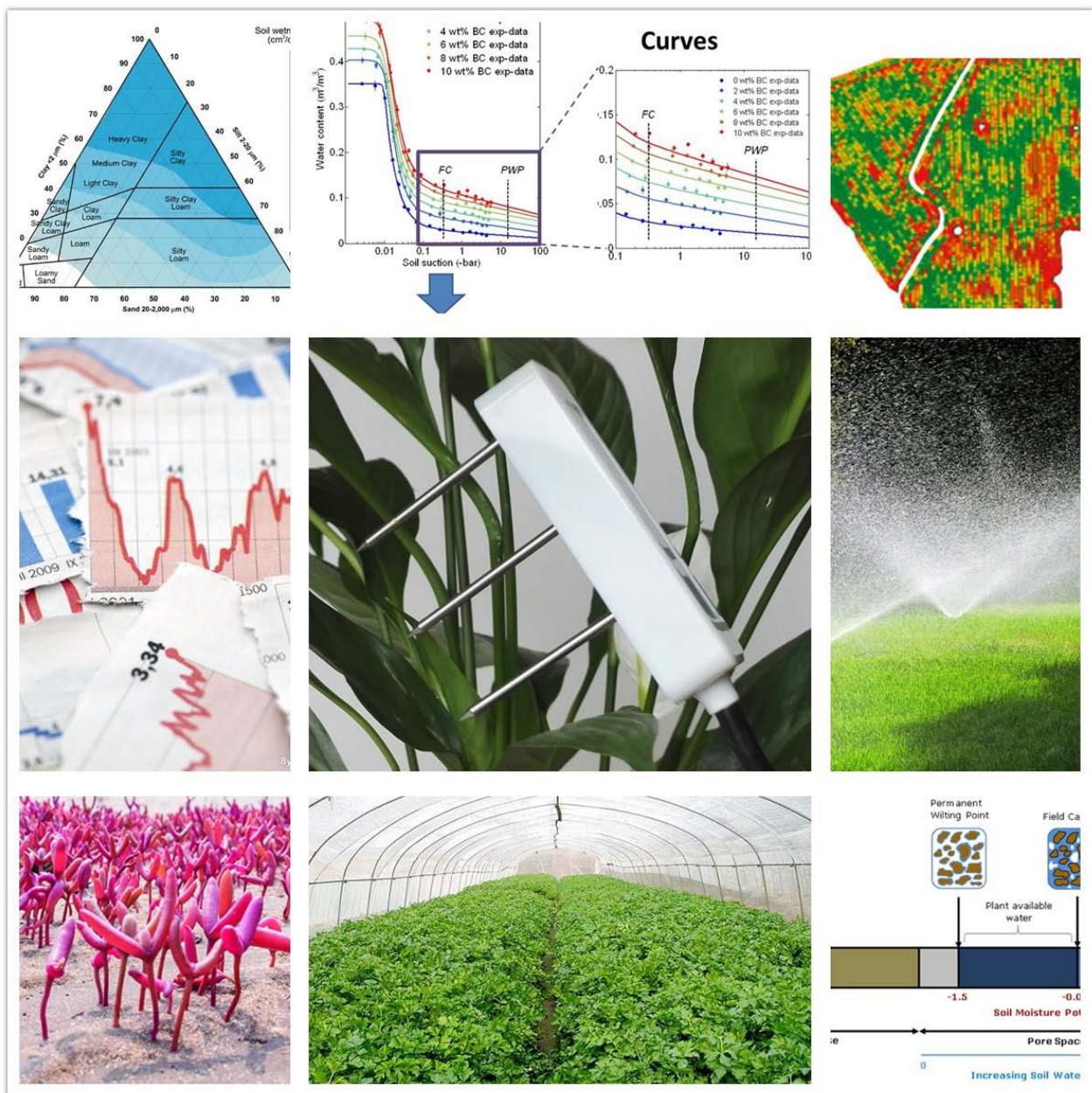


MT21 (SDI-12 Interface)

