Ultra-Low Power RS485 with Low EMI, Shutdown and High Input Impedance

FEATURES

- **High Input Impedance: Up to 256 Transceivers on the Bus**
- **Low Power: I_{CC} = 120μA Max with Driver Disabled**
- I_{CC} = 200μA Max with Driver Enabled, No Load
- **1μA Quiescent Current in Shutdown Mode**
- Controlled Slew Rate Driver for Reduced EMI
- Single 5V Supply
- ESD Protection to ±10kV On Receiver Inputs and Driver outputs
- – 7V to 12V Common-Mode Range Permits ±7V Ground Difference Between Devices on the Data Line
- Thermal Shutdown Protection
- Power Up/Down Glitch-Free Driver Outputs Permit Live Insertion or Removal of Transceiver
- Driver Maintains High Impedance in Three-State or with the Power Off
- Pin Compatible with the LTC485

APPLICATIONS

- Battery-Powered RS485/RS422 Applications
- Low Power RS485/RS422 Transceiver
- Level Translator

DESCRIPTION

The LTC®1487 is an ultra-low power differential line transceiver designed with high impedance inputs allowing up to 256 transceivers to share a single bus. It meets the requirements of RS485 and RS422. The LTC1487 features output drivers with controlled slew rate, decreasing the EMI radiated from the RS485 lines, and improving signal fidelity with misterminated lines. The CMOS design offers significant power savings without sacrificing ruggedness against overload or ESD damage. Typical quiescent current is only 80μA while operating and 1μA in shutdown.

The driver and receiver feature three-state outputs, with the driver outputs maintaining high impedance over the entire common-mode range. Excessive power dissipation caused by bus contention or faults is prevented by a thermal shutdown circuit which forces the driver outputs into a high impedance state. The receiver has a fail-safe feature which guarantees a high output state when the inputs are left open. I/O pins are protected against multiple ESD strikes of over ±10kV using the Human Body Model.

The LTC1487 is fully specified over the commercial temperature range and is available in 8-pin DIP and SO packages.

LT, LTC and LT are registered trademarks of Linear Technology Corporation.

TYPICAL APPLICATION

EQUIVALENT LOAD OF 256 LTC1487 TRANSCEIVERS

LTC1487 • TA01

LTC1487 • TA02
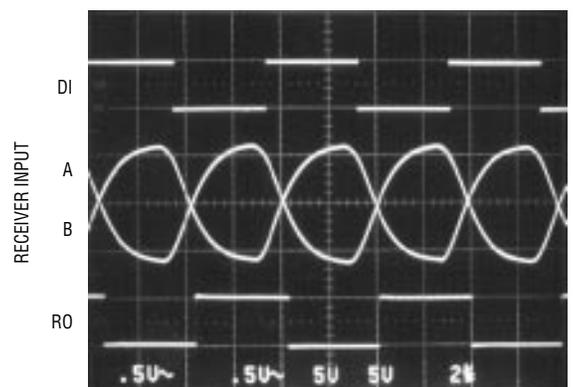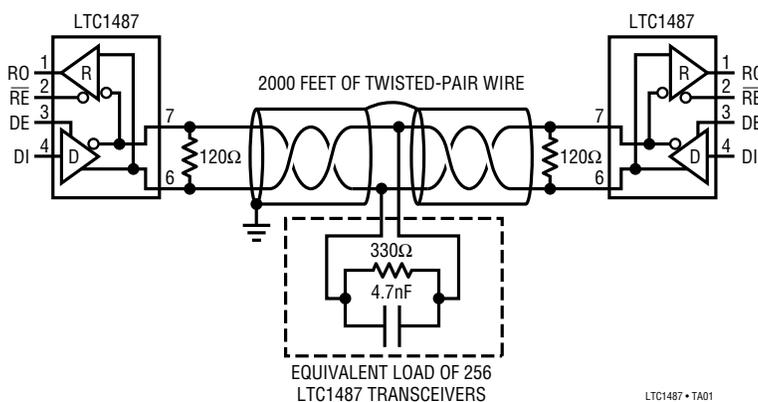
ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

(Note 1)

