Protocol description

ASCII Protocol Specifications of RS232 Serial Interface for analog tape recorders
REVOX C270, STUDER A807, STUDER A810, STUDER A812, STUDER A816, STUDER A820-2CH

STUDER Norm-Nr. 10.85.1330

1. COMMUNICATION FORMAT
```
Asynchronous, bit serial signal
    - according to RS 232 C specifications;
    - full duplex communication channel;
    - data transmission rate: 9600 bauds;
    - word composition as follow:
                1 START bit, 8 data bits, no parity, 1 STOP bit;
---+ +----+----+----+----+----+----+----+----+----+ -- MARK
        |START| D0 | D1 | D2 | D3 | D4 | D5 | D6 | D7 |STOP
        | bit | LSB| | | | | | | MSB| bit
    SPACB
```


## Connector specifications

- 9 pin connector, D type, (SMPTE/BUS / RS232 connector);
- pin out:
controller machine



## 2. MESSAGE FORMAT

The communication between the STUDER machine and the controller is implemented through ASCII coded strings of not fixed length.

A message string is composed by ASCII characters:
capital letters, "?", " ", figures and the following control characters

| 'CR' | (0Dh) |
| :--- | :--- |
| 'LF' | (0Ah) |
| 'CX' | $(18 \mathrm{~h})$ |
| ' XOFF' | $(13 \mathrm{~h})$ |
| 'XON' | $(11 \mathrm{~h})$ |

All commands mnemonics have a length of 3 characters and are usually terminated by a ' $\mathrm{CR}^{\prime}$ '.
Only commands with parameters vary in length. The additional characters are inserted between the command and ' CR '.

The parameters are separed by blanks or colons. There are some exceptions: commands which do not have termination characters. Please refer to the individual command description for the exact syntax of each command.

The STUDER machine uses the sequence ' $\mathrm{CR} L \mathrm{~L}$ ' as acknowledge message or to terminate the answer string.

Ex:
"WNF 0400 " 'CR' $=$ controlled wind forward at 4 times nominal speed
WNF $=$ command, controlled wind forward
$0400=$ parameter, 0400 h coded as ASCII string
the controller will send to the machine:

| character | ASCII code sent |
| :---: | :---: |
| 'W' | 57 h |
| 'N' | 4 Eh |
| 'F' | 46 h |
| ', | 20 h |
| '0' | 30 h |
| '4' | 34 h |
| '0' | 30 h |
| '0' | 30 h |
| ' $\mathrm{CR}^{\prime}$ |  |
|  | 0 Dh |

The machine should answer:

| ' CR ' | oDh |
| :--- | :--- |
| 'LF' | OAh |

The ' CX' control character is used by the controller to reset asynchronously the STUDER machine's communication port.
' XOFF ' and ' $X O N$ ' are used by the machine as handshake characters.

For terminal operation the machine's communication port can operate in 'echo mode'. In this mode, an echo of each character is sent back to the controller, and a prompt ('>') is sent after the answer string.
The 'echo mode' may be set via the machine menu. It should not be used for computer remote control.
3. COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL
a) general informations

The communication between the controller and the STUDER machine is a master-slave protocol. The controller is the master and it should take initiative in the communication. The communication has to fulfill the following specifications:

- the machine has to acknowledge a command with a 'CR LF' within 100 msec from the moment that the command's last byte is received;
- the machine's communication port is asynchronously resetted (both receiver and transmitter) by a 'cX' sent by the controller, and it has to acknowledge it with a ' CR LF' in the specified time;
- the machine can interrupt the controller in any moment by sending an 'XoFF' and recover the connection sending an 'XON'. They do not have to be acknowledged by controller;
- for the controller, there is no time specification for the interval between two bytes of a command;
- the controller should not output the next command before receiving the machine's answer (exception: 'cX' ).
b) Error messages


## 3

If a message is not understood by the machine, it shall be ackowledged by:
"?"

