

COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOL OF PERSONAL COMPUTER AND MKS-05 "TERRA" OR
RKS-01 "STORA"

(for devices with the installed Bluetooth module)

This document contains the following abbreviations and symbols:

Photon-ionizing radiation – gamma and X-ray radiation;

DE – ambient dose equivalent of photon-ionizing radiation;

DER – ambient dose equivalent rate of photon-ionizing radiation;

PC – personal computer.

Data communications between the PC and the devices MKS-05 "TERRA" or RKS-01 "STORA" (hereinafter called the devices) is done via the Bluetooth interface with the use of the Serial Port Profile (SPP). Exchange rate: 115200 bit/s; data word format: 8N1.

As soon as data communications of the device and the PC is activated (see the Operating Manual of the device), the device automatically connects the Bluetooth with the PC and starts sending the "Exchange start" frame. Until that moment the PC is passive and waits for the "Exchange start" frame. When the PC receives the "Exchange start" frame, it sends the "Exchange start confirmation" frame to the device and becomes active – starts sending request frames to the device and waits for the data frames in response.

Note – Each next request frame can be sent only after the response to the current request frame. It is impossible to send several request frames at a time.

Right after the beginning of communications the device is ready to transmit measurement results that have been saved in the nonvolatile memory, or current real-time measurement results, in other words, to work as an intelligent detecting unit (hereinafter referred to as IDU). After the information is sent from the nonvolatile memory, but prior to sending the "Exchange completion" frame, the device can also proceed to the IDU operating mode. The "Measurement result request" frame acceptance switches the device to the IDU operating mode. As soon as the device enters the IDU operating mode, contents of the nonvolatile memory becomes unavailable. Only by sending the "Operating mode selection" frame with the parameter "off" you can finish the IDU operating mode.

While working with the nonvolatile memory contents of the device, the PC should transmit frames with the interval not exceeding 2000 ms. Greater interval will be considered as connection break (interframe timeout). In the IDU operating mode the time interval between the frames should not exceed 20 s.

In each operating mode the time interval between the bytes of one frame should not exceed 5 ms.

Frames formats are given below.

“Data from nonvolatile memory” frame format – device to PC

7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0		
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	Byte 55h - start-of-frame character	
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	Byte AAh	
1/0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	D6...D0 - “Data from nonvolatile memory” frame code D7=0 - new data D7=1 - repeat	
digit 2				low-order digit (1)				Device serial number, bcd code (for MKS-05 «TERRA» - device type=7; for RKS-01 «STORA» - device type=8)	
digit 4				digit 3					
digit 6				digit 5					
device type				high-order digit (7)					
0	0	0	0	0	0	D1	D0	D1=0, D0=0 - character: no data to be transmitted	
byte								frame counter	
control								arithmetical checksum with a carry	

exponent	(float MSP430)
mantissa low byte	
mantissa middle byte	
control	arithmetical checksum with a carry

* - measurement results are updated in transmission buffer of the device with 2 s interval. The order of update is stopped and starts from the beginning if measurement restart takes place.

** - see the Operating manual of the device.

Checksum is calculated according to Figure 1.