Supply Voltage (V_{CC}) 12V
Control Input Voltage .... $-0.5V$ to $V_{CC} + 0.5V$
Driver Input Voltage .... $-0.5V$ to $V_{CC} + 0.5V$
Driver Output Voltage .... $\pm 14V$
Receiver Input Voltage .... $\pm 14V$
Receiver Output Voltage .... $-0.5V$ to $V_{CC} + 0.5V$
Operating Temperature Range .... $0°C \leq T_A \leq 70°C$
Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec) .... $300°C$

PACKAGE/ORDER INFORMATION

TOP VIEW

RO [1]
$\overline{RE}$ [2]
DE [3]
DI [4]

[8] V_{CC}
[7] B
[6] A
[5] GND

N8 PACKAGE
8-LEAD PDIP

S8 PACKAGE
8-LEAD PLASTIC SO

$T_{JMAX} = 125°C$, $\theta_{JA} = 130°C/W$ (N8)
$T_{JMAX} = 125°C$, $\theta_{JA} = 150°C/W$ (S8)

ORDER PART NUMBER
LTC1487CN8 LTC1487CS8
S8 PART MARKING
1487

Consult factory for Industrial and Military grade parts.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS $0°C \leq T_A \leq 70°C$, $V_{CC} = 5V$ (Notes 2, 3) unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V_{OD1}	Differential Driver Output Voltage (Unloaded)	$I_O = 0$	●			5	V
V_{OD2}	Differential Driver Output Voltage (with Load)	$R = 50\Omega$ (RS422) $R = 27\Omega$ (RS485), Figure 1	● ●	2.0 1.5		 5	V V
ΔV_{OD}	Change in Magnitude of Driver Differential Output Voltage for Complementary Output States	$R = 27\Omega$ or $R = 50\Omega$, Figure 1	●			0.2	V
V_{OC}	Driver Common-Mode Output Voltage	$R = 27\Omega$ or $R = 50\Omega$, Figure 1	●			3	V
$\Delta\lvert V_{OC}\rvert$	Change in Magnitude of Driver Common-Mode Output Voltage for Complementary Output States	$R = 27\Omega$ or $R = 50\Omega$, Figure 1	●			0.2	V
V_{IH}	Input High Voltage	DE, DI, $\overline{RE}$	●	2			V
V_{IL}	Input Low Voltage	DE, DI, $\overline{RE}$	●			0.8	V
I_{IN1}	Input Current	DE, DI, $\overline{RE}$	●			± 2	μA
I_{IN2}	Input Current (A, B)	DE = 0, V_{CC} = 0V or 5.25V, V_{IN} = 12V DE = 0, V_{CC} = 0V or 5.25V, V_{IN} = $-7V$	● ●			0.30 -0.15	mA mA
V_{TH}	Differential Input Threshold Voltage for Receiver	$-7V \leq V_{CM} \leq 12V$	●	-0.2		0.2	V
ΔV_{TH}	Receiver Input Hysteresis	$V_{CM} = 0V$	●		45		mV
V_{OH}	Receiver Output High Voltage	$I_O = -4mA$, $V_{ID} = 200mV$	●	3.5			V
V_{OL}	Receiver Output Low Voltage	$I_O = 4mA$, $V_{ID} = -200mV$	●			0.4	V
I_{OZR}	Three-State (High Impedance) Output Current at Receiver	V_{CC} = Max, $0.4V \leq V_O \leq 2.4V$	●			± 1	μA
R_{IN}	Receiver Input Resistance	$-7V \leq V_{CM} \leq 12V$	●	70	96		kΩ
I_{CC}	Supply Current	No Load, Output Enabled No Load, Output Disabled	● ●		120 80	200 120	μA μA
I_{SHDN}	Supply Current in Shutdown Mode	DE = 0V, $\overline{RE}$ = V_{CC}			1	10	μA
I_{OSD1}	Driver Short-Circuit Current, V_{OUT} = HIGH	$-7V \leq V_O \leq 12V$	●	35		250	mA
I_{OSD2}	Driver Short-Circuit Current, V_{OUT} = LOW	$-7V \leq V_O \leq 12V$	●	35		250	mA
I_{OSR}	Receiver Short-Circuit Current	$0V \leq V_O \leq V_{CC}$	●	7		85	mA

