Nomenclature for data types and analysis steps

The IVS Directing Board proposes to use a conventional nomenclature for data types and analysis steps for proper unambiguous referencing. This nomenclature consists of the following dividers: Level 0 Data is the raw digitized noise gathered at the radio telescopes. Consequently, the correlation process falls under Level 0 Data Analysis. The output of this processing step are the fringe visibilities, subsumed as Level 1 Data. The analysis steps needed to produce the observables phase and group delays as well as their time derivatives, such as polarization combination and fringe fitting of the visibilities including any other necessary analysis steps at this stage be called Level 1 Data Analysis. The output is the Level 2 Data. The analysis steps working with phase and group delays and their rates and resulting in geodetic parameters be called Level 2 Data Analysis. This also includes work on source imaging and source structure effects. The results of this are geodetic and astrometric parameters forming Level 3 Data. The final combination work of several Level 3 Data, e.g., from different analysis centers, is Level 3 Data Analysis.