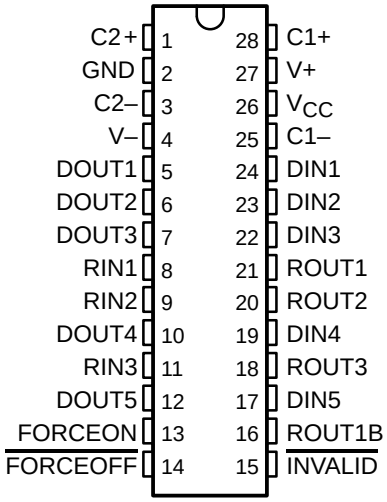
- **Meets or Exceeds the Requirements of TIA/EIA-232-F and ITU v.28 Standards**
- **Operates With 3-V to 5.5-V V_{CC} Supply**
- **Operates up to 250 kbit/s**
- **Five Drivers and Three Receivers**
- **Low Standby Current . . . 1 μA Typical**
- **External Capacitors . . . 4 × 0.1 μF**
- **Accepts 5-V Logic Input With 3.3-V Supply**
- **Always-Active Noninverting Receiver Output (ROUT1B)**
- **Designed to Be Interchangeable With Maxim MAX3238**
- **RS-232 Bus-Pin ESD Protection Exceeds ±15 kV Using Human-Body Model (HBM)**
- **Applications**
  - **Battery-Powered Systems, PDAs, Notebooks, Subnotebooks, Laptops, Palmtop PCs, Hand-Held Equipment, Modems, and Printers**

DB OR PW PACKAGE
(TOP VIEW)



description/ordering information

The MAX3238 consists of five line drivers, three line receivers, and a dual charge-pump circuit with ±15-kV ESD (HBM) protection pin to pin (serial-port connection pins, including GND). The device meets the requirements of TIA/EIA-232-F and provides the electrical interface between notebook and subnotebook computer applications. The charge pump and four small external capacitors allow operation from a single 3-V to 5.5-V supply. In addition, the device includes an always-active noninverting output (ROUT1B), which allows applications using the ring indicator to transmit data while the device is powered down. These devices operate at data signaling rates up to 250 kbit/s and a maximum of 30-V/μs driver output slew rate.

ORDERING INFORMATION

T_A	PACKAGE†		ORDERABLE PART NUMBER	TOP-SIDE MARKING
–0°C to 70°C	SSOP (DB)	Tape and reel	MAX3238CDBR	MAX3238C
	TSSOP (PW)	Tape and reel	MAX3238CPWR	MA3238C
–40°C to 85°C	SSOP (DB)	Tape and reel	MAX3238IDBR	MAX3238I
	TSSOP (PW)	Tape and reel	MAX3238IPWR	MB3238I

† Package drawings, standard packing quantities, thermal data, symbolization, and PCB design guidelines are available at www.ti.com/sc/package.

description/ordering information (continued)

Flexible control options for power management are featured when the serial port and driver inputs are inactive. The auto-powerdown plus feature functions when FORCEON is low and $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ is high. During this mode of operation, if the device does not sense valid signal transitions on all receiver and driver inputs for approximately 30 s, the built-in charge pump and drivers are powered down, reducing the supply current to 1 μA. By disconnecting the serial port or placing the peripheral drivers off, auto-powerdown plus occurs if there is no activity in the logic levels for the driver inputs. Auto-powerdown plus can be disabled when FORCEON and $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ are high. With auto-powerdown plus enabled, the device automatically activates once a valid signal is applied to any receiver or driver input. $\overline{\text{INVALID}}$ is high (valid data) if any receiver input voltage is greater than 2.7 V or less than –2.7 V, or has been between –0.3 V and 0.3 V for less than 30 μs. $\overline{\text{INVALID}}$ is low (invalid data) if all receiver input voltages are between –0.3 V and 0.3 V for more than 30 μs. Refer to Figure 5 for receiver input levels.

Function Tables

EACH DRIVER

INPUTS				OUTPUT	DRIVER STATUS
DIN	FORCEON	$\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$	TIME ELAPSED SINCE LAST RIN OR DIN TRANSITION	DOUT	
X	X	L	X	Z	Powered off
L	H	H	X	H	Normal operation with auto-powerdown plus disabled
H	H	H	X	L	
L	L	H	<30 s	H	Normal operation with auto-powerdown plus enabled
H	L	H	<30 s	L	
L	L	H	>30 s	Z	Powered off by auto-powerdown plus feature
H	L	H	>30 s	Z	

