

Recorder Objects

Introduction

A **Recorder** object provides a mechanism to collect and buffer any data in the controller's memory. After a recorder is configured and started, the controller copies the data from the specified addresses to a local buffer every "N" samples. Later, the host can collect the data by polling or via interrupt-based events.

The controller supports up to 32 data recorders, which can collect data from up to a total of 32 addresses. The buffers can be dynamically allocated. A larger data recorder buffer may be required for higher sample rates, slow host computers, when running via client/server, or when a large number of data fields are being recorded.

A recorder can be started or stopped from the host application or from the controller by configuring a data recorder trigger. When the trigger conditions are met, the controller will automatically start or stop a data recorder. This is very useful for logging relevant variables during the period preceding a fault or error. Normally, the recorder stops collecting data when the buffer is full. It can also be configured to continuously collect data, overwriting the previous data until it is commanded to stop. This is useful for trapping a recent history of controller data.

When using data recorders, make sure to enable enough recorder objects and buffer memory with `mpiControlConfigSet(...)`. Then, configure the recorders with `mpiRecorderRecordConfig(...)` or `mpiRecorderConfigSet(...)`, and start recording with `mpiRecorderStart(...)`. Data can then be collected with `mpiRecorderRecordGet(...)`.

| [Buffer Size](#) |

Methods

Create, Delete, Validate Methods

mpiRecorderCreate	Create Recorder object
mpiRecorderDelete	Delete Recorder object
mpiRecorderValidate	Validate Recorder object

Configuration and Information Methods

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mpiRecorderRecordConfig	Configure type of data record that Recorder will capture

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Get status of Recorder

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Get data records from Recorder

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Copy data from application memory to Recorder memory

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[mpiRecorderControl](#)

Return handle of Control object associated with Recorder

Data Types

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Constants

[MPIRecorderADDRESS_COUNT_MAX](#)

[MEIRecorderMAX_AXIS_RECORDS](#)

[MEIRecorderMAX_FILTER_RECORDS](#)

mpiRecorderCreate

Declaration `MPIRecorder mpiRecorderCreate(MPIControl control,
long number);`

Required Header `stdmpi.h`

Description **RecorderCreate** creates a Recorder object identified by *number*, which is associated with a control object.

RecorderCreate is the equivalent of a C++ constructor.

The recorder number specifies which recorder to create. The valid range for the *number* parameter is 0 to the controller's recordCount - 1. See `MPIControlConfig{...}` for details. If the recorder is not enabled or is already in use (another process has called `mpiRecorderCreate(...)` with the same number parameter), `mpiRecorderCreate(...)` will return an invalid handle causing subsequent `mpiRecorderValidate(...)` calls to fail.

control	a handle to a Control object.
number	An index to the controller's data recorder. If (-1) is specified, the next available recorder object handle will be returned. The valid range is from -1 (next available recorder) to the controller's recordCount - 1. When using (-1), make sure to delete the recorder object to free it for other applications. If the recorder object is not freed, it will not be accessible to another application until the controller is reset.

Return Values

handle	to a Recorder object
MPIHandleVOID	if the Recorder object could not be created

See Also [mpiRecorderDelete](#) | [mpiRecorderValidate](#) | [MPIControlConfig](#) | [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [mpiControlConfigSet](#)

mpiRecorderDelete

Declaration long [mpiRecorderDelete](#)([MPIRecorder](#) recorder)

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **RecorderDelete** deletes a Recorder object and invalidates its handle (*recorder*). *RecorderDelete* is the equivalent of a C++ destructor.

Return Values

MPIMessageOK if *RecorderDelete* successfully deletes a Recorder object and invalidates its handle

See Also [mpiRecorderCreate](#) | [mpiRecorderValidate](#)

mpiRecorderValidate

Declaration long [mpiRecorderValidate](#)([MPIRecorder](#) recorder)

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description [RecorderValidate](#) validates the Recorder object and its handle. RecorderValidate should be called immediately after an object is created.

recorder	a handle to a Recorder object
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Return Values

MPIMessageOK	if Recorder is a handle to a valid object.
MPIRecorderMessageNOT_ENABLED	if the specified recorder number has not been enabled in the controller.
MPIRecorderMessageNO_RECORDERS_AVAIL	if the specified recorder number is (-1) and there are no more recorders available on the controller.

