

TCSng Commands

This is the most comprehensive list to date of the TCSng requests and commands.

Requests

ALL Bulk information

Args: N/A

Returns: [MOT] [RA] [DEC] [HA] [UT] [ALT] [AZ] [SECZ] [Epoch]

MOT = (see MOTION)

RA(Right Assention) = HH:MM:SS.ss

DEC(Declination) = +DD:MM:SS.ss

HA(Hour Angle) = HH:MM:SS

UT(Universal Time) = HH:MM:SS

ALT(Elevation) = XXX.xx

AZ(Azmouth) = XXX.xx

SECZ(airmass) = XX.xx

EPOCH = EEEE.e

AZ Azimuth

Args: N/A

Returns: [ddd.dd]

BEAM Chop/Nod info for chopping secondary

Args: N/A

Returns: ???

CORRECTIONS String describing what corrections and rates are enabled/disabled

Args: N/A

Returns: MPNARFp+tob

M=Proper Motion

P=Precession

N=Nutation

A=Aberration

R=Refraction

F=Flexure

p=Parallax

+ =pointing model used... can change to a,b,c,d?

t=Sidereal

o=Object

b=Bias

If disabled, character will be replaced by "_"

DATE date based on UT

Args: N/A

Returns: [MM/DD/YYYY]

DEC Declination
Args: N/A
Returns [ddmmss.ss]

DISABLE Output state
Args: N/A
Returns: 1 for disabled, 0 for enabled

DISEPOCH Current Epoch
Args: N/A
Returns: XXXX.x

EL Elevation
Args: N/A
Returns: [ddd.dd]

EQ Equinox
Args: N/A
Returns: XXXXX.x

HA Hour Angle
Args: N/A
Returns: [dd:mm:ss]

JD Julian Date
Args: N/A
Returns: [JJJJJJJ.j]

FLEXFILE Path and file name of current flex map Added by Scott
12/2012
Args: N/A
Returns: [PATH/][pctcs_.tp]

LIMITPROF Horizon limit profile as a function of azimuth Added by
Scott 12/2012
The first (and last) value given is the horizon limit
at 0 degrees azimuth
each subsequent value is a horizon limit at increments
of 15 degrees of azimuth
so the 2nd value is the limit at 15 degrees azimuth,
the third is the horizon limit
at 30 degrees azimuth etc.
Args: N/A
Returns [hh] [hh] [hh] [hh] ... (25 in all)

LIMIT limit status bits (ACCORDING TO JAVA GUI)
Args: N/A
Returns: this returns an 8 bit integer whose bits represent the
following

```

bit0(LSB) = RA
bit1 = DEC
bit2 = Derotator
bit3 = Hardware Horizon
bit4 = Software Horizon
bit5 = Focus Upper
bit6 = Focus Lower
a 1 indicates limit active, 0 indicates limit not active

```

LIMIT limit status bits (ACCORDING TO ERIC CHRISTIENSEN)
 Args: N/A
 Returns: this returns an 8 bit integer whose bits represent the following

```

bit0(LSB) = RA/HA limit
bit1 = DEC limit
bit2 = derot.
bit3 = hor. hard limit
bit4 = hor. soft limit
bit5 = focus lo limit?
bit6 = focus hi limit?
a 1 indicates limit active, 0 indicates limit not active

```

LIMITINHIBIT limit inhibit status
 args N/A
 Returns: 0 if limits are active and 1 if limits are inactive

SOFTLIMITS

[S1 and S2 limits are defined here](#)

```

SOFTLIMITS Software limit status
args N/A
Returns : 6 bit software limit status
bit 0 = RA S2
bit 1 = RA S1
bit 2 = DEC S2
bit 3 = DEC S1
bit 4 = Horizon S2
bit 5 = Horizon S1
[[tcs:limit_logic|Limit Logic in TCS]]

```

MOTION Motion status bits
 Args: N/A
 Returns: this returns an 8 bit integer whose bits represent the following

```

bit0(LSB) = RA/AZ
bit1 = DEC/EL
bit2 = FOC

```

```
bit3      =    DOME
bit4-8    =    undefined
a 1 indicates axis in motion, 0 indicates no motion
```

PAD String describing hardware paddle button states

Args: N/A

Returns: any combination of the following characters

N = North

S = South

E = East

W = West

D = Drift (if not present, assume Guide)

A character is present if switch active, otherwise switch inactive

PADDRIFT Hardware paddle drift rate arcsec/sec

Args: N/A

Returns: -XXXXXXXXX.xxx

PADGUIDE Hardware paddle guide rate arcsec/sec

Args: N/A

Returns: -XXXXXXXXX.xxx

RA Right Ascension

Args: N/A

Returns: [ddmmss.ss]

