

ISO-4 series ELECTRICAL MULTIFUNCTION METER

MODBUS-RTU COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

MODBUS PROTOCOL

Modbus is a master-slave communication protocol able to support up to 247 slaves organized as a bus or as a star network.

The physical link layer can be RS232 for a point to point connection or RS485 for a network.

The communication is half-duplex.

The network messages can be Query-Response or Broadcast type.

The Query-Response command is transmitted from the Master to an established Slave and generally it is followed by an answering message.

The Broadcast command is transmitted from the Master to all Slaves and is never followed by an answer.

MODBUS use two modes for transmission.

A) ASCII Mode: uses a limited character set as a whole for the communication.

B) RTU Mode: binary, with time frame synchronization, faster than the ASCII Mode, uses half so long data block than the ASCII Mode.

The ISO4 analyzers employ RTU mode.

GENERIC MESSAGE STRUCTURE:

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	DATA FIELD	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
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START OF FRAME
ADDRESS FIELD

= Starting message marker
= Includes device address in which you need to communicate in Query-Response mode.
In case the message is a Broadcast type it includes 00.

FUNCTION CODE
DATA FIELD

= Includes the operation code that you need to perform.
= Includes the data field.

ERROR CHECK
END OF FRAME

= Field for the error correction code.
= End message marker.

Mode RTU communication frame structure:

START OF FRAME = silence on line for time ≥ 4 characters
ADDRES FIELD = 1 character
FUNCTION CODE = 1 character
DATA FIELD = N characters
ERROR CHECK = 16 bit CRC
END OF FRAME = silence on line for time ≥ 4 characters

Wait time for response:

- typical : 150 mS
- worst case : 300 mS.



READING OF THE REGISTERS (Function Code \$ 03)

Reads the binary contents of holding registers (2X references) in the slave.

Broadcast is not supported.

The Query message specified the starting register and quantity of register to be read.

QUERY:

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	START ADDRESS	No. OF REGISTERS	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
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START OF FRAME = Starting message marker.

ADDRESS FIELD = ISO4 device address (01...F7 HEX) (1 byte).

FUNCTION CODE = Operation code (03 HEX) (1 byte).

START ADDRESS = First register address to be read (2 byte).

No. OF REGISTERS = Number of registers (max 32) to be read (4 bytes for 1 measure value).

ERROR CHECK = Check sum.

END OF FRAME = End message marker.

WARNING:

It is possible to read more than one variable at the same time (max 16) only if their addresses are consecutive and the variables on the same line cannot be divided.

The register data in the response message are packet as two bytes per register, with the binary contents right justified within each byte.

For each register, the first byte contains the high order bits and the second contains the low order bits.

RESPONSE:

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	No. OF BYTES	D0, D1, ..., Dn	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
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START OF FRAME = Starting message marker.

ADDRESS FIELD = ISO4 device address (01...F7 HEX) (1byte).

FUNCTION CODE = Operation code (03 HEX) (1 Byte).

No. OF SEND BYTES = Number of data bytes (00...?? HEX) (1 byte). 1 register requires 2 data bytes.

D0, D1, .., Dn = data bytes (00...?? HEX) (Nr. of register x 2 = n. byte).

ERROR CHECK = Check sum.

END OF FRAME = End message marker.

See the TABLE OF ISO4 REGISTERS and the EXAMPLE.



DIAGNOSTIC (Function Code \$ 08)

This function provides a test for checking the communication system.

Broadcast is not supported.

The instrument's protocol has only the sub-function 0 of the diagnostics sub-functions set of the standard modbus protocol.

The Query and the Response messages are the following:

QUERY:

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	SUB FUNCTION	DATA	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
----------------	---------------	---------------	--------------	------	-------------	--------------

START OF FRAME = Starting message marker.

ADDRESS FIELD = ISO4 device address (01...F7 HEX) (1 byte).

FUNCTION CODE = Operation code (08 HEX) (1 byte).

SUB FUNCTION = Sub-function 0 (00 00 hex) (2 byte).

DATA = Max 10 data bytes.

ERROR CHECK = Check sum.

END OF FRAME = End message marker.

RESPONSE:

The response must be the loopback of the same data.

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	SUB FUNCTION	DATA	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
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START OF FRAME = Starting message marker.

ADDRESS FIELD = ISO4 device address (01...F7 HEX) (1 byte).

FUNCTION CODE = Operation code (08 HEX) (1 byte).

SUB FUNCTION = Sub-function 0 (00 00 hex) (2 byte).

DATA = Data bytes.

ERROR CHECK = Check sum.

END OF FRAME = End message marker.

DIAGNOSTIC EXAMPLE

QUERY RESPONSE

Field Name	Example (Hex)
Slave Address	01
Function Code	08
Sub-function Hi	00
Sub-function Lo	00
Data Hi	F1
Data Lo	A7
Error Check (CRC)	??
	??

Field Name	Example (Hex)
Slave Address	01
Function Code	08
Sub-function Hi	00
Sub-function Lo	00
Data Hi	F1
Data Lo	A7
Error Check (CRC)	??
	??



REPORT SLAVE ID (Function Code \$ 11)

This function returns the type of the instrument and the current status of the slave run indicator.

Broadcast is not supported.

The Query and the Response messages are the following:

QUERY:

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
----------------	---------------	---------------	-------------	--------------

START OF FRAME = Starting message marker.

ADDRESS FIELD = ISO4 device address (01...F7 HEX) (1 byte).

