SOAR TCS COMMANDS

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Command Protocol.

The SOAR TCS accepts commands from other applications through a TCP/IP port. The commands are ASCII strings, that request data or an action to be performed on behalf of the requestor. The general structure of a command consists of a keyword, followed by an optional action word and parameters.

The TCS response to a command is also an ASCII string, whose first token is one of DONE, ACTIVE or ERROR. Following this first token is a list of optional data depending on the command that was invoked.

Command

**FOCUS (INIT | MOVEABS | MOVEREL | STATUS | STOP)**

This command requests actions to the focus mechanism associated with the secondary mirror (M2).

**INIT**

Initializes the focus and leave the device in the fiducial position.

**MOVEABS value**

Moves the focus to an absolute position given by the value in microns.

**MOVEREL +/- value**

Moves the focus a certain value in microns from the present position.

**STATUS**

Return the status of the motion (if any) and the present focus position.

**STOP**

Stop the focus motion.

For example:

FOCUS STATUS
DONE 5300
FOCUS MOVEABS 5500
ACTIVE 5300
FOCUS STATUS
ACTIVE 5450
FOCUS STATUS
DONE 5500

**GUIDER (DISABLE | ENABLE | STATUS)**

This command enable or disable the guider device.

For example:

GUIDER ENABLE
DONE ENABLE
GUIDER STATUS
DONE ENABLE

**INFO**

This command returns a long list of parameters, as follows:

date
time
right ascension
declination
hour angle
azimuth
elevation
rotator angle
dome azimuth
dome elevation
airmass

For example:

INFO
DONE 2002-04-15 17:06:52 05:52:53.81 -52:14:46.54 -03:54:13.05 136.34 42.31 274.64 136.34 42.31 1.484

**OFFSET (MOVE | STATUS)**

This command send an offset motion request to the TCS. The offset is given in units of arcseconds, and must be preceded by one of the direction characters N, S, E, W.

For example:

OFFSET MOVE E 34.3 N 56.7
ACTIVE 54.797746 56.700000
OFFSET STATUS
ACTIVE 10.345630 12.543600
OFFSET STATUS
DONE

**WAY**

(Who are you) This command returns an identification string.

For example:

WAY
DONE SOAR 4.2M