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS $-40°C \le T_A \le 85°C$, $V_{CC} = 5V$ (Note 4) unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V_{OD1}	Differential Driver Output Voltage (Unloaded)	$I_O = 0$	●			5	V
V_{OD2}	Differential Driver Output Voltage (with Load)	$R = 50\Omega$ (RS422)	●	2.0			V
		$R = 27\Omega$ (RS485), Figure 1	●	1.5		5	V
V_{OC}	Driver Common-Mode Output Voltage	$R = 27\Omega$ or $R = 50\Omega$, Figure 1	●			3	V
V_{TH}	Differential Input Threshold Voltage for Receiver	$-7V \le V_{CM} \le 12V$	●	-0.2		0.2	V
ΔV_{TH}	Receiver Input Hysteresis	$V_{CM} = 0V$	●		45		mV
I_{CC}	Supply Current	No Load, Output Enabled	●		120	200	μA
		No Load, Output Disabled	●		80	120	μA
I_{SHDN}	Supply Current in Shutdown Mode	DE = 0V, $\overline{RE} = V_{CC}$			1	10	μA
t_{PLH}	Driver Input to Output	$R_{DIFF} = 54\Omega$, $C_{L1} = C_{L2} = 100pF$,	●	150		1200	ns
t_{PHL}	Driver Input to Output	(Figures 3, 5)	●	150		1200	ns
t_{SKEW}	Driver Output to Output		●		100	600	ns
t_r, t_f	Driver Rise or Fall Time		●	150		2000	ns
t_{PLH}	Receiver Input to Output	$R_{DIFF} = 54\Omega$, $C_{L1} = C_{L2} = 100pF$,	●	30	140	250	ns
t_{PHL}	Receiver Input to Output	(Figures 3, 7)	●	30	140	250	ns
t_{SKD}	$\|t_{PLH} - t_{PHL}\|$ Differential Receiver Skew		●		13		ns
f_{MAX}	Maximum Data Rate		●	250			kbps

SWITCHING CHARACTERISTICS $0°C \le T_A \le 70°C$, $V_{CC} = 5V$ (Notes 2, 3) unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
t_{PLH}	Driver Input to Output	$R_{DIFF} = 54\Omega$, $C_{L1} = C_{L2} = 100pF$,	●	150		1200	ns
t_{PHL}	Driver Input to Output	(Figures 3, 5)	●	150		1200	ns
t_{SKEW}	Driver Output to Output		●		250	600	ns
t_r, t_f	Driver Rise or Fall Time		●	150		1200	ns
t_{ZH}	Driver Enable to Output High	$C_L = 100pF$ (Figures 4, 6), S2 Closed	●	100		1500	ns
t_{ZL}	Driver Enable to Output Low	$C_L = 100pF$ (Figures 4, 6), S1 Closed	●	100		1500	ns
t_{LZ}	Driver Disable Time from Low	$C_L = 15pF$ (Figures 4, 6), S1 Closed	●	150		1500	ns
t_{HZ}	Driver Disable Time from High	$C_L = 15pF$ (Figures 4, 6), S2 Closed	●	150		1500	ns
t_{PLH}	Receiver Input to Output	$R_{DIFF} = 54\Omega$, $C_{L1} = C_{L2} = 100pF$,	●	30	140	250	ns
t_{PHL}	Receiver Input to Output	(Figures 3, 7)	●	30	140	250	ns
t_{SKD}	$\|t_{PLH} - t_{PHL}\|$ Differential Receiver Skew		●		13		ns
t_{ZL}	Receiver Enable to Output Low	$C_{RL} = 15pF$ (Figures 2, 8), S1 Closed	●		20	50	ns
t_{ZH}	Receiver Enable to Output High	$C_{RL} = 15pF$ (Figures 2, 8), S2 Closed	●		20	50	ns
t_{LZ}	Receiver Disable from Low	$C_{RL} = 15pF$ (Figures 2, 8), S1 Closed	●		20	50	ns
t_{HZ}	Receiver Disable from High	$C_{RL} = 15pF$ (Figures 2, 8), S2 Closed	●		20	50	ns
f_{MAX}	Maximum Data Rate		●	250			kbps
t_{SHDN}	Time to Shutdown	DE = 0, $\overline{RE} = $ ⌐⌐	●	50	200	600	ns