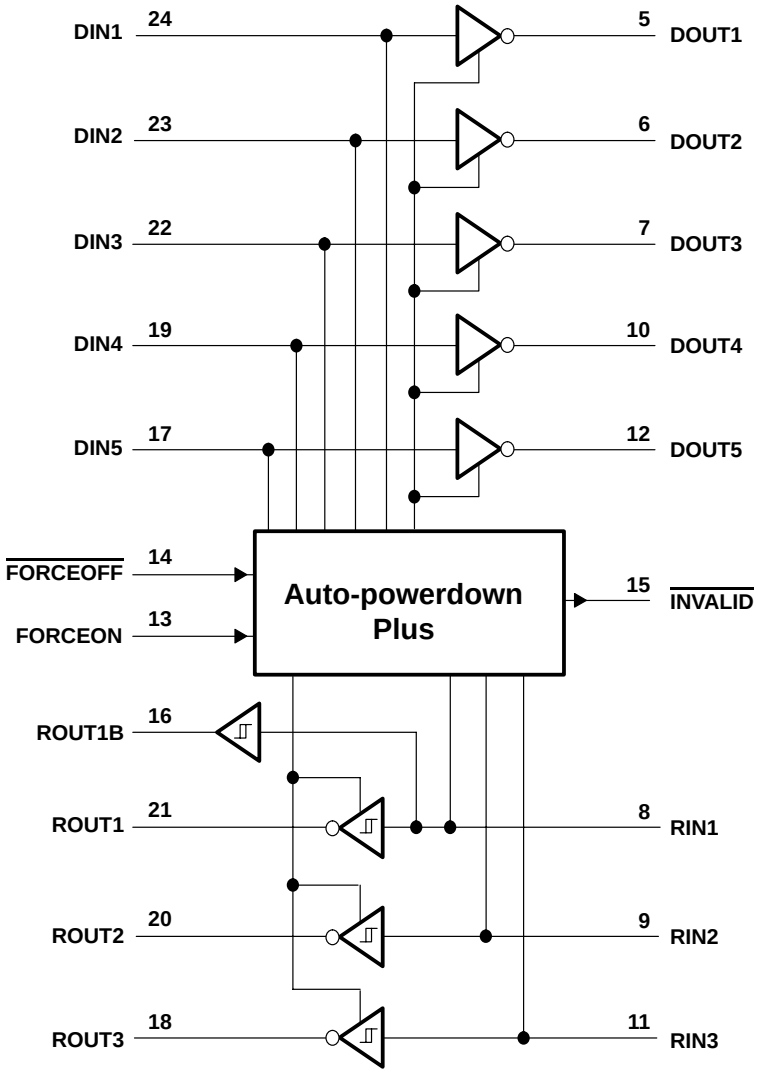
H = high level, L = low level, X = irrelevant, Z = high impedance

EACH RECEIVER

INPUTS				OUTPUTS		RECEIVER STATUS
RIN1	RIN2–RIN3	$\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$	TIME ELAPSED SINCE LAST RIN OR DIN TRANSITION	ROUT1B	ROUT	
L	X	L	X	L	Z	Powered off while ROUT1B is active
H	X	L	X	H	Z	
L	L	H	<30 s	L	H	Normal operation with auto-powerdown plus disabled/enabled
L	H	H	<30 s	L	L	
H	L	H	<30 s	H	H	
H	H	H	<30 s	H	L	
Open	Open	H	>30 s	L	H	

H = high level, L = low level, X = irrelevant, Z = high impedance (off), Open = input disconnected or connected driver off

logic diagram (positive logic)



absolute maximum ratings over operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)†

Supply voltage range, V_{CC} (see Note 1) . . . . . –0.3 V to 6 V
Positive output supply voltage range, V+ (see Note 1) . . . . . –0.3 V to 7 V
Negative output supply voltage range, V– (see Note 1) . . . . . 0.3 V to –7 V
Supply voltage difference, V+ – V– (see Note 1) . . . . . 13 V
Input voltage range, V_I: Driver ($\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$, FORCEON) . . . . . –0.3 V to 6 V
Receiver . . . . . –25 V to 25 V
Output voltage range, V_O: Driver . . . . . – 13.2 V to 13.2 V
Receiver ($\overline{\text{INVALID}}$) . . . . . –0.3 V to V_{CC} + 0.3 V
Package thermal impedance, θ_{JA} (see Notes 2 and 3): DB package . . . . . 62°C/W
PW package . . . . . 62°C/W
Lead temperature 1,6 mm (1/16 inch) from case for 10 seconds . . . . . 260°C
Storage temperature range, T_{stg} . . . . . –65°C to 150°C

