

# **Data Acquisition Instrument Command Protocol**

Note: This document assumes that the latest firmware updates have been applied to the device intended to be used with it. If you are unsure if your instrument is current, please follow this link [for model DI-2008,](https://www.dataq.com/blog/data-acquisition-data-logger-product-updates/di-2008-firmware-updates/) or [this link for all other models.](https://www.dataq.com/blog/data-acquisition/universal-starter-kit-firmware-update-software/)

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# <span id="page-4-0"></span>**Overview**

Although DATAQ Instruments provides ready-to-run WinDaq software with its data acquisition instruments, programmers will want the flexibility to integrate them in the context of their own application. To do so they want complete control over instruments hardware, which is accomplished by using the device at the protocol level. This white paper describes how protocol-level programming is implemented across the Windows and Linux operating systems. We'll define the protocol command set and scan list architecture and finish with a description of the instrument ASCII and binary response formats. Please note that .Net classes have been released for the instruments supported by this document, which allows programming at a much higher and convenient level than at the protocol-level under Windows.

#### <span id="page-4-1"></span>**Supported Instruments**

This protocol document supports the following data acquisition hardware models:



Please note that not all commands described in this protocol support all product models. For any particular command, this document will indicate the specific models that the command supports. Further, instruments can be purchased with only a USB interface, a USB and Ethernet interface, and with or without a stand-alone option in the form of USB drive support. All product combinations (with or without USB drive support) are supported by this protocol with commands that are shared between USB and Ethernet interfaces, and others that apply only to Ethernet. Each command in this document is prefaced by a graphic that defines the products supported by the command, and whether that support is for Ethernet-enabled interfaces only ("E"), USB interface only ("U"), shared between Ethernet and USB interfaces ("S"), or not supported by the model (blank.) For example:



Command supports USB for the indicated models





Command supports USB and Ethernet for the indicated models







# <span id="page-6-0"></span>**USB Interface Support (all devices)**

All device models described in the protocol support a USB interface, accessed using the Libusb open source library, to control data transfers to and from the instrument via its USB interface in both Windows and non-Windows implementations. When an instrument that supports USB is connected to a PC in a Windows implementation the instrument's model number appears in the Device Manager under the "libusb-win32 devices" tree. For example, a connected model DI-2008 appears like this:

> libusb-win32 devices  $\bigcup$  DI-2008  $\triangleright$   $\int_0^{\infty}$  Mice and other pointing devices

Most instruments may also be placed in the CDC mode (Communication Device Class) where they can hook a COM port. This approach is perhaps the most universal and easiest to manage. [Follow this link for details.](https://www.dataq.com/blog/data-acquisition/usb-daq-products-support-libusb-cdc/) Since most instrument command and responses are ASCII, a standard terminal emulator (e.g. PuTTY, Tera Term) can be used to experiment with the device.

The same DI-2008 when placed in its CDC mode appears under the "Ports" tree in Windows' Device Manager like this:

> Ports (COM & LPT) Communications Port (COM2) DATAQ DI-2008 (COM19)

The following constants for *product ID* (PID) and *vendor ID* (VID) apply, dependent upon instrument model and interface mode (LibUSB or CDC), and must be correctly referenced from your program:





## <span id="page-7-0"></span>**USB Interface Restrictions with the Stand-alone Option**

When the stand-alone option is present on a device in the form of a USB Type A receptacle that accepts a USB drive, the port for both the USB interface and the drive is shared. This means than any command that is specific to the USB drive may not be delivered through the USB interface and must be delivered via the Ethernet interface, if present. While it is possible to configure and activate stand-alone or real time PCconnected data acquisition operations using the USB interface, direct access to the USB drive is possible only using the Ethernet interface. For this reason, commands that deal with the USB drive are reserved as Ethernet-only, and data can be read from a USB drive only by physically connecting it to a PC if the instrument is not fitted with the Ethernet option.



# <span id="page-8-0"></span>**Ethernet Command/Response Interface**



Some models can be purchased with an Ethernet interface option (in addition to the standard USB interface.) Ethernet interface implementations support UDP communication over specific IP address ports:



## <span id="page-8-1"></span>**Ethernet Command Format (type DQCommand, 0x31415926)**

Commands can best be visualized as a packet structure whose various elements define the command type, its arguments, group id, and payload (if necessary):

```
struct Command {
  uint32 TYPE; 
   uint32 GroupID; 
  uint32 Command;
   uint32 arg0;
   uint32 arg1;
  uint32 arg2; 
   char PayLoad[]; 
};
```






## <span id="page-9-0"></span>**Command Response (type DQResponse, 0x21712818)**

When a Shared or Ethernet-specific command is issued with command type DQCommand (value 0x31415926 as defined above), responses are captured using the Command Response type:

```
struct Response{
     uint32 TYPE; 
     uint32 GroupID; 
     uint32 Order; 
     uint32 PayLoadLength; 
      char PayLoad [PayLoadLength]; 
};
```




## <span id="page-10-0"></span>**Invoking Shared Commands Using Ethernet**

As mentioned, the Ethernet command set provides a mechanism for invoking commands that are shared between both USB and Ethernet interfaces of any given instrument. Here, we'll provide an example of basic shared command *info* to query a device for its model number using the Ethernet interface.