See Also [mpiRecorderCreate](#) | [mpiRecorderDelete](#)

mpiRecorderStart

Declaration

```
long mpiRecorderStart(MPIRecorder recorder,
                      long count); /* -1 => continuous,
                                       >0 => # of records */
```

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **RecorderStart** commands the controller to begin recording data records. Before starting a recorder, it must be configured with [mpiRecorderRecordConfig\(...\)](#) or [mpiRecordConfigGet/Set\(...\)](#).

recorder	a handle to a Recorder object
count	The number of data records to record. If (-1) is specified, the data recorder will continuously record until the buffer is full. If the host is retrieving data from the buffer faster than the controller can fill the buffer, the controller will continuously copy data to the buffer. The valid range is from -1 (continuous recording) to the maximum number of records available in the data recorder buffer.

Return Values

MPIMessageOK	if the data recorder successfully begins to record data.
MPIRecorderMessageSTARTED	if the data recorder is already running.

See Also [mpiRecorderRecordConfig](#) | [mpiRecorderStop](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigGet](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigSet](#) | [mpiControlConfigGet](#) | [mpiControlConfigSet](#)

mpiRecorderStop

Declaration long [mpiRecorderStop](#)([MPIRecorder](#) recorder)

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description [RecorderStop](#) instructs a Recorder (*recorder*) to stop recording data records.

Sample Code

```

/*
   Look for the warning code when the recorder is already stopped.
   This is usually not considered a bad thing (error).
*/
returnValue = mpiRecorderStop(recorder);
if(returnValue == MPIRecorderMessageSTOPPED)
{
  returnValue = MPIMessageOK;
}
msgCHECK(returnValue);

```

Return Values

MPIMessageOK	if <i>RecorderStop</i> successfully stops recording data records
MPIRecorderMessageSTOPPED	This means the the recorder was already stopped when <i>mpiRecorderStop</i> was called. This is a warning, not an error. This can be ignored if the user does not have some reason for why the recorder must be running at this point.

See Also [mpiRecorderStart](#)

mpiRecorderControl

Declaration [MPIControl](#) [mpiRecorderControl](#)([MPIRecorder](#) **recorder**)

Required Header stdmpi.h

Description **RecorderControl** returns a handle to the motion controller (Control object) that a Recorder (*recorder*) is associated with.

Return Values

handle	to a Control object that a Recorder is associated with
MPIHandleVOID	if the Recorder object is invalid

See Also

MPIRecorderConfig / MEIRecorderConfig

MPIRecorderConfig

```
typedef struct MPIRecorderConfig {
    long    period;          /* collect 1 record every `period` milliseconds */
    long    highCount;       /* >0 => record count to trigger high buffer */
    long    bufferWrap;     /* TRUE/FALSE */

    long    addressCount;   /* number of data point addresses in address[] */
    void    *address[MPIRecorderADDRESS\_COUNT\_MAX];
} MPIRecorderConfig;
```

Description

RecorderConfig structure specifies the configurations for a data recorder. It configures the sampling period, the buffer high event level, whether the buffering should wrap around, and a list of controller addresses to record.

period	The number of controller samples between successive data recorder acquisitions. A value of zero or one means the data recorder will acquire data every sample. A value of 2 means every other sample, 3 means every 3rd sample, etc. The valid range is 0 to 32767.
highCount	The number of buffered records until a MPIEventTypeRECORDER_HIGH status/event is generated. The valid range is 1 to the recorder buffer size configured by mpiControlConfigSet(...) .
bufferWrap	Data recorder buffer rollover. A value of TRUE enables the buffer rollover, FALSE (default) disables the buffer rollover. When the bufferWrap is disabled, the controller will stop collecting data when the buffer is full. When bufferWrap is enabled, the controller will continuously collect data after the buffer is full, overwriting any previously collected data. The bufferWrap should be enabled if your application only wants to retrieve the last buffer of data after the data recorder is stopped. Most applications should set the bufferWrap to FALSE.
addressCount	The number of controller addresses in the address array.
*address	An array of controller memory addresses to be recorded.

MEIRecorderConfig

```
typedef struct MEIRecorderConfig {
    MEIRecorderTrigger    trigger[MEIRecorderTriggerIndexLAST];
} MEIRecorderConfig;
```

Description

The **RecorderConfig** structure specifies the configurations for the controller's data recorder triggers.