† Stresses beyond those listed under "absolute maximum ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated under "recommended operating conditions" is not implied. Exposure to absolute-maximum-rated conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

NOTES: 1. All voltages are with respect to network GND.
2. Maximum power dissipation is a function of $T_J(max)$, θ_{JA}, and T_A. The maximum allowable power dissipation at any allowable ambient temperature is $P_D = (T_J(max) – T_A)/\theta_{JA}$. Operating at the absolute maximum T_J of 150°C can affect reliability.
3. The package thermal impedance is calculated in accordance with JESD 51-7.

recommended operating conditions (see Note 4 and Figure 6)

				MIN	NOM	MAX	UNIT
	Supply voltage		V_{CC} = 3.3 V	3	3.3	3.6	V
			V_{CC} = 5 V	4.5	5	5.5	
V_{IH}	Driver and control high-level input voltage	DIN, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$, FORCEON	V_{CC} = 3.3 V	2			V
			V_{CC} = 5 V	2.4			
V_{IL}	Driver and control low-level input voltage	DIN, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$, FORCEON				0.8	V
V_I	Driver and control input voltage	DIN, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$, FORCEON		0		5.5	V
V_I	Receiver input voltage			–25		25	V
T_A	Operating free-air temperature		MAX3238C	0		70	°C
			MAX3238I	–40		85	

NOTE 4: Testing supply conditions are C1–C4 = 0.1 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.15 V; C1–C4 = 0.22 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.3 V; and C1 = 0.047 µF and C2–C4 = 0.33 µF at V_{CC} = 5 V ± 0.5 V.

electrical characteristics over recommended ranges of supply voltage and operating free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted) (see Note 4 and Figure 6)

PARAMETER			TEST CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP‡	MAX	UNIT
I_I	Input leakage current	$\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$, FORCEON			±0.01	±1	µA
I_{CC}	Supply current (T_A = 25°C)	Auto-powerdown plus disabled	No load, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ and FORCEON at V_{CC}		0.5	2	mA
		Powered off	No load, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ at GND		1	10	µA
		Auto-powerdown plus enabled	No load, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ at V_{CC}, FORCEON at GND, All RIN are open or grounded		1	10	

‡ All typical values are at V_{CC} = 3.3 V or V_{CC} = 5 V, and T_A = 25°C.

NOTE 4: Testing supply conditions are C1–C4 = 0.1 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.15 V; C1–C4 = 0.22 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.3 V; and C1 = 0.047 µF and C2–C4 = 0.33 µF at V_{CC} = 5 V ± 0.5 V.

DRIVER SECTION

electrical characteristics over recommended ranges of supply voltage and operating free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted) (see Note 4 and Figure 6)

PARAMETER		TEST CONDITIONS			MIN	TYP†	MAX	UNIT
V_{OH}	High-level output voltage	All DOUT at R_L = 3 kΩ to GND			5	5.4		V
V_{OL}	Low-level output voltage	All DOUT at R_L = 3 kΩ to GND			–5	–5.4		V
I_{IH}	High-level input current	$V_I = V_{CC}$				±0.01	±1	µA
I_{IL}	Low-level input current	V_I at GND				±0.01	±1	µA
I_{OS}	Short-circuit output current‡	V_{CC} = 3.6 V,	V_O = 0 V			±35	±60	mA
		V_{CC} = 5.5 V,	V_O = 0 V			±40	±100	
r_o	Output resistance	V_{CC}, V+, and V– = 0 V,	V_O = ±2 V		300	10M		Ω
I_{off}	Output leakage current	$\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ = GND,	V_O = ±12 V,	V_{CC} = 0 to 5.5 V			±25	µA

† All typical values are at V_{CC} = 3.3 V or V_{CC} = 5 V, and T_A = 25°C.
‡ Short-circuit durations should be controlled to prevent exceeding the device absolute power-dissipation ratings, and not more than one output should be shorted at a time.
NOTE 4: Testing supply conditions are C1–C4 = 0.1 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.15 V; C1–C4 = 0.22 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.3 V; and C1 = 0.047 µF and C2–C4 = 0.33 µF at V_{CC} = 5 V ± 0.5 V.

switching characteristics over recommended ranges of supply voltage and operating free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted) (see Note 4 and Figure 6)

PARAMETER		TEST CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP†	MAX	UNIT
	Maximum data rate	C_L = 1000 pF, One DOUT switching,	R_L = 3 kΩ, See Figure 1	150	250		kbit/s
$t_{sk(p)}$	Pulse skew§	C_L = 150 pF to 2500 pF	R_L = 3 kΩ to 7 kΩ, See Figure 2		100		ns
SR(tr)	Slew rate, transition region (see Figure 1)	V_{CC} = 3.3 V, R_L = 3 kΩ to 7 kΩ	C_L = 150 pF to 1000 pF	6		30	V/µs
			C_L = 150 pF to 2500 pF	4		30	