Soil Moisture, EC and Temperature Sensor (MT21A) User Manual



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1 Customer Support

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Website

<http://www.infwin.com>

E-Mail

infwin@163.com

Telephone

+86-411-66831953, +86-4000-511-521

Fax

+86-411-82388125

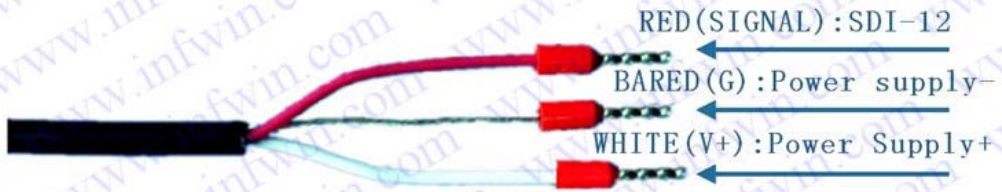

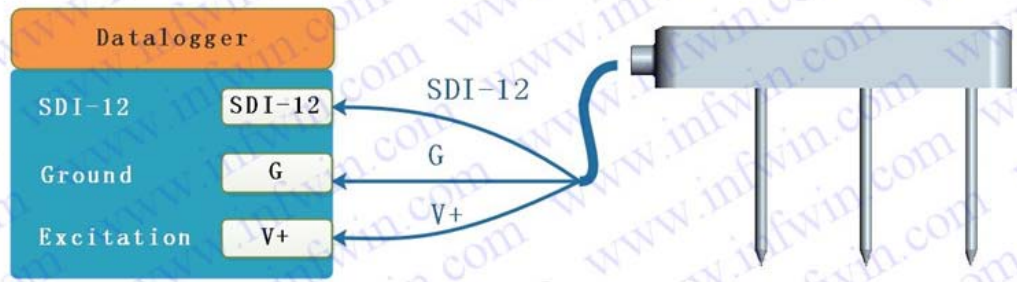
2 Introduction

MT21 is a sensor with SDI-12 interface, measuring soil moisture content, temperature and EC, or soil moisture content and temperature regarding the order information. It sealed with resin packaged plastic body with sensing rods which can be insert directly into the soil with long time stability. The sensor is applicable for science research, irrigation, greenhouse, smart agriculture etc.

- Integrated with Soil Moisture, temperature or with EC measurement
- Output Interface SDI-12
- Low salinity sensitivity
- Minimal soil disturbance
- Water proof to IP68 ratings and can be directly buried into soil
- High accuracy with excellent stability
- Reverse power protection and Built-in TVS/ESD protection
- ODM/OEM Service