LTC1487

SWITCHING CHARACTERISTICS $0°C \leq TA \leq 70°C$, V_{CC} = 5V (Notes 2, 3) unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
$t_{ZH(SHDN)}$	Driver Enable from Shutdown to Output High	C_L = 100pF (Figures 4, 6), S2 Closed	●			2000	ns
$t_{ZL(SHDN)}$	Driver Enable from Shutdown to Output Low	C_L = 100pF (Figures 4, 6), S1 Closed	●			2000	ns
$t_{ZH(SHDN)}$	Receiver Enable from Shutdown to Output High	C_L = 15pF (Figures 2, 8), S2 Closed	●			2000	ns
$t_{ZL(SHDN)}$	Receiver Enable from Shutdown to Output Low	C_L = 15pF (Figures 2, 8), S1 Closed	●			2000	ns

The ● denotes specifications which apply over the full operating temperature range.

Note 1: Absolute maximum ratings are those beyond which the safety of the device cannot be guaranteed.

Note 2: All currents into device pins are positive; all currents out ot device pins are negative. All voltages are referenced to device ground unless otherwise specified.

Note 3: All typicals are given for V_{CC} = 5V and T_A = 25°C.

Note 4: The LTC1487 is not tested and is not quality-assurance sampled at −40°C and at 85°C. These specifications are guaranteed by design, correlation, and/or inference from 0°C, 25°C and/or 70°C tests.

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Supply Current vs Temperature
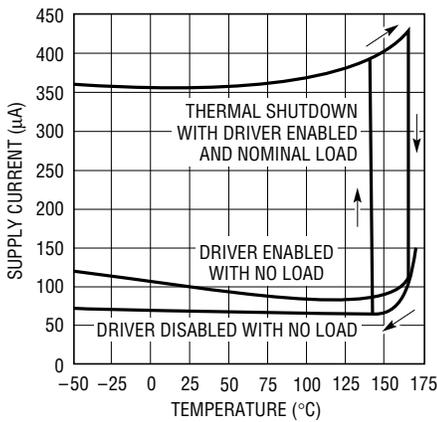
LTC1487 • TPC01

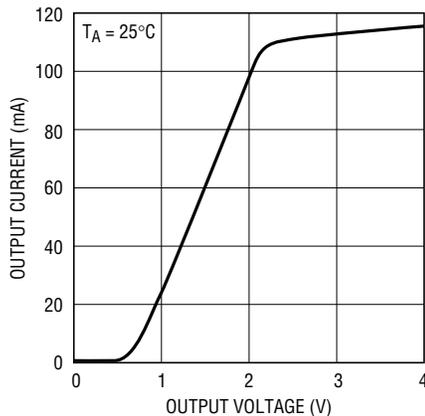**Driver Differential Output Voltage vs Output Current**
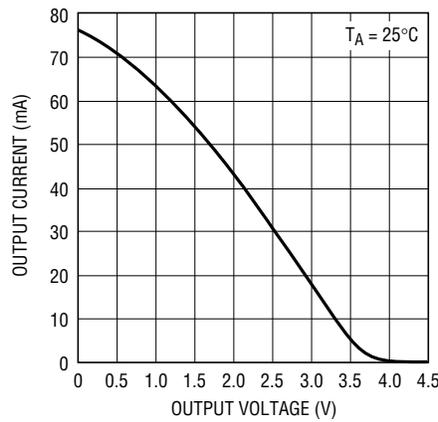
LTC1487 • TPC02