† All typical values are at V_{CC} = 3.3 V or V_{CC} = 5 V, and T_A = 25°C.
§ Pulse skew is defined as $|t_{PLH} - t_{PHL}|$ of each channel of the same device.
NOTE 4: Testing supply conditions are C1–C4 = 0.1 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.15 V; C1–C4 = 0.22 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.3 V; and C1 = 0.047 µF and C2–C4 = 0.33 µF at V_{CC} = 5 V ± 0.5 V.

RECEIVER SECTION

electrical characteristics over recommended ranges of supply voltage and operating free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted) (see Note 4 and Figure 6)

PARAMETER		TEST CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP†	MAX	UNIT
V_{OH}	High-level output voltage	I_{OH} = –1 mA	V_{CC} – 0.6 V	V_{CC} – 0.1 V		V
V_{OL}	Low-level output voltage	I_{OL} = 1.6 mA			0.4	V
V_{IT+}	Positive-going input threshold voltage	V_{CC} = 3.3 V		1.5	2.4	V
		V_{CC} = 5 V		1.8	2.4	
$V_{IT–}$	Negative-going input threshold voltage	V_{CC} = 3.3 V	0.6	1.2		V
		V_{CC} = 5 V	0.8	1.5		
V_{hys}	Input hysteresis ($V_{IT+} – V_{IT–}$)			0.3		V
I_{off}	Output leakage current (except ROUT1B)	$\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ = 0 V		±0.05	±10	µA
r_i	Input resistance	V_I = ±3 V to ±25 V	3	5	7	kΩ

† All typical values are at V_{CC} = 3.3 V or V_{CC} = 5 V, and T_A = 25°C.

NOTE 4: Testing supply conditions are C1–C4 = 0.1 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.15 V; C1–C4 = 0.22 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.3 V; and C1 = 0.047 µF and C2–C4 = 0.33 µF at V_{CC} = 5 V ± 0.5 V.

switching characteristics over recommended ranges of supply voltage and operating free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted) (see Note 4)

PARAMETER		TEST CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP†	MAX	UNIT
t_{PLH}	Propagation delay time, low- to high-level output	C_L = 150 pF, See Figure 3		150		ns
t_{PHL}	Propagation delay time, high- to low-level output			150		ns
t_{en}	Output enable time	C_L = 150 pF, R_L = 3 kΩ, See Figure 4		200		ns
t_{dis}	Output disable time			200		ns
$t_{sk(p)}$	Pulse skew‡	See Figure 3		50		ns

† All typical values are at V_{CC} = 3.3 V or V_{CC} = 5 V, and T_A = 25°C.

‡ Pulse skew is defined as $|t_{PLH} – t_{PHL}|$ of each channel of the same device.

NOTE 4: Testing supply conditions are C1–C4 = 0.1 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.15 V; C1–C4 = 0.22 µF at V_{CC} = 3.3 V ± 0.3 V; and C1 = 0.047 µF and C2–C4 = 0.33 µF at V_{CC} = 5 V ± 0.5 V.

AUTO-POWERDOWN PLUS SECTION

electrical characteristics over recommended ranges of supply voltage and operating free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted) (see Figure 5)

PARAMETER		TEST CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP†	MAX	UNIT
$V_{T+(valid)}$	Receiver input threshold for $\overline{\text{INVALID}}$ high-level output voltage	$\overline{\text{FORCEON}}$ = GND, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ = V_{CC}			2.7	V
$V_{T-(valid)}$	Receiver input threshold for $\overline{\text{INVALID}}$ high-level output voltage	$\overline{\text{FORCEON}}$ = GND, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ = V_{CC}	–2.7			V
$V_{T(invalid)}$	Receiver input threshold for $\overline{\text{INVALID}}$ low-level output voltage	$\overline{\text{FORCEON}}$ = GND, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ = V_{CC}	–0.3		0.3	V
V_{OH}	$\overline{\text{INVALID}}$ high-level output voltage	I_{OH} = –1 mA, FORCEON = GND, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ = V_{CC}	V_{CC} – 0.6			V
V_{OL}	$\overline{\text{INVALID}}$ low-level output voltage	I_{OL} = 1.6 mA, FORCEON = GND, $\overline{\text{FORCEOFF}}$ = V_{CC}			0.4	V