If the machine is in 'echo mode', or with old versions of machine software, it is also possible to have:
"INPUT FORMAT ERROR !" 'CR LF'

At A816, only if the machine is in 'echo mode', the messages
"SWITCH EDIT LEVER TO NORMAL POSITION, PLEASE 1 " 'CR LF'
resp. "OVERRUN FRAMING ERROR !" 'CR LF'
are also possible.
c) Notes:

- After power on, the machine may announce itself with a welcome message of some length;
- After a power on or an error message, it is recommended to initialize the communication by sending 'cX'. The communication is established as soon the machine answers with 'CR LF' within the specified time. Then the communication can be considered restored.
- The machine is capable to handle at least 10 commands per second without XoFF-XON interference.
- After the reception of a command the machine should answer with an updated status.
E.g. if the command was a "PLY", the machine must answer with 'play not achieved' or 'play achieved'.
- If a command cannot be executed, the machine may answer with a 'not achieved' status, which will be replaced by the actual machine status. E.g. sending a PLY during tapeout the machine may answer with 'play not achieved' before going back to 'tapeout'.
- A locate command has a particular option. It can be followed by a command 'play' or 'record'. This preselection means that, once the locate is terminated, the machine will go in play or record. Preselection commands (play or record) can be repeated without cancelling the execution of the locate command.

The status corresponding to a locate command is 'locate wind forward' or 'locate rewind', either 'achieved' or 'not achieved'. In addition, the machine may also answer 'play not achieved' or 'record not achieved', if play or record has been preselected.

A normal locate command is considered completed when the machine sends a stop status.
When the execution of 'locate' with a preselection of play or record is completed, the machine sends back a status of 'play achieved' respectively 'record achieved'.

- There are two exceptions to the upper description in the A810, A807 and C27X machines. The commands "F" and "R" are not followed by the acknowledgement ${ }^{\prime} C R L F{ }^{\prime}$. That helps to increase the data transfer rate.


# Explanations to the following tables 

Syntax of input/output strings
$[-, A, B, C]$ means ' - ' or ' $A$ ' or ' $B$ ' or ' $C$ ' is definitively expected
$(-, A, B, C)$ means ' - ' or ' $A$ ' or ' $B$ ' or ' $C$ ' is possibly expected

Machine properties
"-" not implemented
"1" implemented at least in one option of the family
" $x$ " optionally implemented in future

## Machine names

machine family C27x means C270 or C274 or C278
machine family A807 means A807 2 CH or A807 4CH
machine family A812 means A812 mono, A812 2 CH or A812 2CH+TC
machine family A820 means A820 mono, A820 2 CH or A820 $2 \mathrm{CH}+\mathrm{TC}$
machine family A816 means A816 2 CH or A816 $2 \mathrm{CH}+\mathrm{TC}$



| TAPE DECK COMMANDS












## | MACHINB COMMANDS



author: oscity

Last update: see next page

Changes
02.06 .86 : EDT,LFT implemented for A812 and A820
13.06 .86 : error message for A812 and A820:

- CR LF "?" CR LF replaced by "?" CR LF
- CR LF "INPUT FORMAT ERROR" CR LF replaced by "INPUT FORMAT ERROR" CR LF
18.07 .86 : in part: "commands for internal use only" got commands
- "B" break \}
- "L" load $>$ DISABLED
- "v" verify /
13.08 .86 : EDI disabled for A812 and A807 new implemented
02.09 .86 : EMC \& DMC disabled for A812 and A820