SECZ Air Mass

Args: N/A

Returns: [XXXXX.XX]

ST Sidereal Time

Args: N/A

Returns: [hh:mm:ss]

TIME Universal Time

Args: N/A

Returns: [HH:MM:SS]

VERIFY Verify that an RA/DEC position is within telescope limits

Args: [RA] [DEC] [Epoch]

RA=HH:MM:SS.ss

DEC=DD:MM:SS.ss

Epoch=EEEE.eeee

Returns: 1 if coordinate is within limits

XALL "Extended ALL"

Args: N/A

Returns: [FOC] [DOME] [IIS] [PA] [UTD] [JD]

FOC(focus pos) = +XXXXXX

```

DOME(Dome Position) = -180 (always this value...)
IIS(???) = -224.4 (always this value...)
PA(Paralactic Angle) = -145.7 (always this value...)
UTD(UT Date) = MM/DD/YYYY
JD(Julian Date) = XXXXXXXX.x

```

XDEC "Extended DEC"

Args: N/A

Returns: [COM] [NEXT] [REF] [OFF] [WOB] [DIFF] [BIAS] [GUIDE] [DRIFT]

```

COM(Commanded Position) = +HH:MM:SS.ss
NEXT(Next Position) = +HH:MM:SS.ss
REF(Reference Position) = +HH:MM:SS.ss
OFF(Offset Position) = +HH:MM:SS.ss
WOB(Wobble) = +HH:MM:SS.ss
DIFF(Difference) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx
BIAS(Bias Rate) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx
GUIDE(Guide Rate) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx
DRIFT(Drift Rate) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx

```

XRA "Extended RA"

Args: N/A

Returns: [COM] [NEXT] [REF] [OFF] [WOB] [DIFF] [BIAS] [GUIDE] [DRIFT]

```

COM(Commanded Position) = HH:MM:SS.ss
NEXT(Next Position) = HH:MM:SS.ss
REF(Reference Position) = HH:MM:SS.ss
OFF(Offset Position) = +HH:MM:SS.ss
WOB(Wobble) = +HH:MM:SS.ss
DIFF(Difference) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx
BIAS(Bias Rate) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx
GUIDE(Guide Rate) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx
DRIFT(Drift Rate) = +XXXXXXXXXX.xxx

```

Satellite Requests

GETSATELAZ Satellite horizontal coordinates

Args: N/A

returns [EL] [AZ]

GETSATECI Satellite Earth Centered Inertial Cartesian coords

Args: N.A

Returns: [X] [Y] [Z]

GETSATECEF Satellite Earth Centered Earth Fixed Cartesian coords

Args: N.A

Returns: [X] [Y] [Z]

undefined Request

TEST1 ??? >> probably useless but is currently in the command set

Args: ???

Returns: ???

INDEX ???
Args: ???
Returns: ???

PP ???
Args: ???
Returns: ???

SRVFRQ ???
Args: ???
Returns: ???

Dome Request

DOME Dome control information
Args: "PARAM" returns dome setup parameters, all other strings return control info
Returns:
Parameters: [CPD] [SD] [W] [SDW] [NU] [RHO] [PHI] [LOOK] [HOLD]
CPD(Counts Per Degree) = XXX.xxxxxxx
SD(Stow Degrees)= XXX.xxxxxxx
W(Dome Width) = XXX.xxxxxxx
SDW(Stow Dome Width)= XXX.xxxxxxx
NU = XXX.xxxxxxx
RHO = XXX.xxxxxxx
PHI = XXX.xxxxxxx
LOOK(Lookahead) = XX
HOLD(Hold Dome) = XX
Control Info: [DEL] [MOD] [INIT] [TELAZ] [AZ] [HOME]
DEL(Delta Position) = +XXX.XXXXXXX
MOD(Mode) = XX
INIT(Initialized) = XX
TELAZ(Telescope Azmouth) = +XXX.XXXXXXX
AZ(Dome Azmouth) = +XXX.XXXXXXX
HOME(Home Position) = +XXX.XXXXXXX

Focus Request

FOCSPEED Focus Speed
Args: N/A
Returns: ["FAST" or "SLOW"]

FOCUS Focus position
Args: N/A

Returns: +XXXXX

DIO Request

DIO All 6 bytes of DIO

Args: N/A

Returns: A1 B1 C1 A2 B2 C2 as hex numbers

A1:

Bit0: FOCUS UP
 Bit1: FOCUS DN
 Bit2: FOCUS F/S
 Bit3: ESTOP STATUS
 Bit4 HA ALT LIMIT
 Bit5 DEC ALT LIMIT
 Bit6 DEROT ALT LIMIT
 Bit7 SPARE A7A