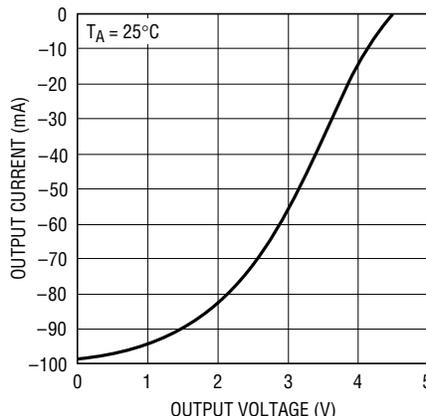**Driver Differential Output Voltage vs Temperature**
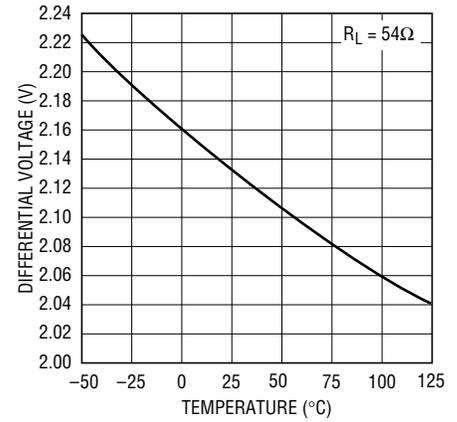
LTC1487 • TPC03
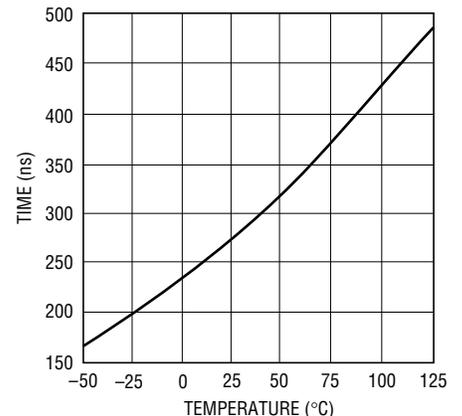
Driver Output Low Voltage vs Output Current

LTC1487 • TPC04

Driver Output High Voltage vs Output Current

LTC1487 • TPC05

Driver Skew vs Temperature

LTC1487 • G06

4

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY

PIN FUNCTIONS

RO (Pin 1): Receiver Output. If the receiver output is enabled ($\overline{RE}$ LOW), and A > B by 200mV, RO will be HIGH. If A < B by 200mV, then RO will be LOW.

$\overline{RE}$ (Pin 2): Receiver Output Enable. A LOW enables the receiver output, RO. A HIGH input forces the receiver output into a high impedance state.

DE (Pin 3): Driver Outputs Enable. A HIGH on DE enables the driver output. A and B and the chip will function as a line driver. A LOW input will force the driver outputs into a high impedance state and the chip will function as a line receiver. If $\overline{RE}$ is HIGH and DE is LOW, the part will enter a low power (1μA) shutdown state.

DI (Pin 4): Driver Input. If the driver outputs are enabled (DE HIGH) then a LOW on DI forces the outputs A LOW and B HIGH. A HIGH on DI with the driver outputs enabled will force A HIGH and B LOW.

GND (Pin 5): Ground.

A (Pin 6): Driver Output/Receiver Input.

B (Pin 7): Driver Output/Receiver Input.

V_{CC} (Pin 8): Positive Supply. $4.75V < V_{CC} < 5.25V$.

FUNCTION TABLES

LTC1487 Transmitting

INPUTS			OUTPUTS	
$\overline{RE}$	DE	DI	B	A
X	1	1	0	1
X	1	0	1	0
0	0	X	Z	Z
1	0	X	Z*	Z*

*Shutdown mode

LTC1487 Receiving

INPUTS			OUTPUTS
$\overline{RE}$	DE	A – B	RO
0	0	≥ 0.2V	1
0	0	≤ −0.2V	0
0	0	Inputs Open	1
1	0	X	Z*