First, the command packet is constructed using the Ethernet command structure discussed above. The command  $\text{info}$  1 instructs the instrument to respond with its model number (we'll assume we're working with a DI-2108 in this example.)

```
struct Command {
   uint32 0x31415926; 'generic command type
   uint32 1234; Tarbitrary key value
   uint32 13; The value of 13 denotes a shared command
   uint32; 'ignored
   uint32; 'ignored
   uint32; lignored
   char "info 1"; 'shared command to query model number
};
```
Transmission of the above packet triggers a response packet from the device:

```
struct Response{
       uint32 0x21712818; 'generic response type<br>uint32 1234; 'arbitrary key value
       uint32 1234;<br>uint32;
       uint32; 'ignored
                                'number of characters in the response
       char "info 1 2108"; 'instrument's text response
};
```


# <span id="page-11-0"></span>**Other Ethernet Response Types**

In addition to the Command response, Ethernet devices support several other structured responses to convey data and configuration information.

## <span id="page-11-1"></span>**Ethernet Device Discovery Response**

Ethernet instruments are discovered by the host PC through use of a discovery query command consisting of a UDP broadcast:

dataq\_instruments XXXX

where XXXX is optional and, if included, defines the PC port number to which the instrument will reply. If no port is specified, the instrument replies to default port number 1234.

The instrument's response to a discovery command is defined as follows:

<IP> <MAC> <SoftwareRev> <DeviceModel> <ADCRunning> <Reserved> <LengthOfDescription> <DeviceDescription> <SerialNumber> <GroupID> <OrderInGroup> <Master/Slave> <ThumbRecording\*> <TriggerCount\*> <RemainingDriveCapacity\*>

\* These fields are omitted if no USB drive is present

A sample response might be:

192.168.0.29 00:1B:81:77:42:34 117 4208 0 0 4 Dev0 4D5B903E 0 0 2 0 0 7773856

#### Detailed response definitions:







## <span id="page-12-0"></span>**Active WinDaq File header Response (type WdqHeader, 0x05772156)**

Instruments with the stand-alone option can record data to a connected USB drive in either a high resolution WinDaq format (WDH), or in a circular format that allows continuous recording regardless of file or USB drive size (WHC.) In such configurations, and in response to the "ud\_status" command , this structure returns the embedded Windaq file header (WDH or WHC).

```
struct WDQHeader {
     uint32 TYPE;
     uint32 GroupID; 
     uint32 Mode; 
     uint32 PayLoadSize; 
     char WdhHeader [PayLoadSize]; 
};
```


## <span id="page-12-1"></span>**ADC Data Stream Response (type DQAdcData, 0x14142135)**

While an instrument is scanning it is possible to obtain the real time data stream from the device on a continuous basis. This response follows a SyncStart command issued via the Ethernet Command (type DQCommand, 0x31415926.)

```
struct ADCData { 
     uint32 TYPE;
     uint32 GroupID;
```


```
uint32 Order, 
uint32 CumulativeCount;
uint32 PayLoadSamples;
short ADCData [PayLoadSamples];
```
};



## <span id="page-13-0"></span>**Read USB Drive File Response:**

## **(type UsbDriveData, 0x17320508) for data, or**

## **(UsbDriveEOF, 0x22360679) for end of file**

Read USB Drive File responds to command "ud\_read" issued via the Ethernet Command (type DQCommand, 0x31415926.)

```
struct UsbDrive { //Retrieve content of a file 
     uint32 Type;
     uint32 GroupID; 
     uint32 Offset, 
     uint32 PayLoadSize
     char DriveData[PayLoadSize];
};
```








# <span id="page-15-0"></span>**Shared and USB-specific Protocol Command Usage**

The protocol employs an ASCII character command set that allows complete control of the instrument. All of the commands in the following table must be terminated with a carriage return character (0xD) to be recognized by the instrument. Command arguments (if any) are also ASCII, and the command and each argument must be separated by a space character (0x20). All commands echo if the instrument is not scanning. Command arguments and responses are always in decimal unless an instrument is instructed to begin scanning in its binary output mode. Finally, all commands are not supported by all instrument models. The instruments that support any specific command group are defined in the detailed documentation for that group.