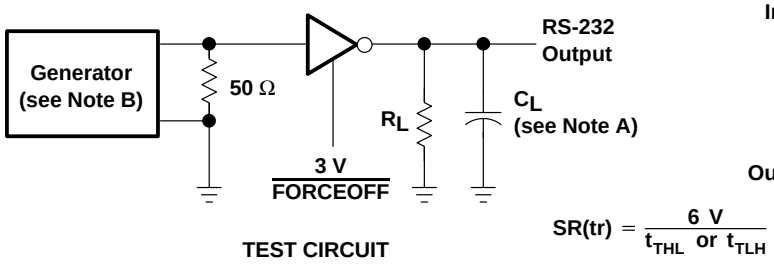
† All typical values are at V_{CC} = 3.3 V or V_{CC} = 5 V, and T_A = 25°C.

switching characteristics over recommended ranges of supply voltage and operating free-air temperature (unless otherwise noted) (see Figure 5)

PARAMETER		MIN	TYP†	MAX	UNIT
t_{valid}	Propagation delay time, low- to high-level output		0.1		µs
$t_{invalid}$	Propagation delay time, high- to low-level output		50		µs
t_{en}	Supply enable time		25		µs
t_{dis}	Receiver or driver edge to auto-powerdown plus	15	30	60	s

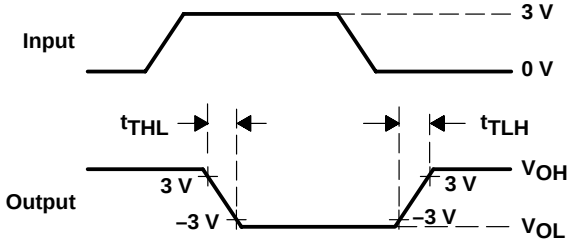
† All typical values are at V_{CC} = 3.3 V or V_{CC} = 5 V, and T_A = 25°C.

PARAMETER MEASUREMENT INFORMATION



TEST CIRCUIT

$$SR(tr) = \frac{6\ V}{t_{THL}\ \text{or}\ t_{TLH}}$$

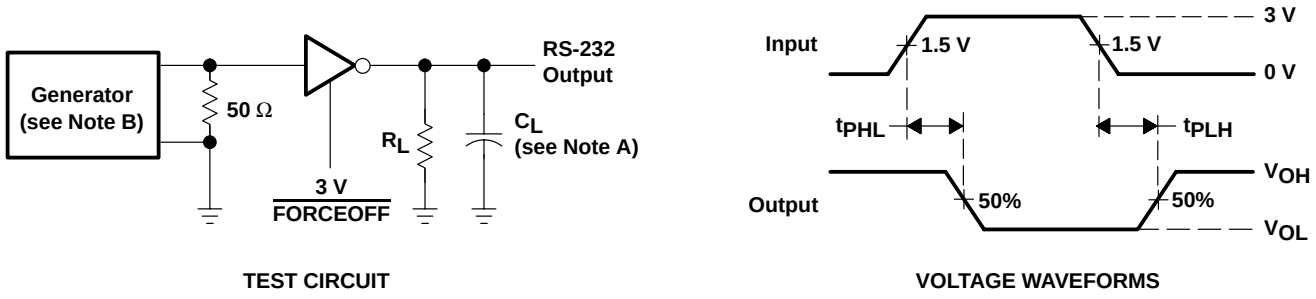


VOLTAGE WAVEFORMS

NOTES: A. C_L includes probe and jig capacitance.
B. The pulse generator has the following characteristics: PRR = 250 kbit/s, Z_O = 50 Ω, 50% duty cycle, $t_r \le 10$ ns, $t_f \le 10$ ns.

