RECIPE FOR TCP ADQUISITION

PROGRAM (QTCP15)



Latest Modified: 2010-04-21

This version: Jorge García. April 2010 Original version by: José M. González. June 2007

Send comments and suggestions to Jorge García: jogarcia AT iac.es Or to the Support Astronomer Group: ttnn a AT iac.es



INITIALISATION:

- Check TCP computer is on. If not, ask support astronomer for help for.
- Start a session in *asteroide*: logging as "obstcs1" (password: ask the support astronomer or the night assistant)
 - Open a terminal in *asteroide* and type: *>ssh –l observer tcp.ll.iac.es* (password: ask the support astronomer or the night assistant)
 - In a new *xterm* windowd, execute: *>download gpsold.hex*; this initialise the camera
- Execute: >Qtcp15 ; This will start the adquisition program. The program will also create a directory for the run and different subdirectories for flats, bias, dark, main frames (tcp) and windowed frames (data). The data will be stored there. The main directory created will be named using a date-time format, i.e, "3105052100" 31 of May of 2006 at 21:00
- If there are problems with the remote connection from asteroide, the way to initialise the camera directly fom the TCP computer is the following:
 - Turn on computer and logging (as observer, passwd: ask the support astronomer or the night assistant)
 - Type comand: >startx
 - o In terminal execute: >download gpsold.hex ; this initialise the camera
 - Execute: >/home/bin/Qtcp15
- The user interface will appear on screen:





- **Check that the system is receiving signal from GPS**, by clicking in the bottom indicated below. If it is not receiving, contact your support astronomer

	1	Tromso CCD photometer		н [1
F	ile	s Camera Tools View Help			
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115	Ē	Camera control		Î	

You should see the following display:

Date	04/03/05
Time (UT)	17:26:01
Longitude	16d 30' 38" W
Latitude	28d 17' 58" N
Elevation	2422.0m
Satellites	04
Status	A
	<u>C</u> ancel

- Set your localization. This information about telescope, observatory and instrument will be written in fits file. Go to 'File'in the main menu, and click over 'localisation'. The following box will appear:



	Setup	2						
Observatory	/							
Tromso, N	orway	1	-					
atitude	69 41 0	N						
.ongitude	18 95 0	E						
Elevation	-1.0		-					
līme zone	DST,M3.	5.0,M10.5.	0					
Falaaaana								
relescope -			_					
Skibotn 50								
Focal ratio	1.2							
Focal ratio nstrument - tcp	1.2		•					
Focal ratio nstrument - tcp - Filters	1.2		•					
Focal ratio nstrument tcp Filters F 1	J F6	ŀ	•					
Focal ratio nstrument tcp Filters F 1 [F 2]	J F6 3 F7		•					
Focal ratio nstrument - tcp Filters F 1 [F 2 [F 3 [J F6 B F7 / F8		•					
Focal ratio nstrument - top F1 [F2 [F3 [F4 [1.2 J F6 B F7 / F8 B F9		T					
Focal ratio	1.2 J F6 3 F7 / F8 3 F9 F10		•					



Select: Teide observatory (in observatory field) and IAC80 (in the telescope field)

- Set target information: If your object has not been defined, you can add its info writing in the upper part of the program: name star, RA and Dec, and then add to the list; in main menu: File - Add to list, or by clicking

		Tr	omso (CCD ph	otomete	r					-
File Camera Tools View Help											
] D 🛩 📉 圆 🔢 🔛 🌔							9.36	04:50:02		8	»
Camera control	1		2		3		4	5			-

- You can select an existing object from the list by going to *File - Get from the list* or by clicking and double click in the selected object.

		Target select		
	C1(1 V1(1 V2(1 AMC Ba00 PG2 RXJJ PG0	10Lac) 22 39 16 39 03 01 12lac) 22 41 29 40 13 32 2And) 23 02 36 42 45 28 16Lac) 22 41 29 40 13 32 CVh 12 34 54 37 37 0 9 23 15 21.3 29 5 1 2303+243 23 6 17.7 24 32 8 12117 21 17 8.3 34 12 27 1014 1 16 55.4 7 4 32 Cancel		
-		Tromso CCD photometer	-4 5	
Consta control	V1(12lac)	22 41 29.00 40 13 32.00	3.73 04:13:4	× *

- The information about the object will appear on screen, including the current airmass (4) and hour angle (5) of the object.



TAKING FULL FRAMES

Camera control Start Exposure sec msec 0 Image: Single shot Sequence Sequence	 Check that the "single shot" option (<i>'Exposure'</i> section) is activated. Select exposure time by writing in the indicated box (1).
Time(s) Frames	 Select filter by clicking arrows in filter section (2) Check that the '<i>Full frame</i>' option is selected (3)
C Windows Exposure mode C Object C Dark C Bias Flat field	 Select the type of image: <i>Flat field</i>, <i>Dark</i>, <i>Bias</i> or <i>Object</i> (4). Take image by clicking START in area 1.

We can see the relative position of the cursor and the number of counts/pixel, by clicking (left button) over the image. This information is displayed in the bottom of the user interface.

Done 564/46512336 [-100.1":-26.4	IDLE	11:35:31	11:33:26	10	0	~4000	2552		0%	20%
	Done		1.304	465] 2336	[-100,1	":-26.4"]				



VISUALIZATION MODES:

The user interface provides some possibilities to display the images. These can be accessed by clicking the button

The following box will be opened. Then select the *Scaling* (*Min-Max, Fixed,* or *Histogram* equalization).



ADDDITIONAL NOTES:

This guide offers an overview about the TCP adquisition program. A more delailed explanation will be given by the support astronomer during the first observing night.

The chip used by TCP is a Tektronic 1024x1024 covering a field of around 10x10 arcmin in the IAC80.

The program can also be used for fast CCD photometry generating on-line light curves of variables objects (using the multiwindowing system). The support astronomer will inform how to proceed if the user want to use this option.