UDC Controller - Attenuator Commands Luis Quintero, Arecibo Observatory

1 Introduction

All the commands must start with the same header (ATN - case sensitive) and followed by the ID number of the board. The ID numbers must be between 00 and 31 (two characters format). Commands without these parameters are ignored. The examples below show commands from the computer to the device >>, and the the device response <<. All commands and responses terminate with Carriage Return (CR - \r - 0x0d).

2 Commands

2.1 Configure One Attenuator

The A command is used to set only one attenuator:

Command: ATNxxAyyzz, where

xx: ATN board ID, 00<=x<=31 yy: attenuator No., 00<=yy<=11 zz: attenuator value: 00<=zz<=31

Response: atnxxok

Example:

>> ATNO1?

<< atn01m010203040506070809101112</pre>

>> ATN01A1130

<< atn01k

>> ATNO1?

<< atn01m010203040506070809101130

2.2 Configure All Step Attenuators

You can use the M command if you want to configure multiple attenuators:

Command: ATNxxMAABB...LL, where

M: multiple attenuators
AA: value of atten. 00
BB: value of atten. 01

. . .

LL: value of atten. 11

Response: atnxxok

Example:

>> ATN01M121110090807060504030201

<< atn01ok

>> ATNO1?

<< atn01m121110090807060504030201

2.3 Configure Solar Attenuator

The L configures the Low-Gain mode, this adds the solar attenuator.

The H configures the High-Gain mode, this bypass the solar attenuator.

Command: ATNxxL or ATNxxH, where

xx: ATN board ID, 00<=x<=31

Response: atnxxok

Example:

>> ATNO1L

<< atn01ok

>> ATNO1?

<< atn01m121110090807060504030201

>> ATNO1H

<< atn01ok

>> ATNO1?

<< atn01m12111009080706050403020h

2.4 Read Current Configuration

The status request? command returns the config values of all step attenuators and solar attenuator. If the device is restarted, these values correspond to the default values stored in the EEPROM memory (except the solar attenuator). This is the command syntax:

Command: ATNxx?, where

xx: ATN board ID, 00<=xx<=31

Response: atnxxmAABB...LL*, where

m: multiple attenuators
AA: value of atten. 00
BB: value of atten. 01

. .

LL: value of atten. 11

*: solar attenuator status, l: low gain, atten ON; h: high gain, atten OFF.

Example:

>> ATNO1?

<< atn01m0102030405060708091011121</pre>

2.5 Read Config in EEPROM

You can use the R command to print out default configuration (stored in EEPROM) of the device:

Command: ATNxxR Response: atnxxmAABB...LLixx,

where

ixx: is the ID stored

Example:

>> ATNO1R

<< atn01m010203040506070809101112i01</pre>

2.6 Write Config in EEPROM

The W command is used if you want to store your actual configuration as default (EEPROM):

Command: ATNxxW

Response: atnxxok

Example:

>> ATNO1R

<< atn01m010203040506070809101112i01

>> ATN01M121110090807060504030201

<< atn01ok

>> ATNO1W

<< atn01ok

>> ATNO1R

<< atn01m121110090807060504030201i01

2.7 Configure Default Stored in EEP-ROM

Use the D command to configure the default (EEPROM):

Command: ATNxxD

Response: atnxxok

Example:

>> ATNO1R

<< atn01m121110090807060504030201i01</pre>

>> ATNO1D

<< atn01ok

>> ATNO1?

<< atn01m121110090807060504030201

2.8 Change Controller Device ID

If you want to change the device ID, you can use the I command to change the device ID: WARNING: this

command does not resolve ID conflicts if several devices are connected to the same bus (e.g. RS485/422).

Command: ATNxxIww, where

xx: actual device ID
ww: new device ID

Response: atnwwok

If you do not know the device ID (e.g. first time programmed device), and you want to reset this value, you can send an I command to everybody. WARNING: only one device connected, this could produce ID conflict later.

Setup ID, read status and check EEPROM:

>> ATNXXIO2

>> ATNO2?

<< atn02m121110090807060504030201

>> ATNO2R

<< atn01m121110090807060504030201i01</pre>

Store new ID in EEPROM (permanent change):

>> ATNO2W

<< atn02ok

>> ATNO2R

<< atn02m121110090807060504030201i02</pre>

3 Error Codes

The device is expecting digits after the command character. If there is an error, the device will return an error code 01 (atnxxERR01, xx: device ID). The example shows the a, w, and x not digit characters:

>> ATNO1AOawx

<< atn01ERR01

>> ATN01M01010101aa01010101010101

<< atn01ERR01

If the device ID is out of range, the device will return an error code 02. For example an ID change from 01 to 80, the valid range is between 0 and 31:

>> ATN01I80

<< atn01ERR02

The device will return an error code 03 if the attenuator number is out of range (between 0 and 11). This example tries to configure the attenuator 15:

>> ATN01A1500

<< atn01ERR03

The device will return an error code 04 if the attenuator value is out of range (between 00 and 31). This example tries to configure the attenuator 11 to 64:

- >> ATNO1A1164
- << atn01ERR04

The attenuator setup command A only accepts ten (10) characters of configuration. If a different number if provided, the device returns an error code 09. For example:

- >> ATN01A010203
- << atn01ERR09

If you are trying to use the M command, and do not provide all the parameters (30 characters - $12 \times 2 + 6$), the device will return an error code 10:

- >> ATN01M1122334455
- << atn01ERR10

The M command also returns an error code 05 if one of the attenuator values is out of range:

- >> ATN01M010101010101010101010199
- << atn01ERR05

The ID change command I only accepts eight (8) characters of configuration. If a different number if provided, the device returns an error code 08. For example:

- >> ATNO1I1
- << atn01ERR08

Commands related to status and EEPROM only accepts six (6) characters. If a different number if provided, the device returns an error code 07. Example:

- >> ATNO1
- << atn01ERR07

Note: this error message is disabled, message ignored Finally, if the command does not exits, the device will return an error code 06:

- >> ATNO1T
- << atn01ERR06

4 Examples

- Setup maximum attenuation (15.5dB) for all the devices: ATN01M313131313131313131313131
- Setup attenuators in sequence from 0.5dB to 6.0dB, in steps of 0.5dB: ATN01M010203040506070809101112
- Setup attenuators in sequence from 6.0dB to 0.5dB, in steps of 0.5dB: ATN01M121110090807060504030201
- \bullet Setup all attenuators to 11.5dB: ATN01M2121212121212121212121