

LIST OF TERMS BY CATEGORY

Symbol	Abbreviation	Short Description	Comment or definition	CIO / Equinox Based
1. General				
	CIO based	for procedures using the CIO		CIO
	Equinox based	for procedures using the equinox		equinox
2. Systems				
2.1 Celestial systems				
	BCRS	Barycentric Celestial Reference System		
	GCRS	Geocentric Celestial Reference System		
	ICRS	International Celestial Reference System		
	CIRS	Celestial Intermediate Reference System	The CIO and CIP of date	CIO
	ERS	true equinox & equator of date reference system		equinox
		mean equinox and equator of date		equinox
2.2 Terrestrial systems				
	GTRS	Geocentric Terrestrial Reference System		
	ITRS	International Terrestrial Reference System		
	TIRS	Terrestrial Intermediate Reference System		CIO
3. Frames				
	ICRF	International Celestial Reference Frame		
	ITRF	International Terrestrial Reference Frame		
4. Origins				
		ICRS origin		
		J2000.0 origin		
	CIO	Celestial Intermediate Origin	positioned by CIO locator s	CIO
	TIO	Terrestrial Intermediate Origin	positioned by TIO locator s'	
		mean equinox		equinox
		true equinox		equinox
5. Poles & Pole coordinates				
		ICRS Pole		
		mean pole at J2000.0		
	CIP	Celestial Intermediate Pole		CIO & equinox
X, Y		GCRS coordinates of the CIP		CIO
x_p, y_p		ITRS coordinates of the CIP		

IAU NFA WG: List of terms by category (July 2006)

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6. Meridians				
		ITRF zero-meridian		
		TIO meridian		
		Greenwich meridian (low precision)		
7. Coordinates				
α	RA	right ascension	generic term	
α_i	RA _i	intermediate right ascension, CIO right ascension	ERA-compatible	CIO
α_e	RA _e	equinox right ascension, right ascension with respect to the equinox, apparent right ascension	ST-compatible	equinox
α_{ICRS}	RA _{ICRS}	ICRS right ascension		
δ	Dec, DEC	declination	generic term	CIO & equinox
δ_{ICRS}	Dec _{ICRS}	declination measured from the ICRS equator		
λ	Long	longitude	generic term	
ϕ, ϕ'	Lat	latitude, geocentric latitude	generic term	
8. Frame bias				
$\delta\psi_B, \delta\varepsilon_B$		frame bias in longitude and obliquity		
$d\alpha_0$		frame bias in right ascension, equinox offset at J2000.0		
$\xi_0, \eta_0, d\alpha_0$		frame bias in rectangular coordinates	ξ_0, η_0 , are the celestial pole offsets at J2000.0	
9. Earth rotation relationships				
θ	ERA	Earth Rotation Angle		CIO
	GST	Greenwich (apparent) sidereal time (GAST)	GST = GAST GST = GMST + EE	equinox
	GMST	Greenwich mean sidereal time		equinox
	GHA Aries	Greenwich hour angle Aries	GAST	equinox
E_o	EO	equation of the origins	$EO = \theta - GST = \theta - GAST$	CIO & equinox
E_e	EE	equation of the equinoxes	$EE = GAST - GMST$	equinox

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10. Precession and Nutation Angles				
X, Y		the GCRS coordinates of the CIP that include frame bias, precession and nutation at date t		CIO
$\chi_A, \omega_A, \psi_A, \varepsilon_A$		accumulated precession angles from epoch to date t		equinox
ε_0	Eps0	obliquity of ecliptic at J2000.0		
$\Delta\psi, \Delta\varepsilon$	Dpsi, Deps	nutation in longitude and obliquity at date t		equinox
11. Matrices – the symbols and abbreviations provided here are only suggestions				
$\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{C}(x, y, s)$	$C2I$	matrix that transforms from the celestial (GCRS) to the Celestial Intermediate Reference System	“C” stands for “celestial to”	CIO
$\mathbf{Q}, \mathbf{Q}(x, y, s)$	$I2C$	matrix from the Celestial Intermediate Reference System to the celestial (GCRS)	$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{C}^{-1}$ used by IERS.	CIO
\mathbf{B}	$C2J$	frame bias matrix, GCRS to J2000.0		equinox
\mathbf{P}	$J2m$	precession matrix, J2000.0 to mean equinox of date		equinox
\mathbf{N}	$m2t$	nutation matrix, mean equinox of date to true equinox of date		equinox
\mathbf{NP}	$J2t$	precession-nutation matrix, J2000.0 to true equinox of date		equinox
\mathbf{NPB}	$C2t$	combined bias, precession, nutation matrix, GCRS to true equinox and equator of date		equinox
$\mathbf{W}(x_p, y_p, s')$	$T2T$	polar motion matrix, matrix from the terrestrial system to the ITRS		CIO & equinox
12. Computation of Hour Angle: CIO & Equinox Based Methods				
θ	ERA	Earth Rotation Angle		CIO
	LERA	local Earth Rotation Angle	$\text{LERA} = \theta + \lambda$	CIO
H	GHA	Greenwich hour angle (measured from zero longitude)	$H = \theta - \alpha_i = \text{GAST} - \alpha_e$	CIO & equinox
h	LHA	local hour angle	$h = \theta + \lambda - \alpha_i = \text{LAST} - \alpha_e$	CIO & equinox
	GST (GAST)	Greenwich sidereal time (Greenwich apparent sidereal time)	$\text{GST} = \text{GAST}$ $\text{GST} = \text{GMST} + \text{EE}$	equinox
	GMST	Greenwich mean sidereal time		equinox
	LMST	local mean sidereal time	$\text{LMST} = \text{GMST} + \lambda$	equinox
	LAST	local apparent sidereal time	$\text{LAST} = \text{GAST} + \lambda$	equinox
	LHA Aries	local hour angle Aries	LAST	equinox