All commands echo if the instrument is not scanning. Commands will not echo while scanning is active to prevent an interruption of the data stream. In this sense, the *start* command never echoes, and the *stop* command always echoes. In all the following descriptions and examples, references to command echoes assume that the instrument is not actively scanning.

Please note that any given instrument's command buffer is very small. To prevent command buffer overruns ensure that you do not send a new command without first receiving the previous command's echo.



# <span id="page-16-0"></span>**Protocol Command Set**









# <span id="page-18-0"></span>**Typical Program Flow**





# <span id="page-19-0"></span>**Basic Communication Commands**



## <span id="page-19-1"></span>**Info Commands**



The protocol supports a number of basic command/response items that provide a simple means to ensure the integrity of the communication link between a program and the instrument. These commands elicit simple, yet useful responses from the instrument and should be employed as the programmer's first communication attempt. If these commands don't work with a functioning instrument then a problem exists in the communication chain and further programming efforts will be futile until resolved.



Responses to this set of commands include echoing the command, followed by a space (20 $_{16}$ ), followed by the response, and ending with a carriage return  $(D_{16})$ . For example:



The packet size command defines the number of bytes the instrument sends with each transmission burst. The larger the packet size the more bytes transmitted per burst. Since a packet will not transmit until it is full, you should adjust packet size as a function of both sampling rate and the number of enabled channels to minimize latency when channel count and sample rate are low, and avoid a buffer overflow when sampling rate and channel count are high. In Ethernet mode, only ps 6 or lower is accepted.



# <span id="page-21-0"></span>**Multi-unit Synchronization Commands (USB)**



Many instruments support ChannelStretch™, synchronized data acquisition across multiple units of the same or sometimes different model. The commands in this group manage various aspects of the synchronization process when used with a USB interface.

## <span id="page-21-1"></span>**syncget, syncset, syncstart Commands**

These commands in combination manage synchronized sampling across multiple instruments, the feature colloquially referred to as *ChannelStretch* in of product literature. Each supports a 16-bit, unsigned number (in string format and in the range of "0" to "65535") as an argument, a returned value, or both as indicated. There is much that goes on in firmware to provide cross-unit synchronization, and a detailed treatment of that process is beyond the scope of this protocol. To simplify the functional application of synchronization we offer only a brief description of each synchronization command, and then pseudocode to show how they are applied.



\* Output coding must be set to binary to synchronize devices. The feature is not supported in the ASCII output mode.



#### Typical Synchronization Procedure Pseudocode

#### **Set up**

Pseudocode for two-device, synchronized data acquisition. Command subscripts denote the target device for the command. It is assumed that both devices are connected and communicating. The delay between program line " $F =$ syncget<sub>1</sub> 2" and the last *syncstart* command must be less than 200 mS.

```
A = syncget<sub>1</sub> 0
B = syncget<sub>2</sub> 0
C = (A+B)/2D = syncget<sub>1</sub> 3
E = syncget<sub>2</sub> 3
if not(D = E = C)syncset<sub>1</sub> C
     syncset<sub>2</sub> C
     delay 1 second
end if
F = syncget<sub>1</sub> 2
G = (F) XOR (0 \times 0400)if G = 0 then G = 1syncstart1 G
syncstart<sub>2</sub> G
```
#### **Error handling**

Pseudocode example to recover when odd-byte packet (indicating an error state) is received and the data stream has stopped and assuming we have two synchronized devices. In the pseudocode below error\$ is the last seven bytes in the buffer concatenated into a string. The delay between program  $line "F = syncget<sub>1</sub> 2" and the last *syncstart* command must be less$ than 200 mS.

```
if (error$ == "stop 03")
     A = syncget<sub>1</sub> 1
     B = syncget<sub>2</sub> 1
     C = (A+B)/2D = syncset<sub>1</sub> C
     E = syncset<sub>2</sub> C
     delay 1 second
end if
F = syncget<sub>1</sub> 2
G = (F) XOR (0x0400)if G = 0 then G = 1syncstart<sub>1</sub> G
syncstart2 G
```


# <span id="page-23-0"></span>**Ethernet Interface Configuration**

For instruments equipped with an Ethernet, these commands allow interface configuration.

# <span id="page-23-1"></span>**Connect (10)**





## <span id="page-23-2"></span>**Disconnect (11)**







#### <span id="page-24-0"></span>**KeepAlive (12)**



If any enabled device is not issued a KeepAlive command for more than 8 seconds it will drop its session and GroupID, and fall back to an idle state. Any GroupID matching the command serves as KeepAlive to the receiving device. Once scanning starts, only the master needs to receive the KeepAlive command to keep the sync group alive in a synchronized device setting.