Figure 1. Driver Slew Rate

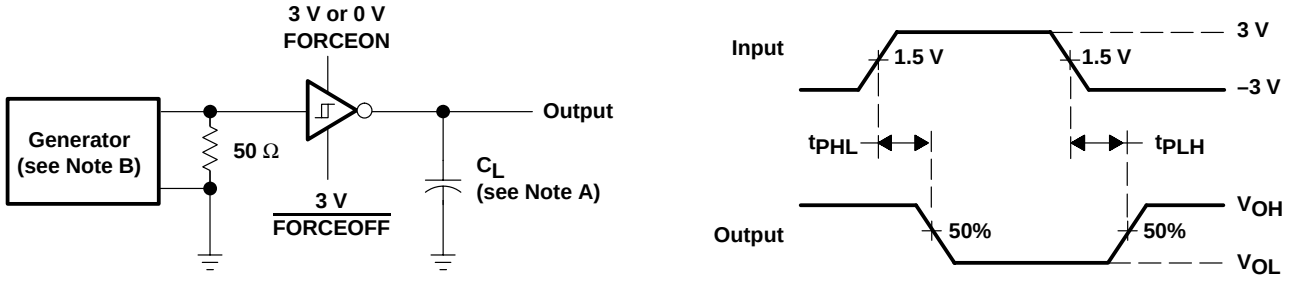
PARAMETER MEASUREMENT INFORMATION



TEST CIRCUIT VOLTAGE WAVEFORMS

NOTES: A. C_L includes probe and jig capacitance.
B. The pulse generator has the following characteristics: PRR = 250 kbit/s, Z_O = 50 Ω, 50% duty cycle, $t_r \le 10$ ns, $t_f \le 10$ ns.

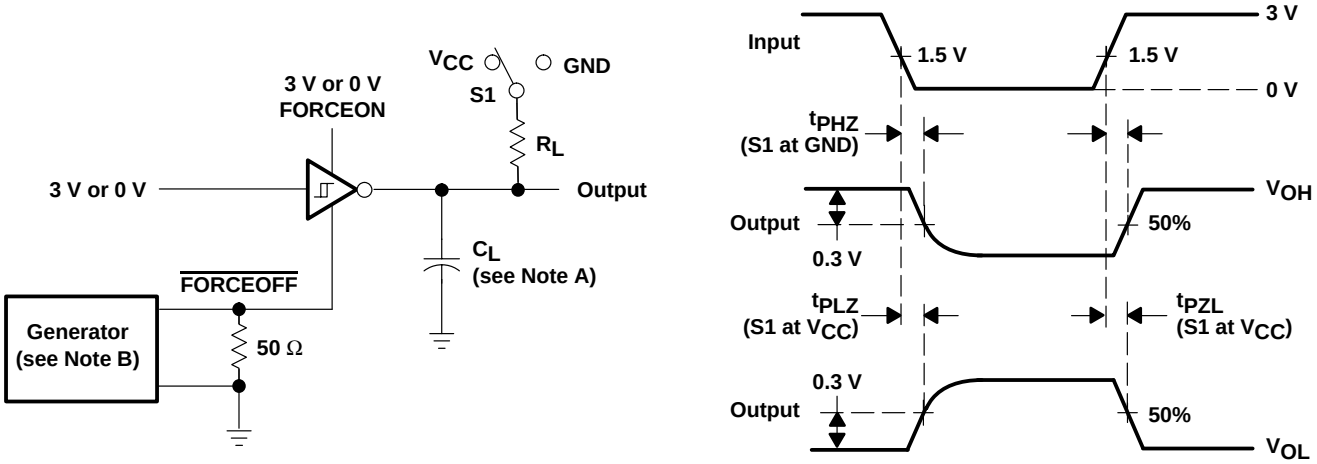
Figure 2. Driver Pulse Skew



TEST CIRCUIT VOLTAGE WAVEFORMS

NOTES: A. C_L includes probe and jig capacitance.
B. The pulse generator has the following characteristics: Z_O = 50 Ω, 50% duty cycle, $t_r \le 10$ ns, $t_f \le 10$ ns.

Figure 3. Receiver Propagation Delay Times

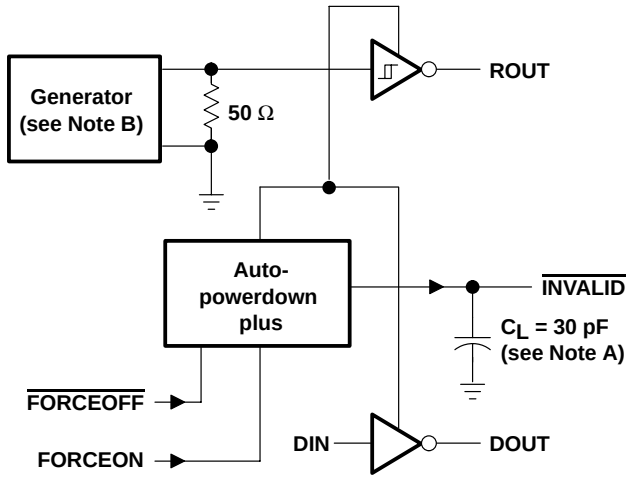


TEST CIRCUIT VOLTAGE WAVEFORMS

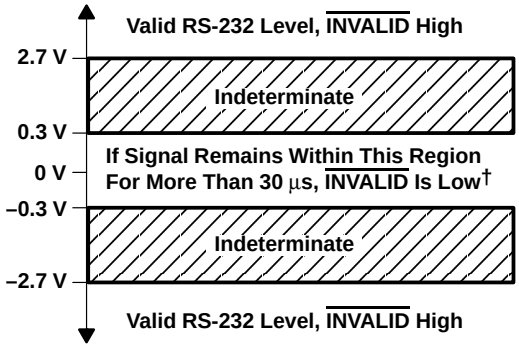
NOTES: A. C_L includes probe and jig capacitance.
B. The pulse generator has the following characteristics: Z_O = 50 Ω, 50% duty cycle, $t_r \le 10$ ns, $t_f \le 10$ ns.
C. t_{PLZ} and t_{PHZ} are the same as t_{dis}.
D. t_{PZL} and t_{PZH} are the same as t_{en}.

