

# Modbus Communication Basics

EXTREME TELEMATICS CORP.



# Overview

- ▶ Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Model
- ▶ Physical Interfaces
- ▶ Modbus Protocol
  - ▶ Master/Slave Relationship
  - ▶ Data Frames
  - ▶ Register Types
  - ▶ Function Codes
- ▶ Examples

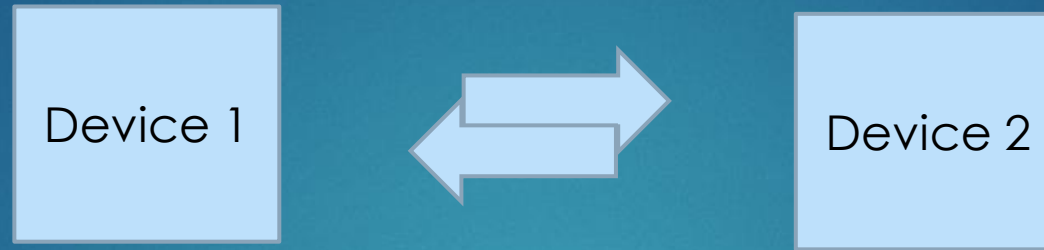
# Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Model

- ▶ 7. Application Layer – High level APIs, resource sharing
- ▶ 6. Presentation Layer – Translation of data
- ▶ 5. Session Layer – Management of communication sessions
- ▶ 4. Transport Layer – Reliable transmission between points
- ▶ 3. Network Layer – Addressing and routing on multi-node network
- ▶ 2. Data Link Layer – Reliable transmission of data frames
- ▶ 1. Physical Layer – Transmission of raw bits



# Layer 1 – Physical Layer

# Transceivers

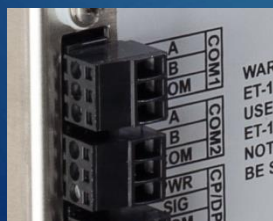


- ▶ This is like placing a phone call, but not setting the language or speed of the voice
- ▶ Transceiver chip on the circuit board



## RS-232

- ▶ Serial data transmission
- ▶ 9 pin connector
- ▶ Rarely in new devices



## RS-485

- ▶ Serial data transmission
- ▶ 2 wire differential with ground
- ▶ Longer distance + multi drop

## USB

- ▶ Serial data transmission
- ▶ Higher speed/power
- ▶ Power delivery



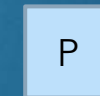
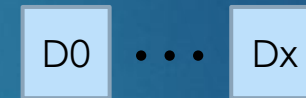
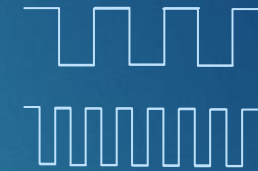
## Ethernet

- ▶ IP based communication
- ▶ Higher speed/power
- ▶ Power delivery (POE)

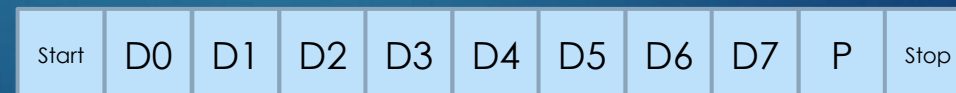


# Serial Communications

- ▶ Baud Rate
  - ▶ How fast the data is transmitted. Bits per second (bps)
  - ▶ Common rates are 2400, 9600, 19.2k, 38.4k, 57.6k, 115.2k
- ▶ Start Bit
  - ▶ Indicates the start of transmission
- ▶ Data Bits
  - ▶ Number of bits sent per transmission
  - ▶ Typically 7 (ASCII) or 8 (Equal to a byte). Can be 5 to 9.
- ▶ Parity
  - ▶ Error detection method
  - ▶ Typically set to None. Can also be Odd, Even, Mark (1), or Space (0)
- ▶ Stop Bits
  - ▶ Number of bits to indicate the end of character
  - ▶ Typically 1. Can also be 1.5 or 2