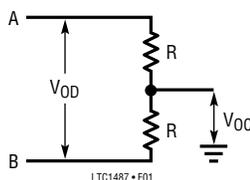*Shutdown mode

TEST CIRCUITS

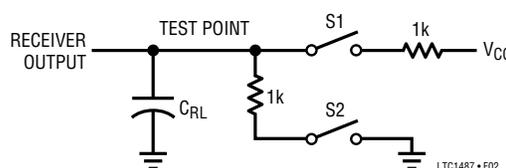

Figure 1. Driver DC Test Load
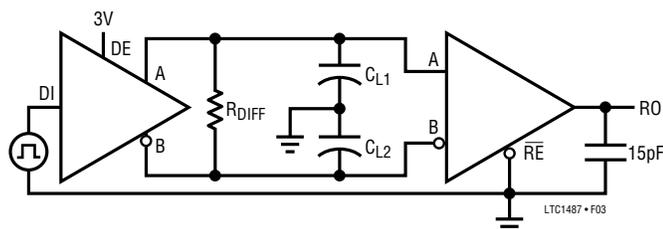

Figure 2. Receiver Timing Test Load

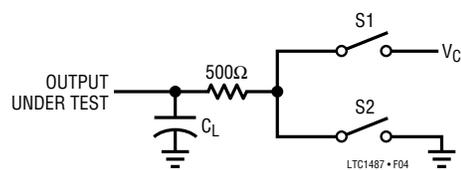Figure 3. Driver/Receiver Timing Test Circuit

Figure 4. Driver Timing Test Load

SWITCHING TIME WAVEFORMS
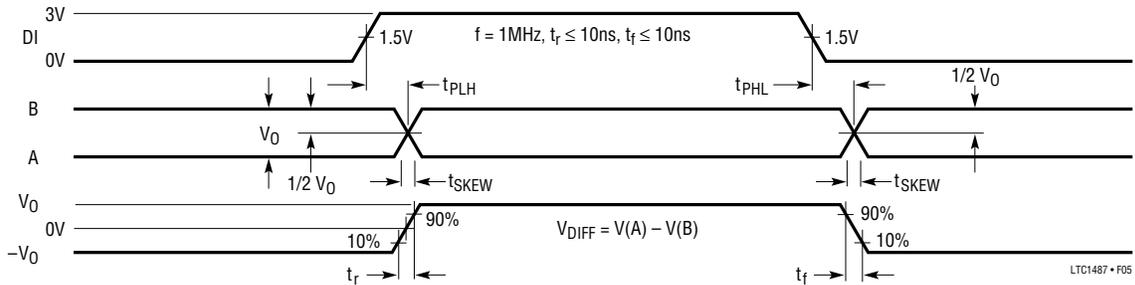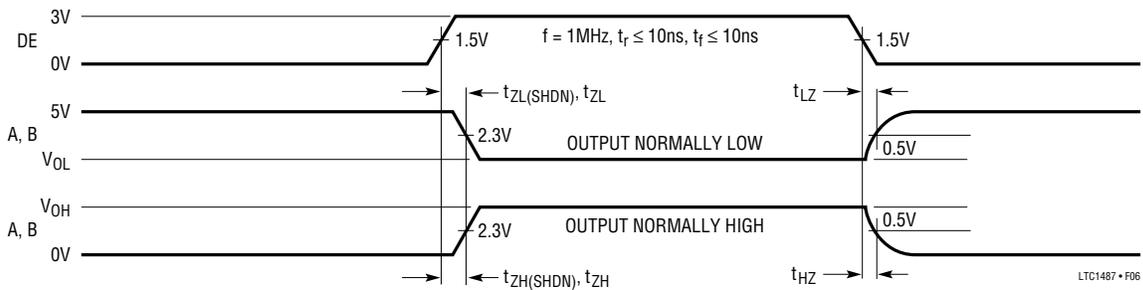

Figure 5. Driver Propagation Delays

Figure 6. Driver Enable and Disable Times
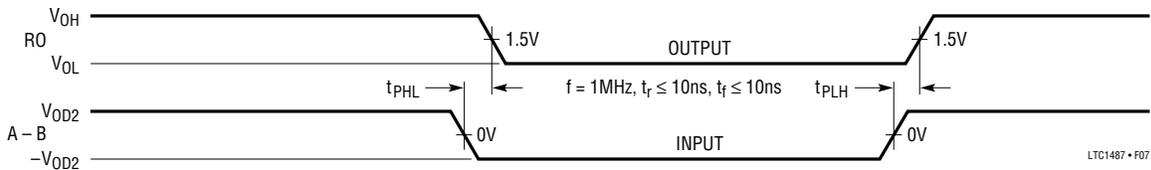