This command does not generate a response.

## <span id="page-24-1"></span>**SetWdqHeader (21)**



Updates the active WinDaq file header (WDH or WHC format) in the instrument, which defines default data acquisition parameters. Complete details for both WDH and WHC formats ar[e published here.](https://www.dataq.com/resources/techinfo/ff.htm) Alternatively,





#### <span id="page-25-0"></span>*ipaddr* **command**



Sets the IPv4 address of the device (IPv6 is not supported). Can be sent in one of two methods:

- As a text command via the USB interface
- Via Ethernet as a packet command using Ethernet Command Format, type DQCommand, 0x31415926 and command value 13. The response is retrieved using the Ethernet Command Response (type DQResponse, 0x21712818)

ipaddr arg0

Where: arg0 is the IP address in 'A.B.C.D' format If arg0 is not supplied instrument returns its currently configured IP address If arg0 = 0 instrument is set for DHCP



#### <span id="page-25-1"></span>*netmask* **command**



Sets the subnet mask (IPv4) for the device (IPv6 is not supported). Can be sent in one of two methods:

- As a text command via the USB interface
- Via Ethernet as a packet command using Ethernet Command Format, type DQCommand, 0x31415926 and command value 13. The response is retrieved using the Ethernet Command Response (type DQResponse, 0x21712818)



```
netmask arg0
```


#### <span id="page-26-0"></span>*gateway* **command**



Sets the gateway IP address (IPv4) for the device to use (IPv6 is not supported). Can be sent in one of two methods:

- As a text command via the USB interface
- Via Ethernet as a packet command using Ethernet Command Format, type DQCommand, 0x31415926 and command value 13. The response is retrieved using the Ethernet Command Response (type DQResponse, 0x21712818)

```
gateway arg0
Where: arg0 is the IP address in 'A.B.C.D' format
          If arg0 is not supplied instrument returns its currently configured gateway address
```
Command: gateway 192.168.3.1 'sets gateway IP address





#### <span id="page-27-0"></span>*keepalive* **command**



Sets the device keepalive timeout value. Can be sent in one of two methods:

- As a text command via the USB interface
- Via Ethernet as a packet command using Ethernet Command Format, type DQCommand, 0x31415926 and command value 13. The response is retrieved using the Ethernet Command Response (type DQResponse, 0x21712818)

#### keepalive arg0

Where: 0 ≤ agr0 ≤ 65535 and represents the keepalive timeout to the nearest 10 mS. If zero, keepalive is disabled. If arg0 is not supplied instrument returns its current keepalive value.





#### <span id="page-28-0"></span>*port* **command**



Sets the UDP the device will use to communicate with a PC. Can be sent in one of two methods:

- As a text command via the USB interface
- Via Ethernet as a packet command using Ethernet Command Format, type DQCommand, 0x31415926 and command value 13. The response is retrieved using the Ethernet Command Response (type DQResponse, 0x21712818)

port arg0

Where: 0 ≤ agr0 ≤ 65535 and represents the port number on the PC the device will use for UDP communication. Default is port 1234. If arg0 is not supplied instrument returns the current port value.





# <span id="page-29-0"></span>**Multi-unit Synchronization Commands (Ethernet)**



Many instruments support ChannelStretch™, synchronized data acquisition across multiple units of the same or sometimes different model. The commands in this group manage various aspects of the synchronization process when used with an Ethernet interface.

# <span id="page-29-1"></span>**SlaveIp (5)**

Tells the master device in a chain about the slave devices it needs to sync with.



# <span id="page-29-2"></span>**SyncStart (1)**

Starts a synchronized data acquisition session within a group with common GroupID. If SYNCSTOP is issued, a delay of two seconds is required before the next SYNCSTART to ensure internal timer/housekeeping is performed. If the master contains no enabled channels, serving only as a sync facilitator, Payload should contain "mastersynconly." If WiFi connected devices are involved, unicast is necessary. If no WiFi is involved, then broadcast is preferred so that PC can send SYNCSTART to all devices in a more responsive manner.