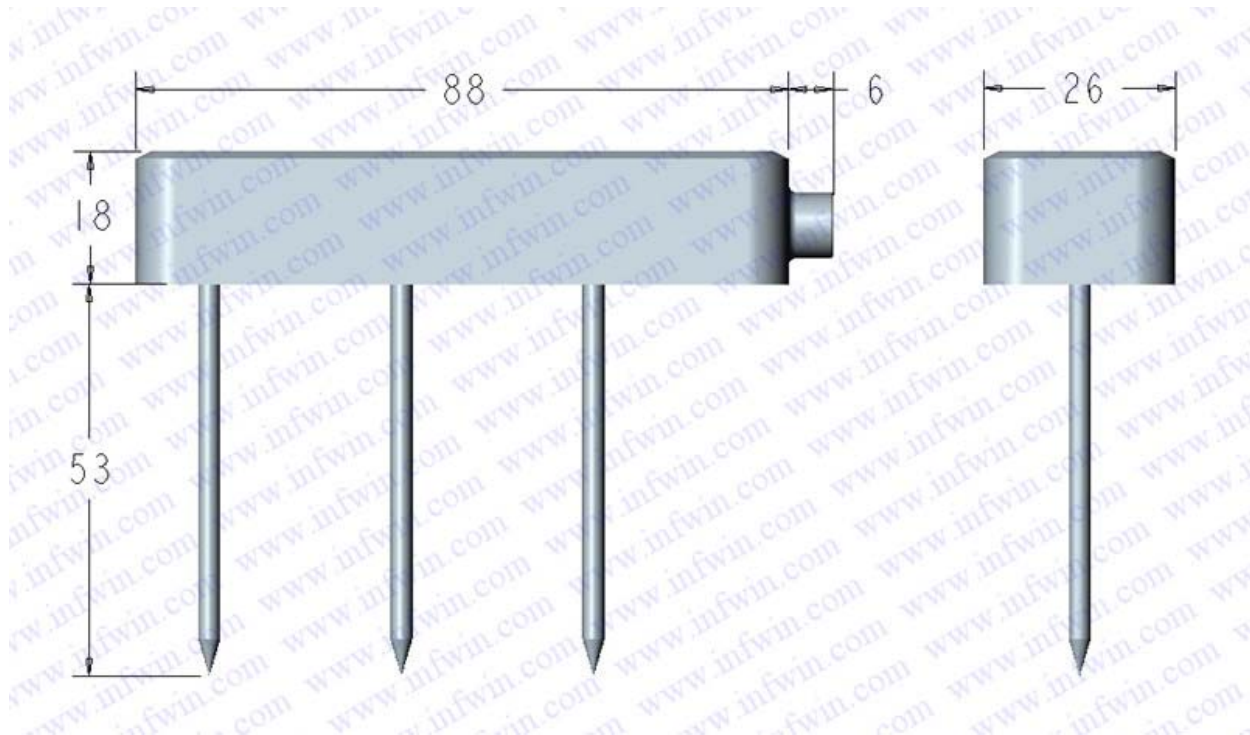
Specifications	
Output Interface	SDI-12, V1.3
Power Supply	3.6-16V/DC
Power Consumption	Quiescent Current : 30uA Measuring Current : 10mA during 150ms measurement
Soil Moisture Measurement	Apparent dielectric permittivity (ξ_a): Range:1-81 (air - water) Resolution: 0.88-40.00:±0.1, 40.00-81.88:±0.5 Accuracy:1.00-40.00:±1 ξ_a , 40.00-81.00:±10% of Readings
EC Measurement	Range: 0-23ds/m Resolution: 0.001ds/m Accuracy: 0-7ds/m, 5%; 7-23ds/m,8% EC temperature compensation: 0-50°C
Temperature Measurement	Range: -40-80°C, Resolution:0.1°C, Accuracy:±0.5°C
IP Ratings	IP68
Operating Temperature	-40-85°C
Sensor Sealed	Epoxy resin
Installation	Surface or buried installation
Cable Length	5 meters or Customize
Dimension	88*26*71mm

3 Wiring diagrams

Type	Wiring diagram
<p>SDI-12 Interface</p>	<p>Cold pressed terminal and tinned lead wires</p>  <p>3.5 mm stereo plug</p> 
<p>Connections</p>	<p>Wiring Diagram</p> 

4 Dimension and Ordering Information

4.1 Dimension



4.2 Ordering Information

Parameters	Code	Comments
Code 1: Product Series	MT21	MT21 SDI-12 interface sensor
Code 2: Measuring Parameters	A	Soil Moisture & Temperature & EC
Code 3: Soil Moisture Range	B	0-100%
Code 4: EC Range	C X	0-23ds/m No EC measurement(select this if do not need EC)
Code 5: Power Supply	B	3.6-16V DC
Code 6: Connector	A B C	3.5 mm stereo plug Cold pressed terminal Stripped & tinned lead wires
Code 7: Cable Length	005 XXX	5 meters Customize, XXX is required cable length(Unit: meter)

Ordering Code Example:

MT21 SDI-12 interface sensor, Soil Moisture & Temperature & EC, Soil Moisture Range 100%, EC range 0-23ds/m, Power supply 3.6-16V DC, 3.5 mm stereo plug, Cable length 5 meters. Ordering Code is : MT21 – A B C
B A 005

5 Safty ,Care and Installation

5.1 Care and Safty

- The rods of the Sensor are sharp for ease insertion. Care must be taken and handling precautions followed.
- Avoid touching the rods or exposing them to other sources of static damage, particularly when powered up.
- Do not pull the sensor out of the soil by its cable.
- If you feel any resistance when inserting the sensor into soil, it is likely you have encountered a stone. Stop pushing and re-insert at a new location.