FUNCTION CODE = Operation code (11 HEX) (1 byte).

ERROR CHECK = Check sum.

END OF FRAME = End message marker.

RESPONSE:

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	BYTE COUNT	SLAVE ID	RUN INDICATOR STATUS	DATA	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
----------------	---------------	---------------	------------	----------	----------------------	------	-------------	--------------

START OF FRAME = Starting message marker.

ADDRESS FIELD = ISO4 device address (01...F7 HEX) (1 byte).

FUNCTION CODE = Operation code (11 HEX) (1 byte).

BYTE COUNT = Number of data bytes (16 HEX) (1 byte).

SLAVE ID = Slave ID identifier (50 HEX) (1 byte).

RUN INDICATOR STATUS = Run indicator status (FF HEX) (1 byte).

DATA = Data bytes.

ERROR CHECK = Check sum.

END OF FRAME = End message marker.

The normal response has the slave ID identifier (50 HEX) and the run indicator status (FF HEX) plus 20 data bytes (byte count is 22, 16 Hex). Last four data bytes carry firmware version (bytes 19 ,20) and bit-mapped options installed on ISO4 (bytes 17,18).

Byte 17 mapped bit (Value = 1: -> option installed):

Bit 0 Pulse output (Energy)

Bit 1 Neutral Current Input

Bit 5 Digital Output for Alarm function.

Bit 7 Double tariff function (Time Bands)

Bit 2,3,4,6 No meaning

Byte 18 mapped bit (Value = 1: -> option installed):

Bit 1 Analog output

Other bits: No meaning

REPORT SLAVE ID EXAMPLE

QUERY RESPONSE

Field Name Example (Hex)

Slave Address 01

Function Code 11

Error Check (CRC) ??

??

Field Name Example (Hex)

Slave Address 01

Function Code 11

Byte count 02

Slave ID 50

Run indicator status FF

Data 20 data bytes

Error Check (CRC) ??

??



ERROR MESSAGE FROM SLAVE TO MASTER

When a slave device receives a not valid query, it does transmit an error message.

RESPONSE:

START OF FRAME	ADDRESS FIELD	FUNCTION CODE	ERROR CODE	ERROR CHECK	END OF FRAME
----------------	---------------	---------------	------------	-------------	--------------

START OF FRAME = Starting message marker.

ADDRESS FIELD = ISO4 device address (01...F7 HEX) (1 byte).

FUNCTION CODE = Operation code with bit 7 high (1 byte).

ERROR CODE = Message containing communication failure (1 byte).

ERROR CHECK = Check sum.

END OF FRAME = End message marker.

ERROR EXAMPLE

QUERY

Field Name	Example (Hex)
Slave Address	01
Function Code	03
Starting Address Hi	00
Starting Address Lo	00
Number Of Word Hi	00
Number Of Word Lo	05
Error Check (CRC)	??

RESPONSE

Field Name	Example (Hex)
Slave Address	01
Function Code	83 (1)
Error Code	02 (2)
Error Check (CRC)	??

(1): Function Code transmitted by master with bit 7 high.

(2): Error type:

01 = Illegal Function

02 = Illegal data address

03 = Illegal data value



TABLE OF ISO4 REGISTERS

The following table shown all the ISO4 registers. All registers are 16-bit integer type (signed or unsigned).

MEASURED VALUES (Function code \$ 03)

Register HEX	Word	Description	M. U.	Type
\$1800	2	LINE CURRENT L ₁	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1802	2	LINE CURRENT L ₂	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1803	2	LINE CURRENT L ₃	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1801	2	LINE CURRENT L ₄	[mA]	(Unsigned)

VALUES STORED IN EEPROM (Function code \$03)

Register HEX	Word	Description	M. U.	Type
\$1810	2	MAX INSTANT. CURRENT L ₁	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1812	2	MAX INSTANT. CURRENT L ₂	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1814	2	MAX INSTANT. CURRENT L ₃	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1816	2	MAX INSTANT. CURRENT L ₄	[mA]	(Unsigned)
....				
....				
....				
\$1820	2	LAST AVERAGE CURRENT L ₁	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1822	2	LAST AVERAGE CURRENT L ₂	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1824	2	LAST AVERAGE CURRENT L ₃	[mA]	(Unsigned)
\$1826	2	LAST AVERAGE CURRENT L ₄	[mA]	(Unsigned)

EXAMPLE

Stream data send to ISO4 (H suffix mean hex data format):

01H	ISO4 address
03H	Read function
18H	Address of 1st register requested (1810H)
10H	
00H	Nr of Register requested (2 registers for each measured electrical parameter)
08H	
xxH	CRC
xxH	CRC

Response from ISO4:

01H	ISO4 address
03H	Read function
10H	Nr. Of send bytes
...	Follow 16 bytes of data
...	
...	
...	
xxH	CRC
xxH	CRC

TROUBLESHOOTING

If response from ISO4 doesn't happen:

- check connection from ISO4 and RS232/RS485 converter;
- check if data outgoing from the RS232 serial port of the PC come in the RS232/485 converter
- try to increase the wait time for response (300 mS is good);
- check if the transmitted data stream is **EXACTLY** as in example, monitoring the data on the RS485 serial line with a terminal (i.e. Hyperterminal or other emulator);
- if the RS232/485 converter is not our model EMI-1, be sure the turnaround-time is set in range 1 to 2 mS.