# <span id="page-30-0"></span>**SyncStop (6)**

Ends a synchronized data acquisition session within a group with common GroupID. Payload should contain normal USB command "stop." If WiFi connected devices are involved, unicast is necessary, see above discussion. If no WiFi is involved, broadcast is preferred



# <span id="page-30-1"></span>**Sample Pseudo Code for Ethernet Device Synchronization**

The following pseudo code provides a general framework for how a synchronized data acquisition session between Ethernet-enabled devices is achieved. Use the GroupID attribute to broadcast time-critical, simultaneous commands SyncStart and SyncStop.

```
for i=0 to N
'use Ethernet Connect command to define group ids, master, slave
    Connect device(i) with same group id
   if i=0 then
       device(0)=master
   else
       device(i)=slave
   endif
next
'tell master the IP address of each slave
for i = 1 to nSlaveIp (device0, device(i))
next
for i = 0 to n
'define data acquisition settings for all devices
next
```


```
'begin acquiring data
SyncStart device(all) 'use GroupID to broadcast to all devices at once
do
   read data from device(all) 'use ADC Data Stream Reponse type 0x14142135
   if data stream has gap then
       fill buffer with NaN
   endif
   send keepalive to device(0) before programmed timeout
loop until stop
SyncStop device(all) 'use GroupID to broadcast to all devices at once
'delay at least two seconds before issuing another SyncStart
```
# <span id="page-31-0"></span>**Date and Time Commands**



Date and time operations allow configuration of the internal real time clock present in all instruments with the stand-alone option that allow recording to a USB drive without a connected PC. We recommend defining time as UTC to support data portability across time zones.

#### <span id="page-31-1"></span>*ymd* **command**

Sets real time clock date

ymd arg0

Where: arg0 is the date in 'yyyy/mm/dd' format



#### <span id="page-31-2"></span>*hms* **command**

Sets real time clock time-of-day



```
hms arg0
```
Where: arg0 is the time in 'hh:mm:ss' format (using a 24-hour clock format)



# <span id="page-32-0"></span>**USB Drive Commands**



# <span id="page-32-1"></span>**UsbDrive (22)**

Provides access to a connected USB drive for instruments purchased with the stand-alone option. Responses are handled via the Read USB Drive File Response types (UsbDriveData, 0x17320508 for data, and UsbDriveEOF, 0x22360679 for end of file)





The following USB drive commands are supported:

#### <span id="page-33-0"></span>**ud\_start**



#### <span id="page-33-1"></span>**ud\_stop**



#### <span id="page-33-2"></span>**ud\_ls <arg0> <arg1>**



#### <span id="page-33-3"></span>**ud\_del <arg0>**



#### <span id="page-33-4"></span>**ud\_read <arg0> <arg1> <arg2>**







#### <span id="page-34-0"></span>**ud\_status <arg0> <arg1>**



#### <span id="page-34-1"></span>**ud\_power <arg0>**



## <span id="page-34-2"></span>**ud\_stream <arg0>**





#### <span id="page-35-0"></span>**ud\_cfgwr <arg0> <arg1>**



#### <span id="page-35-1"></span>**ud\_cfgrd <arg0>**




# **Measurement Configuration Commands**

### *encode* **Command**



#### The *encode* command defines the instrument's output coding format:



\*Refer to the binary and ASCII stream data format sections in this document for output formatting details



### *eol Command*



The *eol* command defines a termination character the device uses for ASCII mode data output (see the *encode* command.) Instrument models that do not support the *eol* command terminate with a carriage return character (D16.) The *eol* command is valid only while in the ASCII data output mode (*encode* = 1.) Attempting to issue the command while in the binary data output mode results in a *command not found* response.





## *slist* **Command**



Instruments employ a scan list approach to data acquisition. A scan list is an internal schedule (or list) of channels to be sampled in a defined order. It is important to note that a scan list defines only the type and order in which data is to be sampled, not the sampled data itself. Since instruments support different measurement characteristics, their scan list architectures will vary. Be certain to refer to the scan list architecture for your specific instrument.

During general-purpose use each entry in the scan list is represented by a 16-bit number, which is defined in detail in the *Scan List Word Definitions* tables below for each instrument model. Writing any value to the first position of the scan list automatically resets the slist member count to 1. This count increases by 1 each time a new member is added to the list, which must be filled from lowest to highest positions. The first item in the scan list initializes to 0 (typically analog input channel 0) upon power up. Therefore, upon power up, and assuming that no changes are applied to the scan list, only analog input channel 0 is sampled when scanning is set to active by the start command.

The *slist* command along with two arguments separated by a space character is used to configure the scan list:

### *slist offset config*

*offset* defines the index within the scan list and can range from 0 to 10 to address up to eleven possible positions depending upon instrument model. *config* is the 16-bit configuration parameter as defined in table *Scan List Word Definitions tables* for each instrument model .

For example, the command *slist 5 10* sent to model DI-2008 configures the sixth position of the scan list



to specify data from the counter. Continuing with the DI-2008 and assuming that we wish to sample analog channels 2 and 4 (on their ±10 V scale), and 6 (on its ±2.5 V scale), and the rate, counter, and digital inputs, the following scan list configuration would work:

Note that since the act of writing to scan list position 0 resets the slist member counter, the above configuration is complete upon writing scan list position 5. Other considerations:

- Any scan list position (except position 0) may be modified without affecting the contents of the rest of the list.
- Channel type definitions may be placed in the scan list in any order that satisfies the requirements of the application.
- Any analog, digital input, rate, or counter channel may appear in the scan list only once.
- *slist* positions must be defined sequentially beginning with position 0.
- To be consistent with general programming standards, analog channel numbers begin with 0 instead of 1 as indicated the product labels.



