

TG-1000 and MS-2000's Instruction Set Differences

This section is intended to quickly bring the users up to speed on the major differences in the serial commands between TG-1000 and MS-2000 controller.

Where possible the TG-1000 commands were kept close to the MS-2000 controller commands. The most common commands are identical because they are Axis-Specific commands. A special [Tiger reply syntax](#) was added to Tiger starting in COMM card firmware v1.92. However the default syntax closely mirrors the MS-2000 syntax.

Categories of Commands

Axis-Specific Commands

Commands where the axis letter of the stage is specified work just like MS-2000 on the Tiger, e.g. MOVE, MOVREL, and WHERE. For example, X and Y axis reside on card with address 1, and Z resides on card with address 2. When M X=## Y=### Z=### is issued the COMM card in TG-1000 controller parses the command, and redirects each sub-command to the appropriate card automatically. These commands are called Axis-Specific Commands. A card address should not be specified with an Axis-Specific command, otherwise undefined behavior may result from any mismatch between the address specified and the card with the axis as determined by the COMM card.

Card-Addressed Commands

For the Tiger controller we were forced to alter handling of commands which do not contain the letter of a stage axis. In those cases, the user must specify which card the command is intended for, and the COMM card will relay the command appropriately. For example, in MS-2000 the SS Z command saves settings into non-volatile memory, but the user may not want all the settings on all the cards to be saved. For the TG-1000 the user has to prepend the card address to the command to make it work. For example, if the card that drives XY axis has the address 1, to only save setting on this card user should issue 1SS Z (or equivalently 1 SS Z). These commands are called Card-Addressed Commands. How to determine the address of a specific card is described below.

Importantly, for any settings selected by Card-Addressed Commands the setting applies to all axes on the card. For example, the ring buffer delay can be set independently for the XY stage on one card and a piezo stage on a different card. However, if a card contains more than one independent axis (e.g. a ZF card for two linear stages, or a Micro mirror card for 2 scanners) then the same setting applies to all axes. Continuing our example, the ring buffer on the ZF card would control both Z and F axes (though one of these axes could be disconnected from the ring buffer) so Z and F could not have separate ring buffer delay times.

Some commands default to a particular card if an address is not specified, though they can be addressed to specific cards as well. There are sub-categories of commands sent to the COMM card unless otherwise specified (e.g. BUILD and WHO), commands sent to whatever card has the X axis or

else all the stage cards if the X axis doesn't exist (e.g. JSSPD and LED), and commands sent to whatever card has the Z axis or all the stage cards if the Z axis doesn't exist (e.g. most CRISP and autofocus commands). These sub-categories may be referred to as Comm-Default, Stage-Default, and Focus-Default commands respectively.

Broadcast Commands

A third category is Broadcast commands, like STATUS, HALT, RESET, and ZERO. They are routed to all cards in a TG-1000 system by default, just like the MS-2000. However, in most cases they can also be directed at a single card by simply adding the card address, so they could be considered as special type of Card-Addressed Commands sent to all cards if an address is not specified.

Other differences

Note that a few commands have minor behavioral differences between MS-2000 and TG-1000. Most often these are due to hardware differences, e.g. different buttons or different TTL capabilities. Deviations between MS-2000 and TG-1000 command set are noted in the documentation of those commands. Note that TG-1000 offers a wide variety of different types of cards driving different devices.

Special "All-Axis" Letter

Beginning with COMM card firmware version 3.10 a special axis letter * was added to Tiger. When this character is specified in an Axis-specific command then it applies to all the axes in the controller. For instance, all axes can be moved to zero position using M *=0 (or equivalently M * because numbers not specified default to 0) and all joystick settings can be cleared with J *=0. The * axis letter can also be combined with card addressing to apply the command to all the axes on the same card, e.g. 3M *=0 will move all axes on card address 3 to their zero position, and 3! * will home all axes on card 3.

How does the user find out a card address?