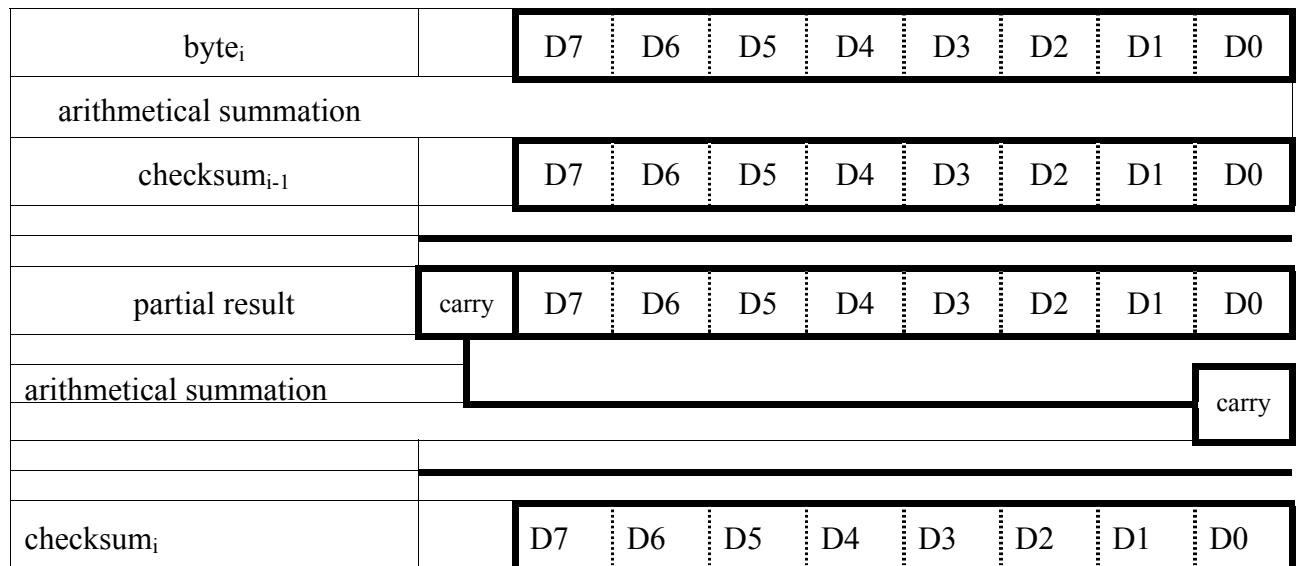


Figure 1 - Checksum calculation algorithm

Nonvolatile memory information is saved in the records of the following format.

“Blank” record – 1 byte length

Heading	01
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“DER measurement result” record – 13 bytes length

Heading	02
low byte	Measurement time, transmitted as a number of seconds passed from 00:00:00 1 Jan 2002 (binary digit)
middle byte	
middle byte	
high byte	
low byte	Point No.
high byte	bcd code
mantissa high byte	
exponent	DER, $\mu\text{Sv/h}$ (float MSP430)
mantissa low byte	
mantissa middle byte	
byte	Statistical error of measurement Binary code
X X X X X D2 D1 D0	D0=0 reliable information D1=1 dose threshold exceeding D2=1 DER threshold exceeding

“Beta-particles flux density measurement result” record – 13 bytes length

Heading	03
low byte	Measurement time, transmitted as a number of seconds passed from 00:00:00 1 Jan 2002 (binary digit)
middle byte	
middle byte	
high byte	
low byte	Point No.
high byte	bcd code
mantissa high byte	
exponent	Beta-particles flux density, $10^3 * \text{part.}/(\text{cm}^2 * \text{min})$ (float MSP430)
mantissa low byte	
mantissa middle byte	
byte	Statistical error of measurement Binary code
X X X X X D2 D1 D0	D0=0 reliable information D1=1 dose threshold exceeding D2=1 beta-particles flux density threshold exceeding

The nonvolatile memory of the device is organized in segments 512 bytes long. The segment length is indivisible by the records length “DER measurement result” and “Beta-particles flux density measurement result”, thus 507 bytes of each segment are occupied by records with measurement results, and the rest 5 bytes are occupied by “blank” records.

To work with fractional numbers the device uses 32-bit format with floating point (referred to as float MSP430).

```
;=====
;   MSB .31          .23                      LSB .0
;   |-----|-----|
;   | e.7 ... e.0 | sign | m.22 ..... m.0 |
;   |-----|-----|
;
```

In this format mantissa is presented by 23 low bits. The 24th bit of mantissa in number presentation is absent. This bit always equals 1 by definition (normalized number).

The exponent is presented by 8 high bits. The order is “shifted” by 0x7F.

Examples of floating point numbers presentation:

0	=	00 00 00 00
+0.5	=	7F 00 00 00
+1	=	80 00 00 00
-1	=	80 80 00 00
+2	=	81 00 00 00
+3	=	81 40 00 00
-3	=	81 C0 00 00

To demonstrate operation with current measurement results from MKS-05 “TERRA” or RKS-01 “STORA” according to the abovementioned protocol, use Terra_Demo.exe program. The PC should be equipped with Bluetooth-interface adapter, and special Bluetooth-interface software (SW) should be properly installed and set to enable operation with the program. For example, see the operation procedure of the Bluetooth-USB adapter BlueWalker and setup of IVT Blue Soleil SW that is provided with the adapter.