### **DI-1100 Scan List Definition**



#### **DI-1120 Scan List Definition**





#### **DI-2008 Scan List Definition**









#### **DI-2108 and DI-1110 Scan List Definition**







#### **DI-2108P, 4108, 4208, and 4730 Scan List Definition**





### **DI-4718B Scan List Definition**





#### **Rate Range Table for Supported Instruments**

The protocol also supports a range setting for rate measurements where a count value may be converted to a frequency in Hertz by applying the following formula:

$$
rate = \frac{counts + 32768}{65536} \times range
$$

"Range" is defined in the following table. Refer to the instrument's specifications for the maximum measurable rate as a function of burst rate.



\* For all products other than the DI-2008 (see below) maximum measurable frequency is a function of *srate* (see *srate* Scan Rate Command) and duty cycle of the applied signal: *srate* < 60,000,000 × ((duty cyle) ÷ 50%) ÷ (Range × 2), where srate ≥ 500 (burst rate ≤ 160,000 Hz) with one channel enabled, and duty cycle is the percentage of the cycle for the shorter input state.

Rate measurement using Model DI-2008 is not restricted by either duty cycle or *srate*. Minimum pulse width is 500 nS when making rate measurements using the DI-2008.



# **Scanning Commands**

## *srate* **Scan rate Command**



Command *srate* defines the value of a sample rate divisor used to determine scan rate, or the rate at which the instrument scans channels that you enabled with the *slist* command. The various instruments supported by this protocol can behave differently as a function of a number of variables. The general form of the equation that defines sample rate is:

#### *Sample rate type (Hz) = (dividend) ÷ (srate × dec × deca)*

The values assumed by all variables in the above equation are described in the following table as a function of instrument model number:

#### *srate* **Variable Table**



\* "achn" is the number of enabled analog channels on the indicated device

\*\* The device's supported decimation factors. Refer to the *filter* command for details.

\*\*\* Model DI-2008 does not support the deca command



Sample rate is defined as either a per channel or throughput rate. For models that support throughput values, the sample rate per channel is throughput divided by either the number of enabled analog channels, or the number of analog and digital channels depending upon the model.

For the DI-2008, sample rate per channel is the throughput rate divided by the number of enabled analog channels only regardless of the number of enabled digital channels.

For the DI-2108P, sample rate per channel is the throughput rate divided by the total number of analog and digital channels. In this case total channels can be as high as 11 (eight analog, one for all digital input ports, one for the counter, and one for the rate.)

### *start* **Command**



Since the *start* command immediately initiates scanning, the command is never echoed:





### *stop* **Command**





The protocol's *stop* command terminates scanning. Since the *stop* command terminates scanning, it is always echoed.



The instrument has the ability to detect that its internal 1024-sample buffer has overflowed. Should this error condition occur the instrument will stop scanning and place *stop 01* in the last seven bytes of its final response. Buffer overflows can be greatly minimized by ensuring that the instrument buffer is flushed continuously and frequently in a high-priority routine.





# **Oversampling Mode Commands**



Most instruments support a range of oversampling modes that are selectable per channel:



\* CIC filter mode is active during acquisition only if the instrument is in the ASCII mode as defined by the *encode* command.

## *filter* **command**

All instruments that support oversampling modes can be programmed to report the last point that was acquired, and the maximum or the minimum of a range of values. Filtered results are possible as either average or CIC filtered values depending upon model. Oversampling mode is programmed on a per channel basis using the *filter* command, which command accepts two arguments of the form:

filter arg0 arg1

Where: 0 ≤ *arg0* ≤ 7 and is equal to a specific analog channel number.