When the TG-1000 is turned on or when WHO serial command is issued, the controller prints out card address, axis names, firmware version and firmware build date of all the cards installed in the system (see section Tiger Banner below for more details). Also, more complete information about the cards and corresponding axes can be accessed using the BUILD X command which is described in the section Build Command below.

As an illustrative example, the controller may have the following configuration as reported on startup:

```
.....
At 30: Comm v1.5 TIGER_COMM May 07 2013:15:42:05
At 31: X:XYMotor,Y:XYMotor v2.4 STD_XY Jun 11 2013:17:00:12
At 32: Z:Piezo v2.4 ADEPT_PIEZO Jun 11 2013:17:05:00
```

Joystick ready.
System ready.

The card addresses are shown in ASCII code. At 31 indicates a card with X and Y axes has the address 1 (ASCII code of 1 is 31).

To save settings in non volatile memory:	1SS Z	Card-Addressed
To print its error dump buffer:	1DU Y	Card-Addressed
To move X and Y axis:	M X=### Y=###	Axis-Specific

Similarly the card with Z axis has address 2 (ASCII code of 2 is 32).

To move Z axis:	M Z=###	Axis-Specific
To issue pzinfo command on this card:	2PZINFO	Card-Addressed
To put in closed loop external input mode:	2PZ Z=1	Card-Addressed
To save settings into non-volatile memory:	2SS Z	Card-Addressed
To run short calibration on the piezo:	2PZC	Card-Addressed

Addresses beyond 0-9

Comm card firmware prior to v3.42 only allows addresses '1' - '9' to be accessed, which is hex 0x31 - 0x39. Beginning with comm card firmware v3.42 you can use addresses '1' - '9' as well as addresses hex 0x81 - 0x86, which is as many cards as can fit into a single Tiger controller. (Note that controllers can be daisy-chained if required, and ASI can extend further the accessible range when a customer needs it.)

It can be tricky to interact with addresses 0x81 and above because the address is not an ASCII characters. If you can send the appropriate non-ASCII character through your control software, prepending card-addressed commands with that character, then nothing else is needed: the controller will correctly interpret those non-ASCII character as addresses. However, provision was added in comm card firmware v3.42 to allow easy access to this extended address space sending only ASCII characters: if you enter the back-tick character at the start of a command `` then the next 2 characters are interpreted as hexadecimal values for the address. For example, to query the configuration of address '4' = 0x34 you can either issue 4 CCA X? or you can equivalently send `34 CCA X?. For address 0x81 you can send `81 CCA X?.

Table 1 TG-1000 Addresses

Addressee	Usage	Value
TG-1000 Comm	Hard coded, re-assignable	0x30 ('0')
Stage/ FW/Shutter	Unique Address	0x31 to 0x39, then 0x81 to 0xF5
Stage Broadcast	Recognized by all stage controllers	0xF6
Filterwheel Broadcast	Recognized by all FW controllers	0xF7
Shutter Broadcast	Recognized by all shutter controllers	0xF8
LCD Broadcast	Recognized by all LCD controllers	0xF9
Broadcast	Recognized by all cards	0xFD
Broadcast except Comm	Recognized by all cards except TG-1000 Comm	0xFE

Identifying Controller Configuration

Build Command

In controllers with Tiger Comm firmware version v1.8 and above, the **BUILD X** command directed at the COMM card (or without any address) can be used to query axis names, axis types and axis address. (When the build command is addressed to a specific card the build information for that card is returned.)

