select Skylark host and update NTRIP credentials as provided by Swift:

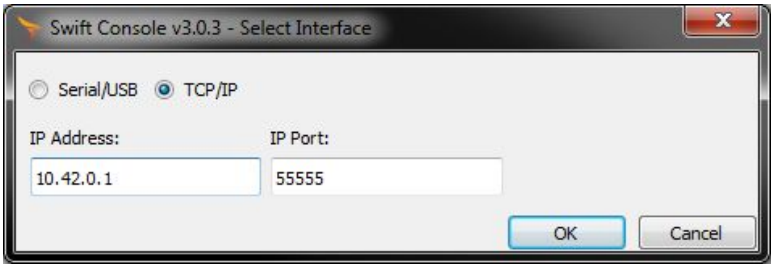


- Update device orientation and lever arm. See Appendix A for typical orientations.

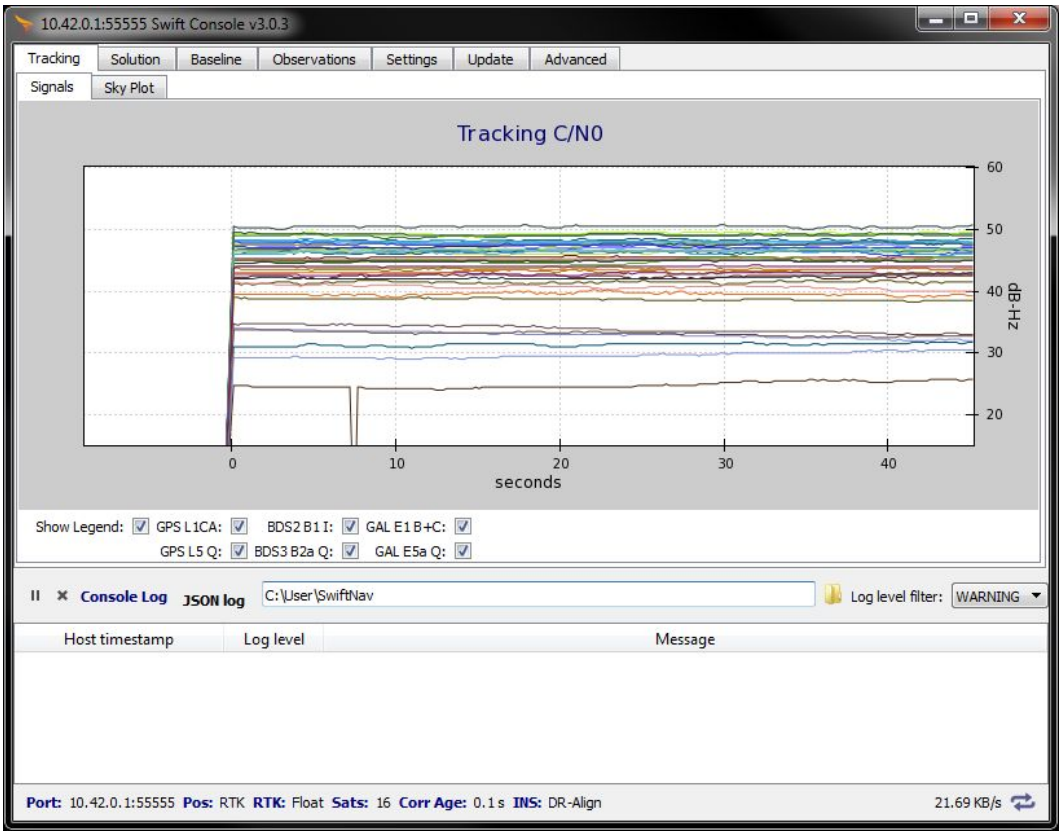
- Save file, close editor and restart Starling service for changes to take effect:



- Open Swift Console to check GNSS operation and to make logs:



Swift Console main window:



- To make a log click **JSON Log** button on Swift Console. To stop logging click the same button again.

Appendix A - Orientation Settings

Use the worksheet below to determine corresponding euler angles for the Starling orientation settings (`rotation-sensor-vehicle-degrees`). Angles are in degrees.