B1: Paddle Buttons

Bit0: NORTH
 Bit1: SOUTH
 Bit2: EAST
 Bit3: WEST
 Bit4: GUIDE/DRIFT
 Bit5: SLEW
 Bit6: DOME RIGHT
 Bit7 DOME LEFT

C1:

Bit0: HA LIMIT
 Bit1: DEC LIMIT
 Bit2: HOR LIMIT
 Bit3: HS NORTH
 Bit4: HS EAST
 Bit5: Dome Home
 Bit6: Focus Up Limit
 Bit7: Focus

A2:

Bit0: "HA E SLEW", "HA W SLEW", "DEC N SLEW", "DEC S SLEW",
 "HOR SLEW LIMIT", "DEROT CW SLEW LIMIT", "DEROT CCW SLEW LIMIT", "REMOTE
 LOCKOUT"

Commands

ABERRATE Aberration corrections enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

BIAS Bias enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

BIASDEC DEC bias rate in arcseconds/second

Args: [XXXXX.XX]

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

BIASRA RA biasrate in arcsseconds/second

Args: [XXXXX.XX]

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

CANCEL Cancel current move

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

CLEARDIFF Clear RA and DEC difference value

Args: N/A

Returns: N/A

DISABLE disable motion output

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

DISEPOCH Set Epoch

Args: XXXX.x

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

DECLARE Initialize current position

Args: "INITNEXT" to initialize "NEXT" position as current position

"INITCOM" to initialize "COMMANDED" position as current position

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

ELAZ Move to position in Elevation and Azmouth

Args: [EE.EE] [AAA.AA]

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

ENABLE enable motion output

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FLEX Flexure corrections enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

LIMIT Limit override >> USE WITH EXTREME CAUTION!!!!

Args: "INHIBIT" will override limits, all other strings will enable limits

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

MOVNEXT Move to NEXT position

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

MOVOFF move to OFFSET position

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

MOVRADEC Move to RA-DEC position

Args: RA DEC EPOCH RAPM DECPM

RA = HH:MM:SS.ss

DEC = +DD:MM:SS.ss

EPOCH = EEEE.eeee

RAPM(RA Proper Motion) = XXXXX.xxx

DECPM(DEC Proper Motion) = XXXXX.xxx

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

MOVSTOW Move to stow position

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

MOVWOB MOVWOB beam

Args: ???

Returns: ???

NEXTPOS Set NEXT position

Args: RA DEC EPOCH RAPM DECPM

RA = HH:MM:SS.ss

DEC = +DD:MM:SS.ss

EPOCH = EEEE.eeee

RAPM(RA Proper Motion) = XXXXX.xxx

DECPM(DEC Proper Motion) = XXXXX.xxx

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

NUTAT Nutation corrections enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PAD Software paddle command [Direction] [rate] or PAD XX for termination

This function is not recommended for use near the

horizon limits!

Args: [Direction] [rate]

DIRECTION = NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST, NE, NW, SE, SW

RATE = XXXXXXXX.xx (arcsecs/sec)

any string not described in DIRECTION will terminate paddle

this terminate string must be sent at the end of each

movement

when the button is released.

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PADDLE Paddle enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PADDRIFT Paddle Drift rate in arcseconds/second

Args: [XXXXX.XX]

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PADGUIDE Paddle Guide rate in arcseconds/second

Args: [XXXXX.XX]

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PARALLAX Parallax corrections enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PARAM ???

Args: ???

Returns: ???

PRECES Precession corrections enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PROPM0 Proper motion corrections enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

REFPOS REFERENCE POSition (tod)

Args: ???

Returns: ???

REFRAC Refraction corrections enable/disable

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

STEPDEC Move Declination XXXXX.XX arcseconds

Args: [XXXXX.XX]

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

STEPRA Move Right Assention XXXXX.XX arcseconds

Args: [XXXXX.XX]

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

TRACK Enable/Disable sidereal tracking

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

WOBBLE WOBBLE -HH:MM:SS.ss -DD:MM:SS.ss

Args: ???

Returns: ???