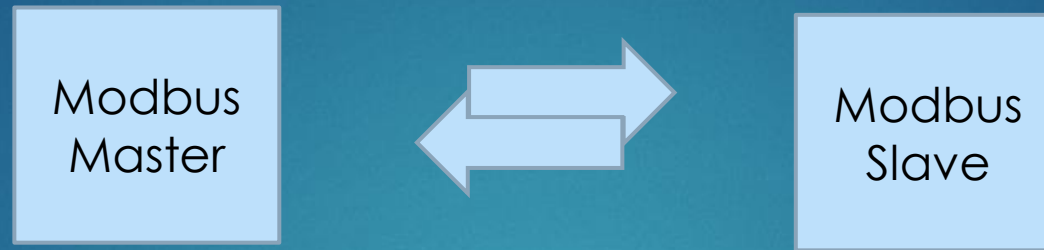


Example: 9600 8N1



# Layer 2 – Data Link Layer

# Modbus Overview



- ▶ Poll/response protocol
- ▶ Master station interacts with slave nodes in a round robin fashion
- ▶ Two different formats for data transport
  - ▶ ASCII – Data represents characters i.e. 18095 sent as 5 characters/bytes, “1”, “8”, ...
  - ▶ RTU – Data is binary. i.e. 18095 sent as 2 bytes (16 bits)
- ▶ Max message size 256 bytes
- ▶ Valid addresses are 1 – 247
  - ▶ 0 reserved for broadcast messages
  - ▶ 248 – 255 are reserved



# Modbus Messages - Serial

RTU

| Name     | Length (Bytes) | Function                                    |
|----------|----------------|---|
| Start    | 3.5            | Minimum silence (mark condition)            |
| Address  | 1              | Station address                             |
| Function | 1              | Code that indicates data type and operation |
| Data     | n x 1          | Length + data                               |
| CRC      | 2              | Cyclic redundancy check                     |
| End      | 3.5            | Silence between frames                      |

ASCII

| Name     | Length (Bytes) | Function                                    |
|----------|----------------|---|
| Start    | 1              | Colon character                             |
| Address  | 2              | Station address                             |
| Function | 2              | Code that indicates data type and operation |
| Data     | n x 2          | Length + data                               |
| LRC      | 2              | Longitudinal Redundancy Check (Checksum)    |
| End      | 2              | Carriage return – Line feed characters      |



# Modbus Messages - Ethernet

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| Name                   | Length (Bytes) | Function                                    |
|------------------------|----------------|---|
| Transaction Identifier | 2              | Synchronization between server and client   |
| Protocol Identifier    | 2              | 0 for Modbus TCP                            |
| Length                 | 2              | Bytes remaining                             |
| Unit Identifier        | 1              | Station Address                             |
| Function Code          | 1              | Code that indicates data type and operation |
| Data Bytes             | n              | Data  |



# Layer 3 – Network Layer



# Modbus Data

- ▶ Overview
  - ▶ Data stored in coils/discretes (1 bit) or registers (16 bits)
  - ▶ Registers grouped by type of data
  - ▶ Each device type has a defined set of registers
  - ▶ No consistency between manufacturers
- ▶ Data Blocks
  - ▶ 0:xxxx – **Coils** – Read/write binary value (i.e. Valve Status)
  - ▶ 1:xxxx – **Input Discretes** – Read only input state (i.e. Line Pressure Switch)
  - ▶ 3:xxxx – **Input Registers** – Read only value (i.e. Line Pressure Sensor)
  - ▶ 4:xxxx – **Holding Registers** – Read/write value (i.e. Close Time)



# Modbus Functions

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- ▶ 01 – Read Coils
- ▶ 02 – Read Input Discretes
- ▶ 03 – Read Multiple Registers (Holding Registers)
- ▶ 04 – Read Input Registers
- ▶ 05 – Write Coil
- ▶ 06 – Write Single Register
- ▶ 15 – Force Multiple Coils
- ▶ 16 – Write Multiple Registers (Holding Registers)

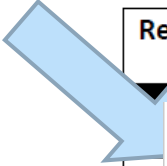


# ALiEn<sup>2</sup> Modbus Guide



Register 1 = Address 0

| Register              | Description                 | Read | Write  |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------|--|
| <b>Basic Control</b>  |                             |      |  |
| 0:0091                | 4:0091 Plunger Type         |      | 0 = Conventional<br>1 = Free Cycle<br>2 = Continuous       |
| 0:0092                | 4:0092 Well Depth           |      | 1 – 50,000 m (ft)  |
| 0:0093                | 4:0093 Fast Trip Velocity   |      | 1 – 2500 m/min (ft/min)                                    |
| 0:0094                | 4:0094 Rise Velocity        |      | 1 – 2500 m/min (ft/min)                                    |
| 0:0095                | 4:0095 Target Velocity      |      | 1 – 2500 m/min (ft/min)                                    |
| 0:0096                | 4:0096 Close Velocity       |      | 1 – 2500 m/min (ft/min)                                    |
| 0:0097                | 4:0097 Danger Velocity      |      | 1 – 2500 m/min (ft/min)                                    |
| <b>Timer Settings</b> |                             |      |  |
| 0:0098 – 0:0100       | 4:0098 – 4:0100 Danger Time |      | Elapsed Time format: 1 – 1,800,000 (000:00:00 – 499:59:56) |