5.2 Installation

Surface installation

- Clear away any stones. Pre-form holes in very hard soils before insertion.
- Push the sensor into the soil until the rods are fully inserted. Ensure good soil contact.
- If you feel strong resistance when inserting the sensor, you have probably hit a stone. Stop, and re-insert at a new location.

Note: The sensor is suitable for soil surface temperature measurements.

Installing at depth

- Make a 45mm diameter hole, preferably at about 10° to the vertical using a auger.
- Push the sensor into the soil until rods are fully inserted. Ensure good soil contact.
- Fill and repack the hole with soil.

Alternatively

- Dig a trench, and install horizontally.

6 Output Signal Conversion

Output Interface	Parameters	Range
ADI Interface or SDI-12 Interface	<dielectricPermittivity> Epsilon(ξ_a)	+0.88 - +81.88
	<temperature>, temperature	-40.00 - +80.00°C
	<electricalConductivity>, Bulk electrical conductivity normalized to 25 °C	+0 - +23000 us/cm
Customize	Please contact us for more info	

Note: VWC can be calculated by ξ_a using formula below.

Note: VWC is volumetric water Content ranges from 0-100%, ξ_a is Apparent dielectric permittivity measured by sensor.

6.1 Water Content Conversion for Mineral Soil

Using following conversion formula for VWC calculation.

$$VWC = 5.89 * 10^{-6} * \xi_a^3 - 7.62 * 10^{-4} * \xi_a^2 + 3.67 * 10^{-2} * \xi_a - 7.53 * 10^{-2}$$

6.2 Water Content Conversion for Non-soil substrate

The calibration for several potting soils, perlite, and peat moss is shown as below.

$$VWC = 0.118\sqrt{\xi_a} - 0.117$$

7 Communication interface and Protocol

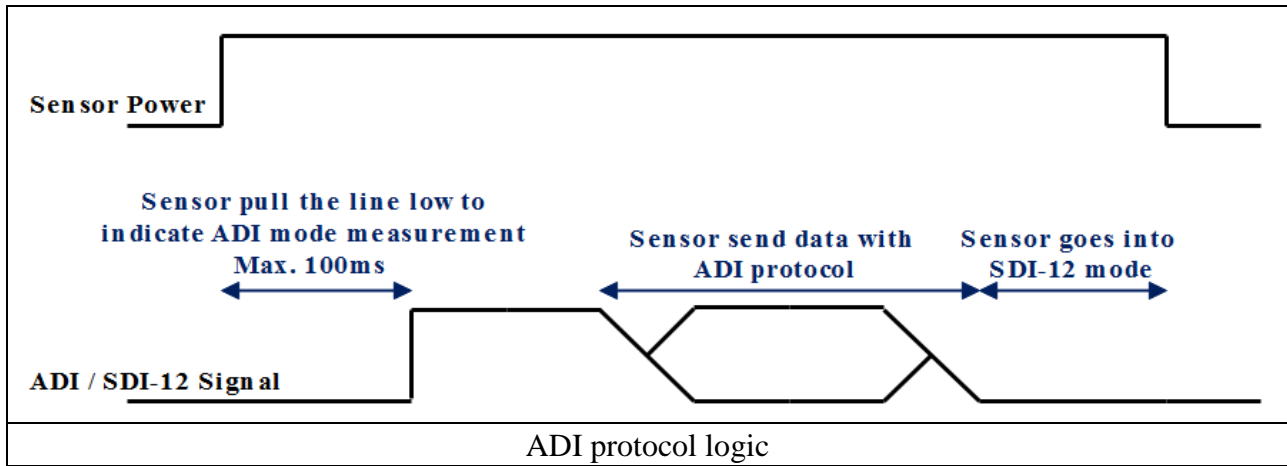
The sensor has two type of serial interface and protocol, ADI protocol(Active Digital Interface)and SDI-12 Protocol. The description and terms used within this chapter are listed in table below:

Parameters	Unit	Description
+/-	-	Sign of the value
a	-	SDI-12 address
n	-	Number of measurements (fixed width of 1)
nn	-	Number of measurements with leading zero if necessary (fixed width of 2)
ttt	s	Maximum measurement time (fixed width of 3)
<TAB>	-	Tab character
<SPACE>	-	Space character
<CR>	-	Carriage return character
<LF>	-	Line feed character
<dielectricPermittivity>	-	Epsilon
<temperature>	° C	Temperature
<electricalConductivity>	us/cm	Bulk electrical conductivity normalized to 25 °C
<sensorType>	-	ASCII character denoting the sensor type For MT21A, the character is 'w'
<Checksum>	-	SUM Checksum
<CRC>	-	SDI-12 protocol CRC Checksum

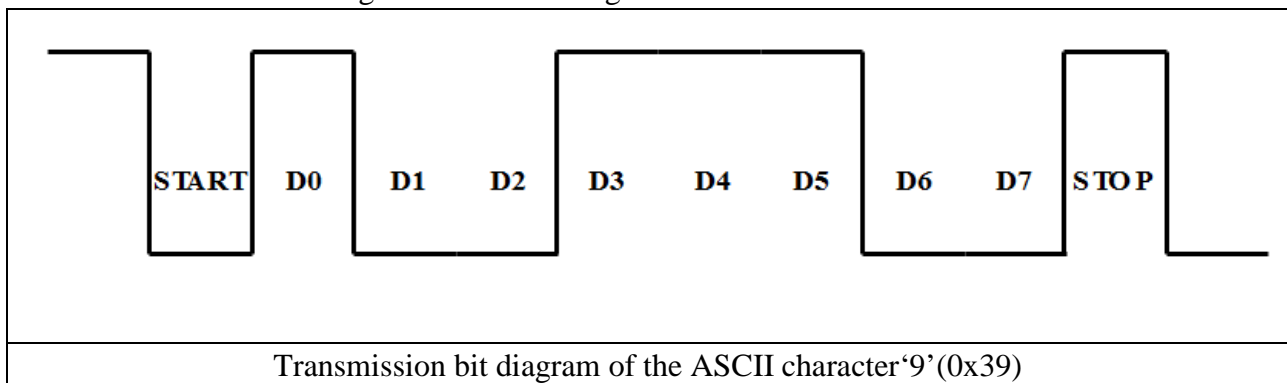
7.1 ADI Interface and Protocol

7.1.1 ADI Interface

ADI interface protocol(TTL signal),ADI is short for Active Digital Interface. Each time when sensor power up with SDI-12 address 0,the sensor firstly enter into the ADI mode and pull down the SDI-12 signal line for 100ms to indicating the measurement in processing,then release the SDI-12 signal line and output the ADI protocol data, and then enter into the SDI-12 interface mode.



ADI interface is TTL compatible standard(0-3.6V), protocol data stream is encoded in ASCII, Baudrate 1200bps, None parity, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit. The sensor enters into SDI-12 standby mode after the ADI output. You'll need to re-power up the sensor again for another ADI output. ADI interface transmission bit diagram is as following.