Catalogs Command

ABELL ABELL Catalog object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FK5 FK5 Catalog object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

IC IC Catalog object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

NGC NGC Catalog object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

OKESTONE Okestone Catalog object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PPM PPM Catalog object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

SAO SAO Catalog Object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

YBCS YBCS Catalog Object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

ZWICKY ZWICKY Catalog object XXXXXXXX
Args: XXXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

Planets Command

MERCURY Track Mercury
Args: N/A
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

VENUS Track Venus
Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

MARS Track Mars

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

JUPITER Track Jupiter

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

SATURN Track Saturn

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

URANUS Track Uranus

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

NEPTUNE Track Neptune

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PLUTO Track Pluto

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

MOON Track Moon

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

SUN Track Sun

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

DOME Command dome control

Args: This command takes one argument at a time from the following

AUTO Autodome enable

Args: ON = autodome on, any other = autodome off

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

INIT Initialize dome

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

STOW Stow dome

Args: N/A

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

LOOKAHEAD Lookahead enable

Args: positive nonzero number=enable, any other = disable
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PARAM Set Dome Parameters

Args: [CPD] [SD] [W] [SDW] [NU] [RHO] [PHI] [LOOK] [HOLD]
CPD(Counts Per Degree) = XXX.xxxxxxx
SD(Stow Degrees)= XXX.xxxxxxx
W(Dome Width) = XXX.xxxxxxx
SDW(Stow Dome Width)= XXX.xxxxxxx
NU = XXX.xxxxxxx
RHO = XXX.xxxxxxx
PHI = XXX.xxxxxxx
LOOK(Lookahead) = XX
HOLD(Hold Dome) = XX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

PADDLE Control Paddle buttons

Args: RIGHT = move right, LEFT = move left, any other= stop
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FOCUS move to absolute focus value XXXXXXX

Args: XXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

RELFOCUS relative move focus value XXXXXXX

Args: XXXXXXX
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FOCZERO Zero current focus position

Args: N/A
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FOCSTOP focus paddle stop

Args: N/A
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FOCUP focus paddle up

Args: N/A
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FOCDN focus paddle down

Args: N/A
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

FOCSPEED Set focus speed

Args: "FAST" sets to fast, all other strings set speed slow
Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

Periodic Error Correction Request

PECSTAT Current PEC operation status

Args: N/A

Returns: [PEC_Condition] [PEC_Count] [PEC_Index] [PEC_Mode]

PECPR0G Current PEC programming status

Args: N/A

Returns: [Percent_Done] [PEC_Correction]

Command

PECFILE Attempt to create a PEC file.

Args: ???

Returns: ???

PEC Turn on PEC

Args: "ON" = enable, any other string will disable

Returns: "OK" or "FAILED"

Servo Request

CON ??? >> SERVO STUFF... NOT FOR NORMAL USE

Args: ???

Returns: ???

SAMDATA ??? >> SERVO STUFF... NOT FOR NORMAL USE

Args: ???

Returns: ???

SAMDONE ??? >> SERVO STUFF... NOT FOR NORMAL USE

Args: ???

Returns: ???

SERVO ??? >> SERVO STUFF... NOT FOR NORMAL USE

Args: ???

Returns: ???

Command

WCON axis, gd gp gi dmax vmax groot >> SERVO CONST... DO NOT MODIFY

Args: ???

Returns: ???

SERVO ??? >> AXIS SERVO SAMPLING... DO NOT MODIFY

Args: ???

Returns: ???

GD axis, value >> SERVO CONST... DO NOT MODIFY

Args: ???

Returns: ???

GP axis, value >> SERVO CONST... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

GPI axis, value >> SERVO CONST... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

DMAX axis, value >> SERVO CONST... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

VMAX axis, value >> SERVO CONST... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

PERMAX axis, value >> SERVO CONST... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

SAMPLE axis, interval, total samples >> AXIS SERVO SAMPLING... DO NOT
MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

DUMPSAM axis >> AXIS SERVO SAMPLING... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

SAMSTART ??? >> AXIS SERVO SAMPLING... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

SAMABORT ??? >> AXIS SERVO SAMPLING... DO NOT MODIFY
Args: ???
Returns: ???

SYSSAVE ???
Args: ???
Returns: ???

YSKILL Kills TCS process after disabling stopping all telescope motion.
Args: N/A
Returns: OK or Failure
SYSRESET Restarts TCS process after disbling the telescope Added
by Scott 12/2012
Telescope should be stowed before doing this.
Args: [TIME] [DD/MM/YY] [HH:MM:SS]

If no arguments are used the TCS simply restarts as if you had restarted the TCS computer. If for some reason the time is bad on the TCS computer you can add the TIME argument followed by the date and time in UT and TCS will use this and not the computer time for astrometry.
Returns OK or Failure

TLE Gives TCS a new TLE for tracking Earth Satellites
Args: Follows this format exactly:

[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Two-line_element_set]]

SATTRACK Tracks the current satellite TLE with the telescope.
Args: N/A

NEXTEVENT Gives you rise or set time in hours of coordinates set using the NEXTPOS command.

Args N.A

Returns: Rise/Set (0/1) state and time in decimal hours.

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