A data recorder can be started or stopped from the host application with `mpiRecorderStart/Stop(...)` or from the controller by configuring a data recorder trigger. When the trigger conditions are met, the controller will automatically start or stop a data recorder.

trigger	An array of data recorder trigger configuration structures.
----------------	---

See Also

[mpiRecorderConfigGet](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigSet](#) | [mpiRecorderStart](#) | [mpiRecorderStop](#)

MPIRecorderMessage

MPIRecorderMessage

```
typedef enum {
    MPIRecorderMessageRECORDER_INVALID,
    MPIRecorderMessageSTARTED,
    MPIRecorderMessageSTOPPED,
    MPIRecorderMessageNOT_CONFIGURED,
    MPIRecorderMessageNO_RECORDERS_AVAIL,
    MPIRecorderMessageNOT_ENABLED,
    MPIRecorderMessageRUNNING,
} MPIRecorderMessage;
```

Description

MPIRecorderMessageRECORDER_INVALID

The recorder object is not valid. This message code is returned by a recorder method if the recorder object handle is not valid. This problem can be caused by a failed [mpiRecorderCreate\(...\)](#). To prevent this problem, check your recorder objects after creation by using [mpiRecorderValidate\(...\)](#).

MPIRecorderMessageSTARTED

The data recorder is already running. This message code is returned by [mpiRecorderStart\(...\)](#) if the data recorder has already been started. If this is a problem, call [mpiRecorderStop\(...\)](#) to stop the data recorder or wait for the recorder to collect the number of specified records and stop.

MPIRecorderMessageSTOPPED

The data recorder is not running. This message code is returned by [mpiRecorderStop\(...\)](#) if the data recorder has already been stopped. If this is a problem, call [mpiRecorderStart\(...\)](#) to start the data recorder.

MPIRecorderMessageNOT_CONFIGURED

The data recorder has not been configured. This message code is returned by [mpiRecorderRecordGet\(...\)](#) if the data address count has not been configured. To correct this problem, configure the data recorder with [mpiRecorderConfigSet\(...\)](#).

MPIRecorderMessageNO_RECORDERS_AVAIL

Returned when a recorder number of -1 is specified and all enabled recorders have been previously reserved by [mpiRecorderCreate\(...\)](#) method calls. Reserved recorders are released by calling [mpiRecorderDelete\(...\)](#), however, it is possible for a fatal error to occur in your application in which case [mpiRecorderDelete\(...\)](#) may not be called. To override a reserved recorder number, explicitly specify the recorder number (i.e. a number other than -1) when calling [mpiRecorderCreate\(...\)](#).

MPIRecorderMessageNOT_ENABLED

An attempt was made to create a recorder that is not enabled on the controller. Recorder objects can be enabled on the controller by calling [mpiControlConfigSet\(...\)](#).

MPIRecorderMessageRUNNING

An attempt was made to call [mpiRecorderConfigSet\(...\)](#) while the recorder was running.

See Also [mpiRecorderCreate](#) | [mpiRecorderValidate](#)

MPIRecorderRecord / MEIRecorderRecord

MPIRecorderRecord

```
typedef union {
    MPIRecorderRecordPoint    point [MPIRecorderADDRESS_COUNT_MAX];
} MPIRecorderRecord;
```

Description

point	An array of recorded values corresponding to the XMP addresses stored in MPIRecorderConfig.address[].
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MEIRecorderRecord

```
typedef union {
    MEIRecorderRecordAxis    axis [MEIXmpMAX_Axes];
    MEIRecorderRecordFilter  filter [MEIXmpMAX_Filters];
    MPIRecorderRecord        dummy; /* ensure proper sizing */
} MEIRecorderRecord;
```

Description

axis	An array of MEIRecorderRecordAxis records.
filter	An array of MEIRecorderRecordFilter records.
dummy	A dummy structure that ensures that MEIRecorderRecord has the proper size.

See Also [MPIRecorderConfig](#)

MEIRecorderRecordAxis

MEIRecorderRecordAxis

```
typedef struct MEIRecorderRecordAxis {  
    long    sample;          /* sample number */  
    long    command;         /* command position */  
    long    actual;          /* actual position */  
    float   dac;             /* voltage */  
} MEIRecorderRecordAxis;
```

Description

sample	The XMP sample number in which the following values were recorded.
command	The command position of the axis.
actual	The actual position of the axis.
dac	The output of the primary DAC of the motor associated with the axis.

See Also

MEIRecorderRecordFilter

MEIRecorderRecordFilter

```
typedef struct MEIRecorderRecordFilter {  
    long      sample;          /* sample number */  
    long      command;         /* command position */  
    long      actual;          /* actual position */  
    float     dac;             /* voltage */  
} MEIRecorderRecordFilter;
```

Description

sample	The XMP sample number in which the following values were recorded
command	The command position the filter uses to calculate the filter output.
actual	The actual position (of an axis) the filter uses to calculate the filter output.
dac	The output of the filter that gets sent to a motor's primary DAC.