Example:

```
build x
TIGER_COMM
Motor Axes: X Y P Q R S 0 1
Axis Types: x x u u u u w w
Axis Addr: 1 1 2 2 2 2 3 3
Hex Addr: 31 31 32 32 32 32 33 33
Axis Props: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

The above system has card address 1 with an XY stage with axes named X and Y. Card number 2 has micro mirror with axes P, Q, R, S. Then card address 3 with filter wheel IDs 0 and 1.

The next line contains the axis type short code. For example, x means xy stage, u means micro mirror and w means filter wheel. A complete listing of axis types with designations is as follows:

The next two lines contain the addresses in two forms, first the form that is used to prefix Card-Addressed commands and second in hex format.

Finally, any special axis properties are printed (e.g. CRISP or SCAN capabilities) starting with firmware version 2.8. The decimal equivalent of a byte (0-255) is printed with the bits of the byte representing the following

Axis Type List

Axis Type Short	Axis Type Long	Description
x	XYMotor	XY stage
z	ZMotor	Z focus motor drive. LS50s, Z scopes etc
p	Piezo	Piezo Focus. ASIs ADEPT, Piezo DAC etc
o	Tur	Objective Turret
f	Slider	Filter Changer
t	Theta	Theta Stage
l	Motor	Generic linear motorized stage, TIRF, SISKIYOU etc
a	PiezoL	Generic linear piezo stage
m	Zoom	Zoom magnification motor axis
u	MMirror	Micro Mirror, Scanner 75 etc
w	FW Filter	Wheel

Axis Type Short	Axis Type Long	Description
s	Shutter	Shutter
g	Logic	Programmable logic card
i	LED card	Multi LED Driver card
b	Lens	Tunable Lens
d	DAC	Digital to Analog converter(DAC)
u	Unknown	Unknown axis type

Axis Properties

Bit 0:	CRISP auto-focus firmware
Bit 1:	RING BUFFER firmware
Bit 2:	SCAN firmware
Bit 3:	ARRAY firmware or MM_TARGET firmware
Bit 4:	SPIM firmware (v2.81+)
Bit 5:	SINGLEAXIS and/or MULTIAXIS firmware (v2.81+)
Bit 6:	LED illumination (v2.87+)
Bit 7:	Reserved

Tiger Banner

A banner is printed by the controller on Startup and by the WHO command. It tells the user (and also to any scripts and programs) all the available cards in the system, with their axis characters, axis types etc.

```
At 30: Comm v1.5 TIGER_COMM May 07 2013:15:42:05
At 31: X:XYMotor,Y:XYMotor v2.4 STD_XY Jun 11 2013:17:00:12
At 32: Z:Piezo v2.4 ADEPT_PIEZO Jun 11 2013:17:05:00
```

It is a multiline reply, each line is terminated by a <Carriage Return> and final line by a <Carriage Return> +<Line Feed> to designate end of Transmission.

Each line can be sub divided into strings using a white space as delimiter. Then the 2nd string is the card address in Hex. 0x30 is 0 in ascii, 0x31 is 1 and 0x32 is 2. All possible address are 0x30 to 0x39 and then 0x81 to 0xF5. 0x81 is ü, 0xF5 is J.

The second string can be further subdivided with comma as delimiter. Then the first character of the string is the axis character, colon and what kind of an axis it is. A to Z are all possible axis names, system is case insensitive. Except in case of filter wheels, IDs are integers 0 to 9

Example:

X:XYMotor,Y:XYMotor . X and Y are axis names of a XY stage. Z:Piezo . Z is the axis names of a Piezo focus.

Then the 4th string is the firmware version number. 5th String is our build name, which is an internal designation. The last set of strings are the firmware compile date and time.

A Note Regarding Units

The most common commands including MOVE, MOVEREL, HERE, and WHERE use axis units, which can be changed using the UM command. However, some commands such as SETUP, SETLOW, and PCROS always use units of mm. By default, axis units where position is given in distance (e.g. for motorized stages and piezo stages) are represented in 0.1um increments, or 10,000 units per millimeter of travel. For mirror scanner axes, default axis units are 0.001 degrees (uncalibrated), or 1000 units per degree of travel. When a time is required, the unit is generally milliseconds. Some commands use integer codes or other input units as described below.

[serial](#), [commands](#), [manual](#), [tiger](#), [tech note](#)

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