Figure 7. Receiver Propagation Delays

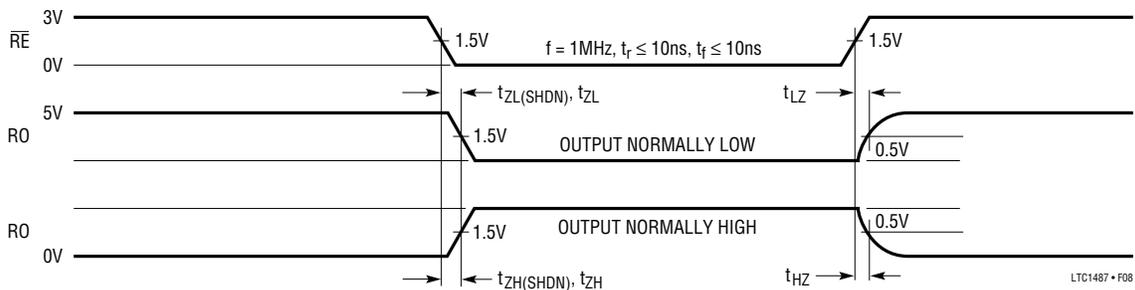**Figure 8. Receiver Enable and Disable Times**

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

High Input Impedance

The LTC1487 is designed with a 96kΩ (typ) input imped-
ance to allow up to 256 transceivers to share a single
RS485 differential data bus. The RS485 specification
requires that a transceiver be able to drive as many as 32
"unit loads." One unit load (UL) is defined as an imped-
ance that draws a maximum of 1mA with up to 12V across
it. Typical RS485 transceivers present between 0.5 and 1
unit load at their inputs. The 96kΩ input impedance of the
LTC1487 will draw only 125µA under the same 12V
condition, presenting only 0.125UL to the bus. As a result,
256 LTC1487 transceivers (32UL/0.125UL = 256) can be
connected to a single RS485 data bus without exceeding
the RS485 driver load specification. The LTC1487 meets
all other RS485 specifications, allowing it to operate
equally well with standard RS485 transceiver devices or
high impedance transceivers.

CMOS Output Driver

The RS485 specification requires that a transceiver with-
stand common-mode voltages of up to 12V or –7V at the
RS485 line connections. Additionally, the transceiver must
be immune to both ESD and latch-up. This rules out
traditional CMOS drivers, which include parasitic diodes
from their driver outputs to each supply rail (Figure 9). The
LTC1487 uses a proprietary process enhancement which
adds a pair of Schottky diodes to the output stage (Figure
10), preventing current from flowing when the common-
mode voltage exceeds the supply rails. Latch-up at the
output drivers is virtually eliminated and the driver is
prevented from loading the line under RS485 specified
fault conditions. A proprietary output protection structure
protects the transceiver line terminals against ESD strikes
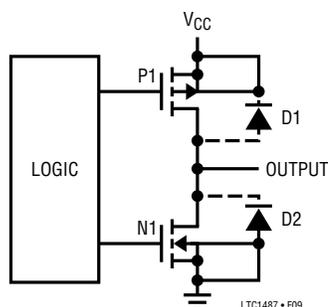(Human Body Model) of up to ±10kV.

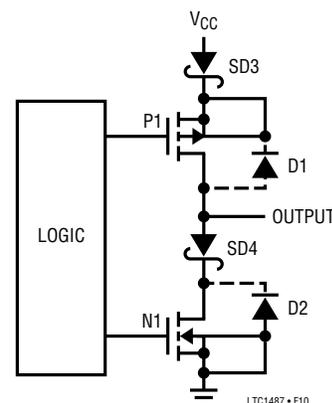**Figure 9. Conventional CMOS Output Stage**

Figure 10. LTC1487 Output Stage

When two or more drivers are connected to the same
transmission line, a potential condition exists whereby
more than two drivers are simultaneously active. If one or
more drivers is sourcing current while another driver is
sinking current, excessive power dissipation may occur
within either the sourcing or sinking element. This condi-
tion is defined as driver contention, since multiple drivers
are competing for one transmission line. The LTC1487
provides a current limiting scheme to prevent driver
contention failure. When driver contention occurs, the
current drawn is limited to about 70mA, preventing exces-
sive power dissipation within the drivers.