0 ≤ *arg1* ≤ 3:





## *dec* **Command**

A decimation factor (*dec*) must be applied to define the number of samples used by each acquisition mode (except Last Point.) For example, if *dec* has a value of 100 and the *filter* command defines the maximum oversampling mode, one value is reported for every 100 that are acquired, the maximum of the 100 samples. The next acquired 100 values are evaluated and the maximum value is reported, and so on. Setting *dec* to a value of 1 essentially forces the filter's last point mode even if maximum, minimum, or average (CIC filter) is specified.

dec arg0

Refer to the *Sample Rate Variable Values By Model* table above for valid *arg0* values for each model. Sample oversampling and decimation commands and responses:

# Command: filter 1 2 'set analog channel 1 to maximum oversampling mode Response: filter 1 2 'analog channel 1 set to maximum oversampling mode Command: dec 128 'set the decimation factor to 128 Response: dec 128 'the current decimation factor is 128

## *deca* **Command (firmware version 1.21 and higher)**

A decimation factor defined by the *dec* command may be multiplied to include more samples through use of the *deca* command. For example, if dec is set to the value of 232 and *deca* is set to the value 10, the total number of samples evaluated for the applied filter mode is 2320 (232  $\times$  10.) To take complete advantage of CIC filters for the products that support them, *dec* should always be defined to be as large as possible. For example, if a total decimation factor of 1024 is desired, *dec* and *deca* should be defined as 512 and 2 respectively. For all desired decimation factors less than or equal to 512, *deca* should be set to 1 (i.e. providing no multiplier effect.)

deca arg0

Where: 1 ≤ arg0 ≤ 40000. *deca* default value is 1.

Refer to the *Sample Rate Variable Values By Model* table above for valid *arg0* values for each model. Sample oversampling and decimation commands and responses:







# **cjcdelta Command**



The *cjcdelta* command reads or applies CJC (cold junction compensation) offsets per channel to ensure measurement accuracy when using thermocouples. Since accurate thermocouple measurements depend upon an equally accurate measurement of junction temperature (where the thermocouple connects to the instrument), the *cjcdelta* command exists to ensure accurate junction temperature readings. Adjustments using *cjcdelta* should be applied only on a channel with a connected NIST-traceable thermocouple whose junction is held in an ice bath. This allows *cjcdelta* to adjust the measured temperature to 0°C, ± 0.0625°C.

The command syntax of *cjcdelta* consists of the command with at least one, but no more than two ASCII integer arguments that are separated by a space character and terminated with a carriage return character. General forms of the command follow:

### **cjcdelta -1**

Reads CJC offsets from all channels and returns eight values separated by a space in the order of channel 0 to channel 7. Each value will fall in the range of -100 to +100. An offset may be calculated by multiplying the value returned per channel by 0.0625°C.

### **cjcdelta arg0 arg1**

Sets a defined CJC offset for a defined channel,

where: 0 ≤ arg0 ≤ 7 and represents the channel number -100 ≤ arg1 ≤ 100 and represents the offset multiplier (j \* 0.0625°C)

### **Cjcdelta -2**

Writes CJC offsets to the DI-2008's flash memory.

Note that CJC offsets are inversely proportional to temperature. Higher offset values decrease temperature readings, and lower values increase temperature readings.



# **Rate Measurement Moving Average**



When the rate channel is enabled in the instrument's scan list using the *slist* command, a moving average filter may be applied to smooth readings. The moving average factor is defined by the command:

*ffl arg0*

where 1 ≤ *arg0* ≤ 64 and the default value is 32.





# **LED Color Command**



Instruments have a panel-mounted, multi-color LED for general-purpose use. The *led* command accepts one argument that defines the color of the LED, and takes the following form:

led arg0

Where:







# **Digital I/O Commands**



\*D0 and D1 only. Fixed as inputs

The protocol supports three commands for digital I/O, and instruments provide seven ports for that purpose. Each port can be programmed as either an input or an output, with input as the default state for all. A port configured as an output is really a switch that is either on or off to control an external load.

One command (*endo*) defines configuration on a per port basis, input or switch. A second command (*dout*) defines the state of a port's switch if the port is configured as an output. The third command (*din*) reads the state of all ports regardless of I/O configuration.

### *endo* **command**

endo arg0

Where:  $0 \le \arg 0 \le 127_{10}$  and maps input/switch configuration to each of seven digital ports where bit *n* represents D*n*. A value of one written to a port configures it as a switch. A value of zero configures the port as an input.



All digital ports are re-initialized when endo is issued.



## *dout* **command**

dout arg0

Where:  $0 \le \arg 0 \le 127_{10}$  ( $0 \le \arg 0 \le 0 \times 7F$ ) and defines the bit state of the 7-bit output port where bit *n* represents D*n*.



### *din* **command**

din



*din* does not discriminate between ports configured as inputs or as switches. The command simply returns the state of all ports as a 7-bit value where bit *n* represents D*n*. A port configured as a switch returns the state of the switch. One configured as a digital input returns the applied state.