See Also

MPIRecorderRecordPoint

MPIRecorderRecordPoint

```
typedef long MPIRecorderRecordPoint;
```

Description

MPIRecorderRecordPoint	represents one recorder record. This will correspond to the value of one XMP address.
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See Also

MPIRecorderRecordType / MEIRecorderRecordType

MPIRecorderRecordType

```
typedef enum {
    MPIRecorderRecordTypeINVALID,
    MPIRecorderRecordTypePOINT,
} MPIRecorderRecordType;
```

Description

MPIRecorderRecordTypeINVALID	specifies to the data recorder that MPIRecorderRecordPoint records (copies of controller memory locations) are being recorded.
MPIRecorderRecordTypePOINT	an invalid record type.

MEIRecorderRecordType

```
typedef enum {
    MEIRecorderRecordTypeAXIS,
    MEIRecorderRecordTypeFILTER,
} MPIRecorderRecordType;
```

Description

MEIRecorderRecordTypeAXIS	specifies to the data recorder that MEIRecorderRecordAxis records are being recorded.
MEIRecorderRecordTypeFILTER	specifies to the data recorder that MEIRecorderRecordFilter records are being recorded.

Remarks

Predefined types for setting up the type of data an MPIRecorder object will record. This is used by the `mpiRecorderRecordConfig()` method.

See Also [MPIRecorder](#) | [MEIRecorderRecordAxis](#) | [MEIRecorderRecordFilter](#) | [mpiRecorderRecordConfig](#)

MPIRecorderStatus

MPIRecorderStatus

```
typedef struct MPIRecorderStatus {
    long    enabled;
    long    full;
    long    recordCount;
    long    recordCountMax;
} MPIRecorderStatus;
```

Description

enabled	If the recorder is enabled (recording) then enabled will equal a non-zero value (-1), otherwise enabled will equal 0.
full	If the recorder is full (the number of stored records >= MPIRecorderConfig.fullCount) then full will equal TRUE, otherwise full will equal FALSE.
recordCount	The number of stored records in the recorder.
recordCountMax	The maximum number of records the recorder can store.

See Also [mpiRecorderStatus](#)

MEIRecorderTrace

MEIRecorderTrace

```
typedef enum {  
  
    MEIRecorderTraceRECORD_GET,  
    MEIRecorderTraceSTATUS,  
    MEIRecorderTraceOVERFLOW,  
} MEIRecorderTrace;
```

Description

MEIRecorderTraceRECORD_GET	will display trace information when the data recorder retrieves records.
MEIRecorderTraceSTATUS	will display trace information when the MPI retrieves the data recorder status.
MEIRecorderTraceOVERFLOW	will display trace information when the data recorder overflows.

See Also

MEIRecorderTrigger

MEIRecorderTrigger

```
typedef struct MEIRecorderTrigger {
    MEIRecorderTriggerType    type;
    union {
        MEIRecorderTriggerUser user;
    } attributes;
} MEIRecorderTrigger;
```

Description

The **RecorderTrigger** structure specifies the configurations for a data recorder trigger.

type	The data recorder trigger type. See the MEIRecorderTriggerType enumeration.
user	The configurations for a user specified trigger type. See MEIRecorderTriggerUser .

See Also

[MEIRecorderTrigger](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigGet](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigSet](#)

MEIRecorderTriggerCondition

MEIRecorderTriggerCondition

```
typedef enum MEIRecorderTriggerCondition {
    MEIRecorderTriggerConditionMATCH,
    MEIRecorderTriggerConditionCHANGE,
} MEIRecorderTriggerCondition;
```

Description

RecorderTriggerCondition is an enumeration of a data recorder's trigger conditions. The mask and pattern fields referred to are from the [MEIRecorderTriggerUser](#) structure.

MEIRecorderTriggerTriggerMATCH	Triggers when the value at the specified address ANDed with the mask is equal to the specified pattern .
MEIRecorderTriggerTriggerCHANGE	Triggers when the value at the specified address ANDed with the mask changes. The pattern field is only used to set the initial bit pattern used to determine if a change occurs.