- Connect the Bluetooth-USB adapter to one of the PC's USB-ports and install the IVT Blue Soleil SW in accordance with the guide enclosed in this SW.
- Launch the IVT Blue Soleil SW.
- Select **My Bluetooth->Device properties**. Enter the name of the device in the **General** bookmark of the **Device Name** component. First 10 symbols of the name should be set in **CHECKPOINT** – other symbols are optional and can be set at the operator's discretion. In the **Accessibility** bookmark in the **Connecting Mode** component select the **Connectable** radio button, in the **Discovery Mode** component select **General Discoverable**, and in the **Bonding Mode (Pairing Mode)** select the **Accepts Bonding** radio button.
- Select **My Bluetooth->Security**. Set the **Low** radio button in the **Security Level** component of the **General** bookmark. This means that the devices will access the Bluetooth service of the PC without entering an access code. If the need in controlling devices access to the Bluetooth service of the computer arises, select the **Medium** radio button in the **General** bookmark of the **Security Level** component. The **Authentification** indicator should be set in the **Services** bookmark for the **Serial port A** service. In such a case each time the device is connected to the Bluetooth interface of the PC, the authentication code (PIN): 0000 should be entered.
- Select **Tools->My Bluetooth device**. Set the **USB** radio button in the **Bluetooth Device** bookmark.
- Select **My services->Properties**. Set the **Auto-start this service when My Bluetooth starts** indicator in the **Serial port A** bookmark. Record the value of the **Serial port service** component for further use (COM-port, to which the device will be connected). Clear the **Auto-start this service when My Bluetooth starts** indicator in the **Serial port B**.
- Close the main window of the IVT BlueSoleil SW.

Other adapters of Bluetooth interface can be used as well to work with Terra_Demo.exe program. In such a case, make sure settings of the corresponding Bluetooth interface SW, supplied along with such adapter, coincide in meaning with the above given settings for IVT BlueSoleil.

Terra_Demo.exe program (hereinafter referred to as the program) does not need to be installed. As soon as it is started a window appears and the **Setup** bookmark becomes active (Figure 2).

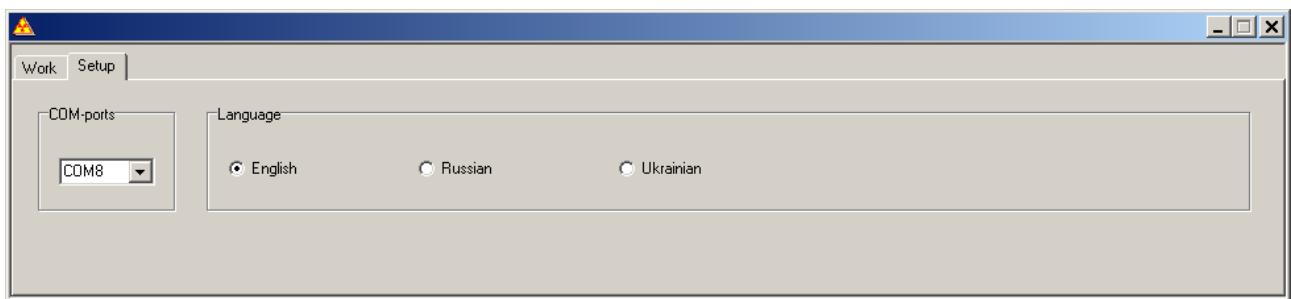


Figure 2 – Program window with the activated **Setup** bookmark.

Select the interface language among English, Russian, or Ukrainian. Then select a COM-port to which the device will be connected via Bluetooth interface (this Com-port is displayed in the “Serial port service” component of the Bluetooth adapter software).

Then select the **Work** bookmark and click the **Start** button (Figure 3).

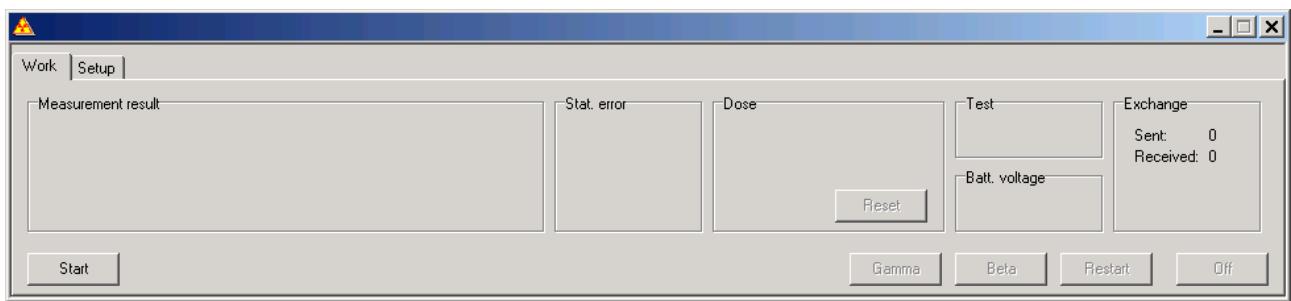


Figure 3 – Program window with the activated **Work** bookmark. The PC is waiting for connection with the device.

The PC is now waiting for connection with the device (accepts the “Exchange start” frame from the device and sends “Exchange start confirmation” frame in response). As soon as the connection is established, the PC starts working with measurement results of the device.