7.1.2 Protocol

ADI protocol format:

<TAB><dielectricPermittivity><SPACE><temperature><SPACE><electricalConductivity><CR><sensorType><Checksum><CR><LF>

Parameters	Description
<TAB>	Tab Character
<dielectricPermittivity>	Calibrated ADC for volumetric water content
<SPACE>	Space Character
<temperature>	Temperature
<SPACE>	Space Character (Not applicable for MT21B)
<electricalConductivity>	Bulk electrical conductivity normalized to 25 °C (Not applicable for MT21B)
<CR>	Carriage return character
<sensorType>	ASCII character denoting the sensor type For MT21A, the character is 'w'
<Checksum>	SUM Check from <TAB> to <sensorType>
<CR>	Carriage return character
<LF>	Line feed character

Example: “<TAB>22.0<SPACE>21.2<SPACE>1302<CR>w8<CR><LF>”

Parameters	Description
<TAB>	Tab Character
22.0	Epsilon 22.0
<SPACE>	Space Character
21.2	Temperature 21.2°C
<SPACE>	Space Character
1302	conductivity 1302us/cm
<CR>	Carriage return character
w	sensor type
8	SUM Check
<CR>	Carriage return character
<LF>	Line feed character

ADI Interface checksum calculation:

char CalcADIChecksum(char * Response)

```
{
    int length, sum = 0, i, crc;
    // stream data length
    length = strlen(Response);
    // checksum calculation
    for( i = 0; i < length; i++ )
        sum += Response[i];
    // convert to printable character
    crc = sum % 64 + 32;
    return crc;
}
```

Using “<TAB>23.5<SPACE>21.4<SPACE>1372<CR>w” as function parameters “char * Response” and you will get a checksum ‘G’

7.2 SDI-12 Interface and Protocol

7.2.1 SDI-12 Interface

Please refer to SDI-12 standard user manual V1.3.

7.2.2 Protocol

Request	Response	Comment
a!	a<CR><LF>	Acknowledge Active a: Sensor address Example:

		Request: 0! Response: 0<CR><LF>
aI!	alccccccmmmmmvvvxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxx<CR><LF>	Send Identification a: Sensor address ll:SDI-12 Version Number ccccccc: 8 characters vendor identification mmmmmm: 6 characters specifying the sensor model number vvv: 3 characters specifying the sensor version xxxxxxxxxxxxx: 13 characters serial number <CR><LF>: terminates the response MT21A Example: Request: 0I! Response: 013INFWIN MT21A 1.01909250001000<CR><LF>
?!	a<CR><LF>	Sensor Address Query a:Sensor address Example: Request: ?! Response: 0<CR><LF>
aAb!	b<CR><LF>	Change Sensor address a:Current Sensor address b:New Sensor address Example: Request: 0A1! Response: 1<CR><LF>
aM!	atttn<CR><LF> a:Sensor address ttt: Measurement data will be ready in ttt seconds n:Number of measurement data <CR><LF>:terminates the response	MT21A Example: Start Measurement Command. 3 data will be ready in 001 seconds. Request: 0M! Response: 00013<CR><LF> Response: 0<CR><LF> Request: 0D0! Response: 0+22.0+21.2+1302<CR><LF> <dielectricPermittivity>=+22.0 <temperature>=+21.2 <electricalConductivity>=+1302
aMC!	atttn<CR><LF> a:Sensor address ttt: Measurement data will be ready in ttt seconds n:Number of measurement data <CR><LF>:terminates the response	MT21A Example: Start Measurement and Request CRC. 3 data will be ready in 001 seconds. Request: 0MC! Response: 00013<CR><LF> Response: 0<CR><LF> Request: 0D0! Response: 0+22.0+21.2+1302BWg<CR><LF>