Figure 4. Receiver Enable and Disable Times

PARAMETER MEASUREMENT INFORMATION

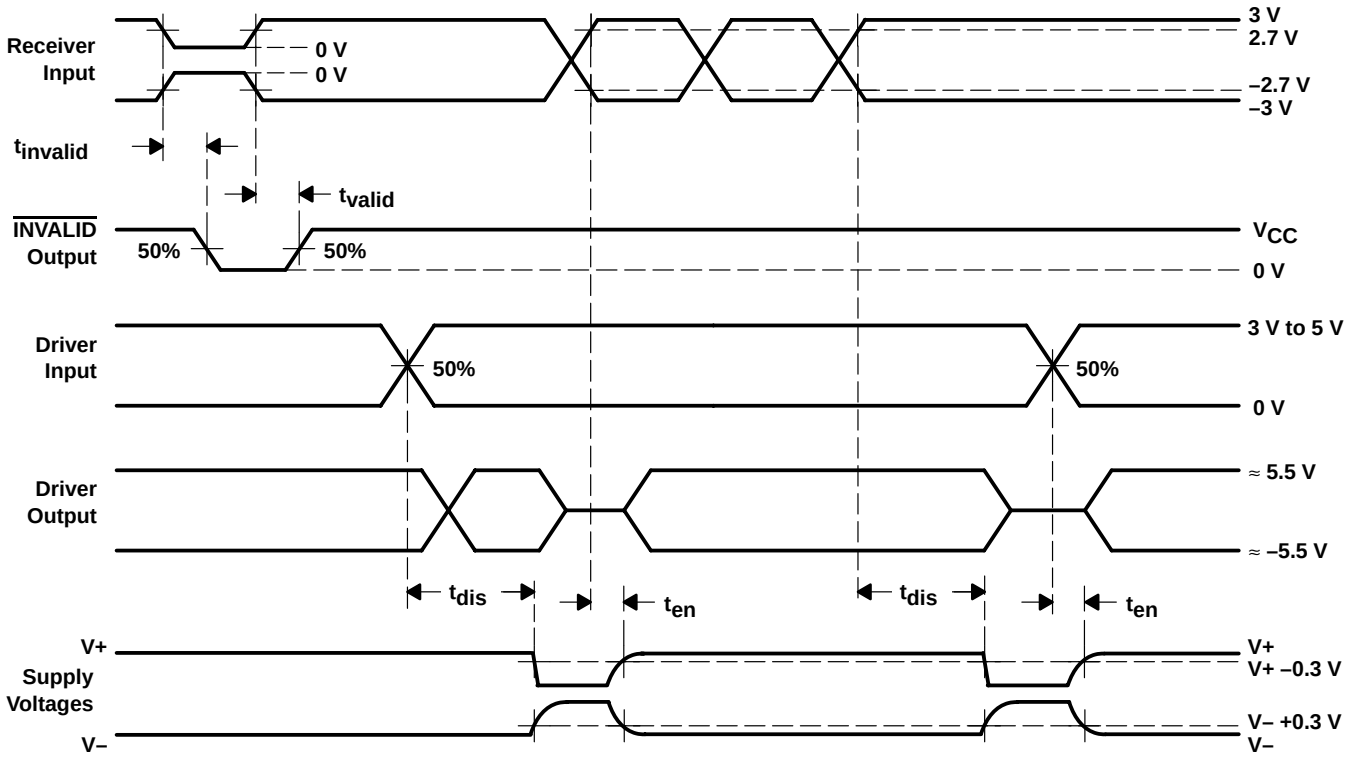


TEST CIRCUIT



† Auto-powerdown plus disables drivers and reduces supply current to 1 μA.