The LTC1487 has a thermal shutdown feature which
protects the part from excessive power dissipation. Under
extreme fault conditions, up to 250mA can flow through
the part, causing rapid internal temperature rise. The
thermal shutdown circuit will disable the driver outputs
when the internal temperature reaches 150°C and turns
them back on when the temperature cools to 130°C. This
cycle will repeat as necessary until the fault condition is
removed.

Receiver Inputs

The LTC1487 receiver features an input common-mode
range covering the entire RS485 specified range of –7V to
12V. Internal 96k input resistors from each line terminal to
ground provide the 0.125UL load to the RS485 bus.
Differential signals of greater than ±200mV within the
specified input common-mode range will be converted to
a TTL-compatible signal at the receiver output. A small
amount of input hysteresis is included to minimize the

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

effects of noise on the line signals. If the line is terminated or the receiver inputs are shorted together, the receiver output will retain the last valid line signal due to the 45mV of hysteresis incorporated in the receiver circuit. If the LTC1487 transceiver inputs are left floating (unterminated), an internal pull-up of 10µA at the A input will force the receiver output to a known high state.

Low Power Operation

The LTC1487 draws very little supply current whenever the driver outputs are disabled. In shutdown mode, the quiescent current is typically less than 1µA. With the receiver active and the driver outputs disabled, the LTC1487 will typically draw 80µA quiescent current. With the driver outputs enabled but unterminated, quiescent current will rise slightly as one of the two outputs sources current into the internal receiver input resistance. With the minimum receiver input resistance of 70k and the maximum output swing of 5V, the quiescent current will rise by a maximum of 72µA. Typical quiescent current rise with the driver enabled is about 40µA.

The quiescent current rises significantly if the driver is enabled when it is externally terminated. With 1/2 termination load (120Ω between the driver outputs), the quiescent current will jump to at least 13mA as the drivers force a minimum of 1.5V across the termination resistance. With a fully terminated 60Ω line attached, the current will rise to greater than 25mA with the driver enabled, completely overshadowing the extra 40µA drawn by the internal receiver inputs.

Shutdown Mode

Both the receiver output (RO) and the driver outputs (A, B) can be placed in three-state mode by bringing $\overline{RE}$ HIGH and DE LOW respectively. In addition, the LTC1487 will enter shutdown mode when $\overline{RE}$ is HIGH and DE is LOW.

In shutdown the LTC1487 typically draws only 1µA of supply current. In order to guarantee that the part goes into shutdown, $\overline{RE}$ must be HIGH and DE must be LOW for at least 600ns simultaneously. If this time duration is less than 50ns the part will not enter shutdown mode. Toggling either $\overline{RE}$ or DE will wake the LTC1487 back up within 3.5µs.

If the driver is active immediately prior to shutdown, the supply current will not drop to 1µA until the driver outputs have reached a steady state; this can take as long as 2.6µs under worst case conditions. If the driver is disabled prior to shutdown the supply current will drop to 1µA immediately.

Slew Rate and Propagation Delay

Many digital encoding schemes are dependent upon the difference in the propagation delay times of the driver and receiver. Figure 11 shows the test circuit for the LTC1487 propagation delay.
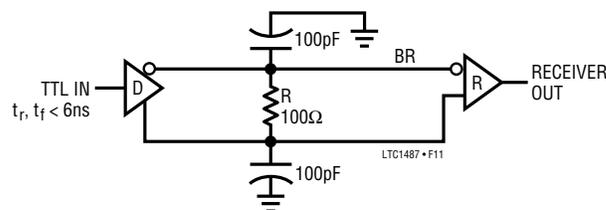

Figure 11. Receiver Propagation Delay Test Circuit

The receiver delay times are:

$$|\, t_{PLH} - t_{PHL} \,| = 13ns \text{ Typ}, V_{CC} = 5V$$

The LTC1487 drivers feature controlled slew rate to reduce system EMI and improve signal fidelity by reducing reflections due to misterminated cables.

The driver's skew times are:

Skew = 250ns Typ, V_{CC} = 5V

600ns Max, V_{CC} = 5V, T_A = −40°C to 85°C

PACKAGE DESCRIPTION

For package descriptions consult the *1994 Linear Databook Volume III.*