X: Forward **Y: Left** Z: 0.0 Y: 0.0 X: 180.0	**X: Right** **Y: Forward** Z: 90.0 Y: 0.0 X: 180.0	**X: Backward** **Y: Right** Z: 180.0 Y: 0.0 X: 180.0	**X: Left** **Y: Backward** Z: -90.0 Y: 0.0 X: 180.0
X: Forward **Y: Right** Z: 0.0 Y: 0.0 X: 0.0	**X: Right** **Y: Backward** Z: -90.0 Y: 0.0 X: 0.0	**X: Backward** **Y: Left** Z: 180.0 Y: 0.0 X: 0.0	**X: Left** **Y: Forward** Z: 90.0 Y: 0.0 X: 0.0
X: Forward **Y: Up** Z: 0.0 Y: 0.0 X: 90.0	**X: Right** **Y: Up** Z: 0.0 Y: 90.0 X: 90.0	**X: Backward** **Y: Up** Z: 180.0 Y: 0.0 X: -90.0	**X: Left** **Y: Up** Z: 0.0 Y: -90.0 X: 90.0
X: Forward **Y: Down** Z: 0.0 Y: 0.0 X: -90.0	**X: Right** **Y: Down** Z: 0.0 Y: -90.0 X: -90.0	**X: Backward** **Y: Down** Z: 180.0 Y: 0.0 X: 90.0	**X: Left** **Y: Down** Z: 0.0 Y: 90.0 X: -90.0
X: Up **Y: Left** Z: 0.0 Y: 90.0 x:-180.0	**X: Up** **Y: Forward** Z: 90.0 Y: 0.0 X: -90.0	**X: Up** **Y: Right** Z: 0.0 Y: -90.0 X: 0.0	**X: Up** **Y: Backward** Z: -90.0 Y: 0.0 X: 90.0
X: Down **Y: Left** Z: 0.0 Y: -90.0 X: 180.0	**X: Down** **Y: Forward** Z: 90.0 Y: 0.0 X: 90.0	**X: Down** **Y: Right** Z: 0.0 Y: 90.0 X: 0.0	**X: Down** **Y: Backward** Z: -90.0 Y: 0.0 X: -90.0

Appendix B - Default Settings

Linux:

Server name: `swiftnav-pep`
Username: `swiftnav`
Password: `swiftnav`

Wi-Fi Access Point:

Band: 2.4 GHz
RF channel: 1
SSID: **SwiftNav-PEP-xxxx** where xxxx is the last 4 digits of the device serial number
Password: `swiftnav`
IP: 10.42.0.1

Wi-Fi Client:

Not configured.

Bluetooth:

Not configured.

Ethernet Port:

Network configuration: DHCP

RS232 Serial Port:

Baud rate: 115200 bps, 8N1.
Flow control: Disabled

Starling:

10 Hz SBP output on TCP server port 55555
10 Hz NMEA output on TCP server port 55556
10 Hz NMEA output on RS232 serial port

Skylark:

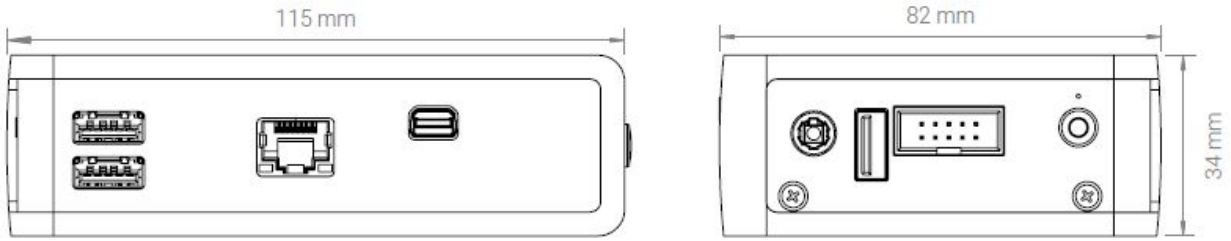
Region: North America
Credentials: Factory with short expiration

Inertial Fusion:

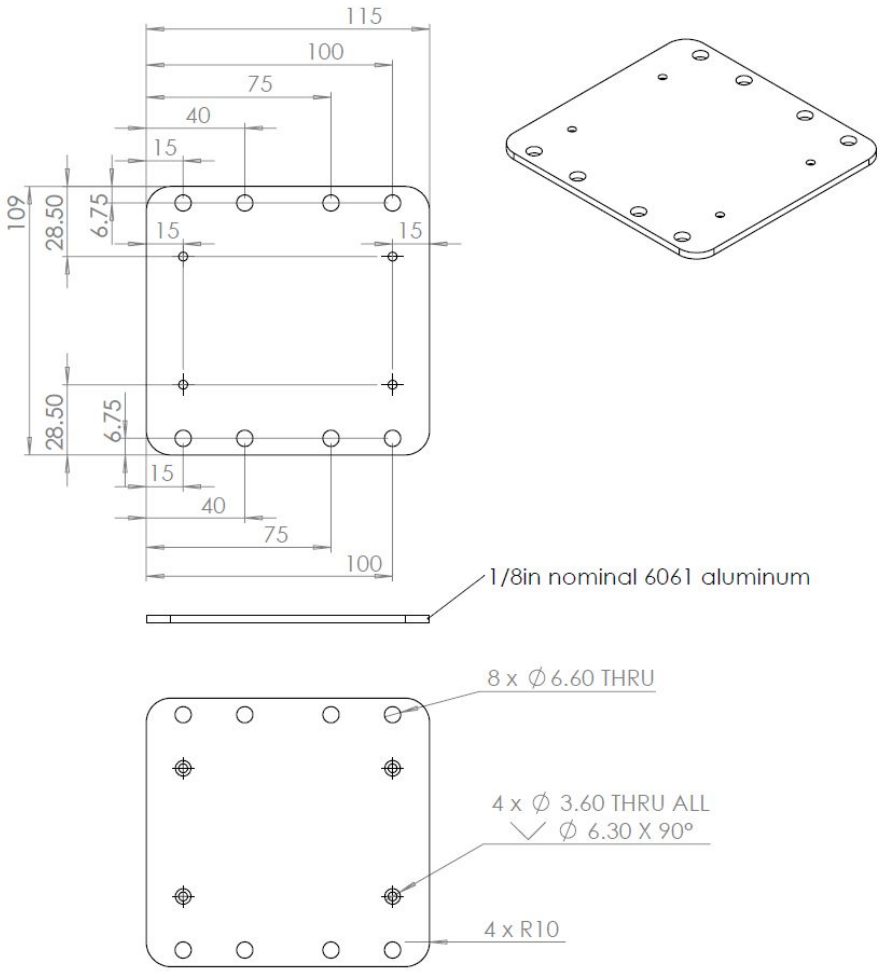
Not configured.

Appendix C - Dimensions

PEP Device:



Mounting Bracket:



Dimensions are in mm.

Appendix D - Vehicle Signals

Evaluation kit includes a M8 connector to pigtails cable for optional vehicle signals.

M8 6 Pin Connector	Cable Color	Signal
Pin 1	Black	Ground
Pin 2	Red	Reverse
Pin 3	Green	Vehicle Speed Signal (VSS)
Pin 4	Yellow	CAN Lo
Pin 5	Brown	CAN Hi
Pin 6	Orange	Pulse Per Second (PPS)

Refer to PGM Data Sheet for detailed signal description.

Plug connector type: Hirose HR10A-7P-6S(73).

Appendix E - Control Scripts Content

Following shell scripts are provided for convenience for common operations over SSH:

`eth-edit.sh` - Opens Ethernet configuration file for editing

```
#!/bin/sh
sudo nano /etc/netplan/00-installer-config.yaml
```

`starling-edit.sh` - Opens Starling configuration file for editing

```
#!/bin/sh
nano /home/swiftnav/starling/config.yaml
```

`starling-restart.sh` - Restarts Starling service (required after changing configuration)

```
#!/bin/sh
sudo systemctl restart starling
```

`wifi-connect.sh` - Connects to a Wi-Fi access point. Requires SSID and password params

```
#!/bin/sh
#Usage: ./wifi-connect.sh <SSID> <PASSWORD>
sudo nmcli d wifi connect "$1" password "$2" ifname wlp1s0
```

`wifi-delete.sh` - Deletes (forgets) Wi-Fi network. Requires SSID parameter.

```
#!/bin/sh
#Usage: ./wifi-delete.sh <SSID>
sudo nmcli connection delete "$1"
```

`wifi-disconnect.sh` - Disconnects from Wi-Fi access point

```
#!/bin/sh
sudo nmcli d disconnect wlp1s0
```

`wifi-edit.sh` - Opens Wi-Fi access point configuration file

```
#!/bin/sh
nano /home/swiftnav/cfg/swiftnav-ap.sh
```

`wifi-list.sh` - Scans and lists nearby Wi-Fi networks

```
#!/bin/sh
nmcli d wifi list
```

Appendix F - Additional Resources

Onlogic Device

www.onlogic.com/cl200g-11/
www.onlogic.com/computers/industrial/fanless/cl200-series/

Swift Console

support.swiftnav.com > General > Downloads > Swift Console

Windows Tools

PuTTY - SSH Client
www.putty.org

WinSCP - File Manager
winscp.net

macOS Tools

Transmit - File Manager
panic.com/transmit/

Cyberduck - File Manager
cyberduck.io/

Linux Tools

FileZilla - File Manager
filezilla-project.org/