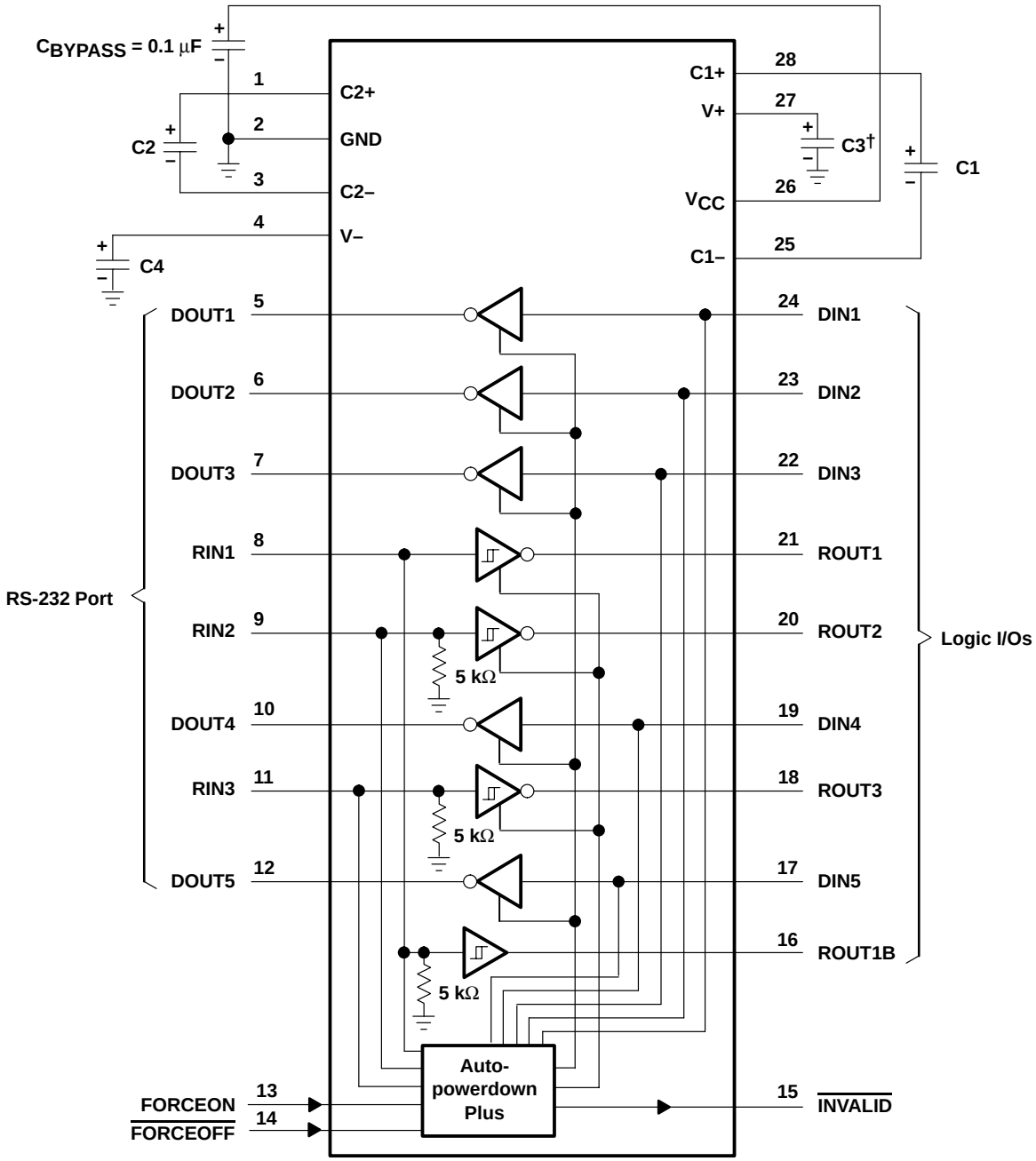
NOTES: A. C_L includes probe and jig capacitance.
B. The pulse generator has the following characteristics: PRR = 5 kbit/s, Z_O = 50 Ω, 50% duty cycle, $t_r \le 10$ ns, $t_f \le 10$ ns.



Voltage Waveforms and Timing Diagrams

Figure 5. INVALID Propagation-Delay Times and Supply-Enabling Time

APPLICATION INFORMATION



† C3 can be connected to V_{CC} or GND.

NOTE A: Resistor values shown are nominal.

V_{CC} vs CAPACITOR VALUES

V_{CC}	C1	C2, C3, and C4
3.3 V ± 0.15 V	0.1 µF	0.1 µF
3.3 V ± 0.3 V	0.22 µF	0.22 µF
5 V ± 0.5 V	0.047 µF	0.33 µF
3 V to 5.5 V	0.22 µF	1 µF

Figure 6. Typical Operating Circuit and Capacitor Values

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