# Vision and ALiEn2 (RS-485)

The screenshot shows the Vision software interface for ALiEn2. The window title is "Vision" and it has a menu bar with "File" and "Help". Below the menu bar is a navigation bar with "Home", "Setup", "Capture", "SCADA", "Iris", "Resources", and "Morpheus". The main area is titled "Settings and Control" and contains several sections:

- Time and Units:** Includes "Read" and "Save Settings" buttons, "Viewer Time Format" (set to "Seconds"), "Controller Time Format" (set to "Seconds"), and "Units" (set to "Imperial").
- Well Settings:** Includes "Read" button, "Plunger Type" (set to "Conventional"), and "Well Depth" (set to "3281 ft").
- General Settings and Info:** Includes "Read" button and fields for "Cycle Restart State" (set to "Close"), "Operator ID" (set to "0"), "Software Version" (set to "2.1.8"), "Software Variant" (set to "100"), "Serial Number" (set to "809041920"), "Daylight Savings" (set to "Disable"), "Modbus Write Time" (set to "1"), "Restart Request Duration" (set to "00:00:00"), "Controller Date/Time" (set to "2000/01/01 - 00:04:50"), and "Day Start Time" (set to "08:00:00").
- State Status:** Includes "Read" button and "Current State" (set to "Close").
- Timer and Velocity Settings:** Includes "Read" button and various velocity and time settings such as "Close Velocity" (180 ft/min), "Rise Velocity" (492 ft/min), "Afterflow Time" (01:00:00), "Fast Trip Velocity" (1034 ft/min), "Danger Velocity" (2100 ft/min), etc.
- State Control:** Includes buttons for "Open", "Close", "Restart Controller", "Stop Hold Open", and "Stop Hold Closed".
- Plunger Status:** Shows "Absorb" in a red box.

At the bottom left, there is a "Station Address" dropdown set to "1". At the bottom right, there is a status bar that says "TCP Connected to 127.0.0.1:6300".



Downloading Content Mapping  
Downloading Domain Mapping

**ALiEn<sup>2</sup>**  
PLUNGER LIFT CONTROLLER

Peak production with minimal operator intervention.



# Vision and ALiEn2 Simulator (TCP)

The Vision software interface displays a comprehensive control panel for the ALiEn2 simulator. It includes sections for 'Settings and Control', 'Well Settings', 'General Settings and Info', and 'Timer and Velocity Settings'. The 'General Settings and Info' section contains the following data:

| Parameter                | Value                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cycle Restart State      | Close                 |
| Operator ID              | 0                     |
| Software Version         | 2.1.8                 |
| Software Variant         | 100                   |
| Serial Number            | 809041920             |
| Modbus Write Time        | 1                     |
| Restart Request Duration | 00:00:00              |
| Controller Date/Time     | 2000/01/01 - 00:04:50 |
| Day Start Time           | 08:00:00              |

The 'Timer and Velocity Settings' section includes parameters such as Rise Velocity (492 ft/min), Target Rise Velocity (820 ft/min), and various time intervals. A 'Plunger Status' indicator shows 'Absent'. The interface also features a 'Station Address' dropdown set to '1' and a 'TCP Connected to 127.0.0.1:6300' status bar at the bottom.



The Extreme Telematics ALiEn 2 Simulator interface is shown with a 'Modbus TCP Server' dialog box open. The dialog box contains the following configuration:

- Modbus Server
- Options
- Time Control
- Modbus Trace
- TCP Port: 6300
- Modbus Over TCP
- Buttons: Start, Cancel

The simulator interface also features a numeric keypad and a 'cancel' button. The ETC logo and website URL 'www.ETCorp.ca' are visible at the bottom.





# Field Deployment

Driver


Historian

Screens

Register Definitions

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

Poll Rates



Master - Station 1

Station 2

Station 3

Station 4