PAP new implemented for A812 and A820
15.01 .87 : TC? new implemented for A812 and A820
17.09 .87 : AA? new implemented for A812 and A820
21.10 .87 : TDF \& TDN commentary accomplished
03.11 .87 : ION, IOF implemented for A807
04.11 .87 : SD? implemented for all machines
09.11 .87 : MIC, LIN, CON, COF implemented for C270
09.11 .87 : CIF, CIN, SDN, DN? implemented for C270, C274, C278
11.11 .87 : LAD, LA?, LOP, TPN, TPF implemented for C270, C274, C278
03.12 .87 : RPL, SDA, DA?, SCO, CO?, CTN, CTF, STD, TD?, CD?, UD?, SAC, SAL, JTM, JCL implemented for C274, C278
14.12.87 : ER?,DSY implemented for C274, C278
16.12 .87 : ZLO und RTI implemented for A812 and A820
18.12 .87 : LZA implemented for C270, C274, C278
09.02 .88 : RTM, TRA, MT? implemented for C274, C278
10.02 .88 : RTM, TRA, MT? implemented for C270
16.02 .88 : locator status 'autoreverse' implemented for C274, C278
16.02 .88 : status 'locator play reverse' implemented for C274, C278
16.02 .88 : status 'locator play reverse achieved' implemented for C274, C278
14.03 .88 : LS?: additional preselected play implemented for C270, C274, 6278
23.03 .88 : JCD, JTD implemented for C274L, 278L
13.01 .89 : TP? new implemented for A812 and A820
17.01 .89 : MK? new implemented for A812 and A820
17.01 .89 : SAP, PAP, AP? completed with selector values 8 and 9 for erase
current level and skimming current level (only MK II)
18.01 .89 : MT? new implemented for A812 and A820
06.06 .89 : TCN,TCF implemented for A807
21.06 .89 : status RPL (reverse play) redefined from $0 \mathrm{AH} / 8 \mathrm{AH}$ to $25 \mathrm{H} / 0 \mathrm{~A} 5 \mathrm{H}$; stati RPV (rev play vspd), RPI (rev play vspd int ref) and RPE (rev play vspd ext ref) new implemented for A812 and A820
09.08 .89 : A807 audio commands completed for tc channel, command RPL implemented for A820 and A812
03.11 .89 : command TP? doesn't print now tape tension reverse play left/right at A812
06.12 .89 : SVS, CVS, VS? and SVP new implemented for A820/A812 Mk II
11.12.89 : LOC and STM corrected for A807: no CR LF at end
14.02.90 : A816 defined: CR consequently for all commands introduced, CC? and TO? new implemented for A816
16.02 .90 : general remarks to control $x$, xon, xoff protocol
24.09 .90 : MT? new implemented for A810
04.04 .91 : PAP without parameter means "cancel preset audio parameter"
27.07 .92 : STM description for A820, A812,A816 corrected in this protocol (dms: from ' $x \times x x^{\prime}$ to ' $x^{\prime}$ )
$27.08,92$ : LOC description for $\mathrm{A} 820, \mathrm{~A} 812, \mathrm{~A} 816$ corrected in this protocol (dms: from ' xxx ' to ' x ')
19.10 .92 : CFA, CFB and CF? for $A 816$ for setting and requesting broadcast mode introduced
20.10 .92 : SPA, LPA, SCF, LCF,SL?,QSL for A816 for saving au+td parameters, loading au+td parameters,
saving keys, loading keys, requesting process state and quitting process introduced
02.11.92 TDF \& TDN disabled for A816 (no TC version 1)
03.11.92 SMD, LMD for A816 for saving \& loading function modes and addresses introduced
23.12.92 ST? completed for $A 816$ with states $4 C / 4 \mathrm{D}=$ wind with shuttle deviation
03.03 .93 For A816 error messages "SWITCH BDIT LEVER TO NORMAL POSITION, PLEASE 1 " and "OVERRUN FRAMING ERROR 1 " at echo mode introduced
10.03.94 SL? has more states to be displayed: also ODH and OEH possible
24.03.94 MU? to display channel mute state implemented for A816
27.01.95 CC?, MU? to display ch conf \& ch mute states implemented for A812/A820
14.02 .95 SPA,LPA,SL?,QSL introduced for A812MkII and A820MkII
$21.03 .95 \mathrm{CAB}, \mathrm{VAB}$ introduced for $\mathrm{A} 812 \mathrm{MkII}, \mathrm{A} 820 \mathrm{MkII}$ and A 816
25.09.96 LOF, LO?, CAY, YT?, SCP, SCL, SC?, LEN, LEF, LE?, VLN, VLF, VL? for AB16
10.10.96 LCF and SCF for A820 2 CH and A812
28.02 .97 TS? (tape sort $A / B$ ) \& $E Q$ ? (ccir/nab) for A816, A812, A820
04.04.97 DCD (display capstan deviation) for A816, A812, A820
04.04.97 DSN/DSF (display splice $n r /$ takes on/off) for A816
01.05.97 DSN for A816 corrected: shows address also
22.05.97 DSN at A816: max.splice length $=104.16 \mathrm{~mm}$ (filter); SP? for A816
30.07.97 DCD response with 'CAP' string only for A816