# **Reset Command**



The reset command resets accumulated counts to zero for any instruments that support a counter input

reset arg0

Where: arg0 = 1 to reset the counter to a count of zero





# **Binary Stream Output Formats**

All products that are a part of this protocol document can output a binary response, which is the preferred format for implementations that require a fast sample rate. When the response mode is binary and the *start* command is received data begins issuing from the device in an order and rate defined by the previously configured scan list and sample rate. When the end of data defined by the last scan list element is reached the instrument wraps back to data represented by the first scan list element and repeats. The result is an instrument that sends a continuous binary data stream that stops only after receiving the *stop* command. For this reason, properly interpreting data in real time delivered from any instrument configured for a binary output format can be challenging for even the most experienced programmer.

Binary data output format changes depending upon the instrument to accommodate the devices unique measurement characteristics. In each situation, nomenclature will remain consistent:  $A_x$  values denote analog channel ADC values, and  $D_x$ ,  $R_x$  and  $C_x$  are digital, rate, and counter value inputs respectively. In all cases the 'x' subscript represents the bit position of the binary value.

## **Binary Coding Notes**

Binary data output for ADC values varies by instrument. However, for instruments that support counter and rate inputs, meaningful values are extracted across all product models by applying the following formulas:

 $counter$  value =  $counts + 32768$ 

 $rate = \frac{rate \ value + 32768}{65536} \times range$ 

Where: *counts* is the 16-bit value provided by the instrument for count. *rate value* is the 16-bit value provided by the instrument for rate. *range* is the selected rate measurement range in Hz (see Rate Range Table in the slist section for your specific instrument)



## **DI-1100 Binary Stream Output Format and ADC Coding**



The DI-1100 transmits a 12-bit binary number for every analog channel conversion in the form of a signed, 12-bit Two's complement value:



Applied voltage as a function of ADC counts has the following relationship:

$$
volts = 10 \times \frac{counts}{2048}
$$









The DI-1110 transmits a 12-bit binary number for every analog channel conversion in the form of a signed, 12-bit Two's complement value:





Applied voltage as a function of ADC counts has the following relationship:

 $volts = 10 \times$ counts 2048



## **DI-1120 Binary Stream Output Format and ADC Coding**



The DI-1120 transmits a 14-bit binary number for every analog channel conversion in the form of a signed, 12-bit Two's complement value:







\* Assuming the DI-1120 is programmed for the ±10 V full scale range.

Applied voltage as a function of ADC counts and measurement range has the following relationship for the DI-1120:

> $volts = \textit{full scale range} \times$ counts 8192

## **DI-2008, -2108, -2108P, -4108, -4208, -4730 Binary Stream Output Format and ADC**

## **Coding**



All instruments transmit a 16-bit binary number for every analog channel conversion in the form of a signed, 16-bit Two's complement value:





Assuming the instrument is programmed for the ±10 V full scale range.

Applied voltage as a function of ADC counts has the following relationship for all instruments in this category, and for the DI-2108P when in a bipolar measurement range:

$$
volts = full scale range \times \frac{counts}{32768}
$$

When the DI-2108P is in a unipolar range the following applies:

 $volts = \textit{full scale range} \times$ counts + 32768 65536

For example, the Binary Coding for 0-10V Range is as follows:







 $volts = \textit{full scale range} \times$ counts 65536

## **DI-2008 Thermocouple Temperature Coding**

Channels configured as a thermocouple input (DI-2008 only) borrow two ADC counts from the measurement range to indicate error conditions.

ADC counts = +32767 indicates an unrecoverable CJC error. The DI-2008's processor cannot communicate with the CJC temperature sensor, or the reading is outside the CJC sensor's measurement range.

ADC counts = -32768 indicates a TC burnout (open) condition.

An applied temperature is derived from ADC counts (A) according to the following equation, where m and b are determined by TC type:

$$
{}^{\circ}C = mA + b
$$



## **DI-4718B Binary Stream Output Format and ADC Coding**







Transmits a 16-bit binary number for every analog channel conversion in the form of a signed, 16-bit Two's complement value:



Applied voltage as a function of ADC counts has the following relationship for the DI-4718B:

$$
volts = 10 \times \frac{counts}{32768}
$$





# **ASCII Stream Output Format**

Products that support an ASCII output format for analog channels, when enabled with the *encode* commands, generate a comma-separated value result with each line of the output terminated with either a carriage return or line feed character as defined by the *eol* command. Channel output order is defined by the scan list, and values are presented as floating point numbers scaled in volts. For example, if the following two assignments are made in the scan list using the *slist* command and *eol* command value = 1:

Position 0 = analog channel 5

Position 1 = analog channel 4

this CSV output results after issuing the *start* command:

```
(analog channel 5 value),(analog channel 4 value)<cr>
(analog channel 5 value),(analog channel 4 value)<cr>
(analog channel 5 value),(analog channel 4 value)<cr>
                          .
                          .
                          .
(analog channel 5 value),(analog channel 4 value)<cr>
```


# **Document Revisions**