When the RKS-01 “STORA” is being connected, operation with measurement results is done in the following way. The PC transmits “Measurement result request” frame with 1 s interval, accepts “Current measurement result” frame in response and displays its information in the program’s window. The “DE request” frame is not transmitted because RKS-01 “STORA” does not measure DE.

Operation with measurement results from MKS-05 “TERRA” slightly differs from operation with measurement results from RKS-01 “STORA”. When MKS-05 “TERRA” is being connected, the PC transmits “Measurement result request” frame with 1 s interval, accepts “Current measurement result” frame in response and displays its information in the program’s window. But instead of every tens frame “Measurement result request”, the PC sends “DE request” frame and, correspondingly, accepts “DE” frame in response and displays its information in the program’s window.

Program window view with information received from MKS-05 “TERRA” is given in Figure 4.

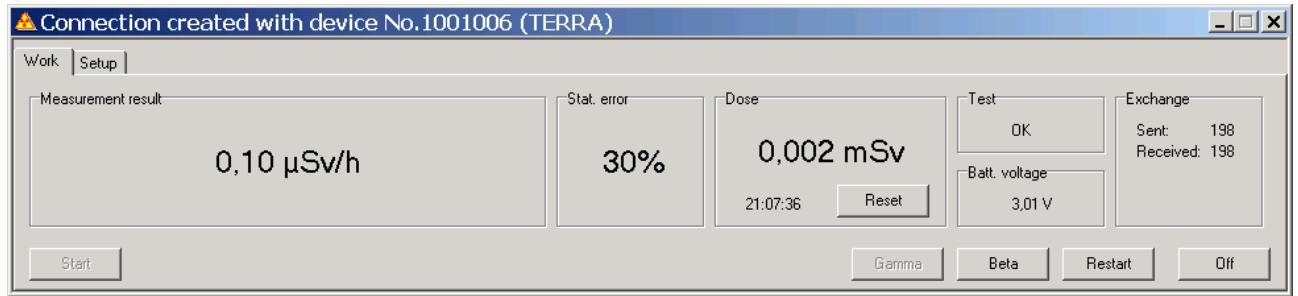


Figure 4 – Program window with activated **Work** bookmark after connection with the device was established.

The following grouped data is displayed:

- **MEASUREMENT RESULT** – measurement result of photon-ionizing radiation DER or beta-particles flux density is displayed here. Unreliable measurement result is grey, reliable – black (concerning information reliability, see the operating manual of the device).
- **Stat. error** – statistical error of measurement result is displayed here.
- **Test** – indicates a self-testing result of the device. **OK** message is indicated when the device functions properly. **Counters** message is indicated at failure of Geiger-Muller counters of the device, and **Battery** at failure of the batteries. Failure messages appear in red color.
- **Battery voltage** – battery voltage is displayed here.
- **Dose** (active only for MKS-05 “TERRA”) – indicates DE accumulated value, DE accumulation time and **Reset** button to reset the values. If this button is clicked, the PC stops working with measurement results of the device (stops sending request frames “Measurement result request”, “DE request”) and sends request frame “Clear DE”. The PC resumes operation with measurement results of the device as soon as the “Confirmation” frame is received.
- **Exchange** – indicates the quantity of data frames that have been sent to the device and received from it.

In the bottom of the **Work** bookmark there are **Start**, **Gamma**, **Beta**, **Restart** and **Off** buttons.

Buttons function in the following way:

- **Start** – starts the program via Bluetooth interface – the PC waits for connection with the device (waits for “Exchange start” frame acceptance from the device and sends it “Exchange start confirmation” frame), and after connection establishment – starts working with measurement results of the device (sends request frames “Measurement result request” or “DE request” with 1 s interval and displays received information).
- **Gamma** – Switches the operating mode of the device. Click this button to make PC stop working with measurement results of the device and send the request frame “Operating mode selection” with the mode number 2 (DER measurement). On receipt of the “Confirmation” frame, the PC resumes working with measurement results of the device.
- **Beta** – Switches the operating mode of the device. Click this button to make PC stop working with measurement results of the device and send the request frame “Operating mode selection” with the mode number 3 (measurement of beta-particles flux density). On receipt of the “Confirmation” frame, the PC resumes working with measurement results of the device.
- **Restart** – Restarts measurement process of the device. Click this button to make PC stop working with measurement results of the device and send the request frame “Operating mode selection” with the mode number 255 (measurement restart). On receipt of the “Confirmation” frame, the PC resumes working with measurement results of the device.

- **Off** – Switches off the device. Click this button to make PC stop working with measurement results of the device and send the request frame “Operating mode selection” with the mode number 1 (switching off). On receipt of the “Confirmation” frame, the PC displays information about switching the device off in the program window heading. The program is ready to work with a different device.