aC!	<p>attn<CR><LF></p> <p>a:Sensor address ttt: Measurement data will be ready in ttt seconds n:Number of measurement data <CR><LF>:terminates the response</p>	<p>MT21A Example:</p> <p>Start Concurrent Measurement.3 data will be ready in 001 seconds. Request: 0C! Response: 00013<CR><LF> Request: 0D0! Response: 0+22.0+21.2+1302<CR><LF></p>
aCC!	<p>attn<CR><LF></p> <p>a:Sensor address ttt: Measurement data will be ready in ttt seconds n:Number of measurement data <CR><LF>:terminates the response</p>	<p>MT21A Example:</p> <p>Start Concurrent Measurement and Request CRC.3 data will be ready in 001 seconds. Request: 0CC! Response: 00013<CR><LF> Request: 0D0! Response: 0+22.0+21.2+1302BWg<CR><LF></p>
aD0!	<p>a[<saaaa>][<sbbbb>][<scccc>][<CRC>]><CR><LF></p>	<p>Send Data Command, The sensor responds by sending the data</p> <p>The data returned depends on the command you send most recently.</p> <p>[<saaaa>]: data 1 [<sbbbb>]: data 2 [<scccc>]: data 3 [<CRC>]: Optional 3 characters CRC checksum, <CR><LF>:terminates the response</p>
aR0!	<p>For MT21A:</p> <p>a<saaaa><sbbbb><scccc><CR><LF> <saaaa>:+<dielectricPermittivity> <sbbbb>:±<temperature> <scccc>:+<electricalConductivity></p>	<p>MT21A Example:</p> <p>Continuous Measurements, and return data Request: 0R0! Response: 0+22.0+21.2+1302<CR><LF></p>
aRC0!	<p>For MT21A:</p> <p>a<saaaa><sbbbb><scccc><CRC><CR>><LF> <saaaa>:+<dielectricPermittivity> <sbbbb>:±<temperature> <scccc>:+<electricalConductivity> <CRC>:CRC checksum</p>	<p>MT21A Example:</p> <p>Continuous Measurements and Request CRC, and return data. Request: 0RC0! Response: 0+22.0+21.2+1302BWg<CR><LF></p>
aR3!	<p>For MT21A:</p> <p>a<TAB><saaaa><SPACE><sbbbb><SPACE><scccc><CR><sensorType><Checksum><CR><LF> <saaaa>: <dielectricPermittivity> <sbbbb>: <temperature> <scccc>: <electricalConductivity></p>	<p>MT21A Example:</p> <p>Continuous Measurements, and return data Request: 0R3! Response: 0<TAB>22.0<SPACE>21.2<SPACE>1302<CR>w8<CR><LF></p>
aRC3!	<p>For MT21A:</p> <p>a<TAB><saaaa><SPACE><sbbbb><SPACE><scccc><CR><sensorType></p>	<p>MT21AExample:</p> <p>Continuous Measurements and Request CRC, and return data.</p>

	<pre>><Checksum><CRC><CR><LF> <saaaa>: <dielectricPermittivity> <sbbbb>: <temperature> <scccc>: <electricalConductivity> <CRC>:CRC checksum</pre>	<pre>Request: 0RC3! Response: 0<TAB>22.0<SPACE>21.2<SPACE>1302<CR>w8@ sl<CR><LF></pre>
aR4!	<p>For MT21A:</p> <pre>a<TAB><saaaa><SPACE><sbbbb>< SPACE><scccc><CR><sensorType> <Checksum><CR><LF> <saaaa>: <dielectricPermittivity> <sbbbb>: <temperature> <scccc>: <electricalConductivity></pre>	<p>MT21A Example:</p> <p>Continuous Measurements, and return data</p> <pre>Request: 0R4! Response: 0<TAB>22.0<SPACE>21.2<SPACE>1302<CR>w8<C R><LF></pre>
aRC4!	<p>For MT21A:</p> <pre>a<TAB><saaaa><SPACE><sbbbb> <SPACE><scccc><CR><sensorType> ><Checksum><CRC><CR><LF> <saaaa>: <dielectricPermittivity> <sbbbb>: <temperature> <scccc>: <electricalConductivity> <CRC>:CRC checksum</pre>	<p>MT21A Example:</p> <p>Continuous Measurements and Request CRC, and return data.</p> <pre>Request: 0RC4! Response: 0<TAB>22.0<SPACE>21.2<SPACE>1302<CR>w8@ sl<CR><LF></pre>

Appendix

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Version Control

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2021-02-07	V6.01	Initial Creation	s151930