Product Datasheet - Technical Specifications

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DESCRIPTION
The 4892B is a GPIB-to-Printer Interface that transparently transfers data from a GPIB bus to any printer or plotter with the industry standard 'Centronics' or IEEE-1284 Parallel Interface. The 4892B includes a 256K RAM that buffers up to 252,000 characters and a high > 600 kbytes/second transfer rate that minimizes data transfer time and free's the GPIB Controller for other tasks while the 4892B finishes the data transfer. Applications include replacing obsolete GPIB printers and plotters with newer parallel printers, driving a printer from a GPIB instrument or buffering print data from a GPIB controller.

Programmability
The 4892B's parallel interface functions and GPIB Bus characteristics are programmed with SCPI commands from the GPIB Bus. The 4892B's configuration is stored in E2ROM so it can be changed as desired. Menu-driven programs are included with each 4892B to walk the first-time user through the configuration procedure. Alternatively, the user can use an interactive control program like ICS's GPIBkybd program to configure the unit. The configuration programs are compatible with ICS, National Instruments or Measurement Computing's GPIB controller cards.

Printing from the GPIB Bus
Their original GPIB printers and plotters are wearing out or are no longer serviceable. The 4892B easily interfaces these instruments' GPIB output to a modern laser or inkjet printer. The 4892B-printer combination makes an inexpensive plotter replacement. To reproduce graphical data and plots, the selected printer must have PCL5 or later firmware with HPGL capability to print the instrument's HPGL coded output. Plain text output works with any printer. Refer to ICS's Application Bulletin A48-34 for a partial list of PCL/HPGL compatible instruments and printers.

Special Functions
The 4892B can be configured to automatically generate a formfeed character when finished printing for printers that need a formfeed command to print. The 4892B can also be set to output the HPGL plot command to the printer when starting to print to put the printer in the plot mode. A new IDLE command blocks printers idle timeouts and prevents the printer from ejecting the page before the test results have been printed.

Printing from an Instrument
Many analyzers, oscilloscopes and other complex instruments can directly drive a GPIB printer or plotter without the need for a GPIB Bus controller. In many cases

Accessories and 4892B Configuration
Each 4892B includes a printer cable, a Support CD-ROM, and an AC power adapter. Units are factory set to run from the GPIB bus at address 4. The 4892B's GPIB address and other configuration settings can be easily changed with the supplied configuration programs.
IEEE 488 Bus Interface

The 4892B’s 488 Bus Interface meets IEEE STD 488.1-1987 and has the following capabilities.

G-Mode: (GPIB to Parallel)
- SH1, AH1, T6, L3, SR1, PP0, DC1, RL0, DT0, C0 and E1/E2 drivers

P-Mode: (Parallel to GPIB)
- SH1, AH1, C1, C2, C3 and C28.
  Bus drivers incorporate power up/down protection to prevent sending invalid data to the bus.

Front Panel Indicators
- PWR: Indicates power on
- RDY: Unit has passed self test
- TALK: Unit has recognized its Talk Address
- LSTN: Unit has recognized its Listen address
- BUSY: Unit is receiving parallel data (Parallel BUSY Signal)
- FULL: Internal data buffer is full

Address Capability
Primary addresses 0-30 and listen-only

SRQ Generation
SRQs are generated if the unit is not addressed to talk, if SRQs are enabled and one of the following occurs.

in ICS 488.2 Mode:
- GPIB Buffer empty
- GPIB Buffer full
- Enabled ESR bit occurred

in PRL Emulation Mode:
- GPIB buffer empty

Escape Sequence
In G-Mode the 4892B powers up in the transparent Data sub-mode. A Device Trigger is used to switch from Data to Command sub-mode. SCPI SYST:OPER DATA command is used to switch back to the Data sub-mode. 4892A units used a Listen-Unlisten escape sequence to switch from Data to Command sub-mode.

488.2 Common Commands

Buffers and Data Transfer Rates
- Data Buffer: 252,000 bytes
- Data Transfer Rates:
  - GPIB -> Buffer: > 600 Kbytes/sec.
  - Buffer -> Ptr: 5 Kbytes/sec.

Physical
- Size: W x H x D
  - 5.57 x 1.52 x 7.45 inches (141.5 x 38.6 x 189.2 mm)
- Weight: 3 lbs (1.4 kg) incl adapter
- Temperature:
  - Operating: -10°C to +55°C
  - Storage: -40°C to +70°C
- Humidity: 0-90% RH no condensation
- Construction: All metal case

Connectors
- IEEE bus - Std 24 pin w/metric studs
- Printer - DB-25S female w/lock studs

Included Accessories
- Instruction Manual
- IEEE bus - Std 24 pin w/metric studs
- Printer - DB-25S female w/lock studs
- UL/CSA/VDE approved AC power adapters provided for:
  - US - 115±10% Vac, 60 Hz (std)
  - E = Europe - 230±10% Vac, 50/60 Hz
  - B = UK - 230±10% Vac, 60 Hz
  - A = Australia - 230±10% Vac, 60 Hz

ORDERING INFORMATION

| GPIB - Printer Interface with 115 VAC adapter | 4892B
| GPIB - Printer Interface with 115 VAC adapter. Factory set to Listen-only or other settings | 4892B-6
| GPIB - Printer Interface with 230 VAC adapter | (Specify country / plug style) -E(Europe), -B(UK), -A(Australia)
| GPIB Accessory Cables and Rack Mounting Kits | See separate data sheet