See Also

[MEIRecorderTriggerUser](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigGet](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigSet](#)

MEIRecorderTriggerIndex

MEIRecorderTriggerIndex

```
typedef enum MEIRecorderTriggerIndex {  
    MEIRecorderTriggerIndexSTART,  
    MEIRecorderTriggerIndexSTOP,  
} MEIRecorderTriggerIndex;
```

Description [RecorderTriggerIndex](#) is an enumeration of indices to a data recorder's trigger logic.

MEIRecorderTriggerIndexSTART	Index to a data recorder's start trigger.
MEIRecorderTriggerIndexSTOP	Index to a data recorder's stop trigger.

See Also [MEIRecorderConfig](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigGet](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigSet](#)

MEIRecorderTriggerType

MEIRecorderTriggerType

```
typedef enum MEIRecorderTriggerType {
    MEIRecorderTriggerTypeDISABLED,
    MEIRecorderTriggerTypeUSER,
} MEIRecorderTriggerType;
```

Description **RecorderTriggerType** is an enumeration of a data recorder's trigger logic types.

MEIRecorderTriggerTypeDISABLED	The data recorder trigger is not enabled.
MEIRecorderTriggerTypeUSER	The data recorder trigger is user configurable. See the MEIRecorderTriggerUser{...} structure for details.

See Also [MEIRecorderTrigger](#) | [MEIRecorderTriggerUser](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigGet](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigSet](#)

MEIRecorderTriggerUser

MEIRecorderTriggerUser

```
typedef struct MEIRecorderTriggerUser {
    MEIRecorderTriggerCondition    condition;
    long                            *addr;
    unsigned long                   mask;
    unsigned long                   pattern;
    unsigned long                   count;
} MEIRecorderTriggerUser;
```

Description

The [RecorderTriggerCondition](#) structure specifies the configurations for a user specified data recorder trigger.

condition	The logic that determines how to evaluate the addr, mask, and pattern. See the MEIRecorderTriggerCondition enumeration.
*addr	A pointer to a controller address.
mask	A bit mask ANDed with the value at the controller address.
pattern	A bit pattern compared to the masked value at the controller address.
count	<p>The number of records to collect when the recorder is triggered. This is valid for both start and stop triggers. The valid range is 0 to the recorder buffer size configured by mpiControlConfigSet(...).</p> <p>When used for the start trigger, the valid values range from -1 (continuous recording) to the maximum number of records available in the data recorder buffer.</p> <p>When used for the stop trigger, <i>count</i> records will be collected after the trigger has triggered.</p>

See Also

[MEIRecorderTrigger](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigGet](#) | [mpiRecorderConfigSet](#)

MPIRecorderADDRESS_COUNT_MAX

MPIRecorderADDRESS_COUNT_MAX

```
#define MPIRecorderADDRESS_COUNT_MAX (32)
```

Description

RecorderADDRESS_COUNT_MAX defines the maximum number of addresses the Recorder object supports.

See Also [MPIRecorderConfig](#)

MEIRecorderMAX_AXIS_RECORDS

MEIRecorderMAX_AXIS_RECORDS

```
#define MEIRecorderMAX_AXIS_RECORDS (8)
```

Description

RecorderMAX_AXIS_RECORDS defines the maximum number of MEIRecorderRecordAxis records that can be recorded by a single recorder at any one time.

See Also [MEIRecorderRecordAxis](#) | [mpiRecorderRecordConfig](#)

MEIRecorderMAX_FILTER_RECORDS

MEIRecorderMAX_FILTER_RECORDS

```
#define MEIRecorderMAX_FILTER_RECORDS (8)
```

Description

RecorderMAX_FILTER_RECORDS defines the maximum number of MEIRecorderRecordFilter records that can be recorded by a single recorder at any one time.

See Also [MEIRecorderRecordFilter](#) | [mpiRecorderRecordConfig](#)

Recorder Buffer Size

The Data Recorder buffer size can be dynamically allocated. The [MPIControlConfig](#){...} structure has a new element, called recordCount. This element allows the application to change the size of the recorder object's data buffer using the [mpiControlConfigGet/Set](#)(...) methods. The Record buffer size (the default is 3064 records) is defined within the MEIXmpDefaultEnabled_Records structure (*xmp.h*). Each record is the size of one memory word. Using a larger data buffer size can improve the performance of MotionScope running on a slow host or running in Client/Server mode over a congested network.

A new method, [meiControlExtMemAvail](#)(...), has been added which will return the size of external memory available for allocation. This value can be added to the current recordCount to expand the record buffer to the maximum possible size.

For more information, see the [Special Note](#) on *Dynamic Allocation of External Memory Buffers*.

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