## Electronic displays

## Data Sheet

Three types of display are available; each has differences as far as the display appearance, operation and electrical characteristics are concerned. Section I describes each device type, section II contains details of suitable decoder/drivers with circuit applications. Separate data sheets are available.
Section III details pin connections and physical dimensions of direct drive 7 segment LCD's.
For the latest range of display products available consult the opto-electronics section of the current RS C atalogue.
For information on counter/driver ICs consult the semiconductor section of the current RS C atalogue.

## Section I - types of display

## LED

A range of solid state semiconductor displays having the advantages of mechanical ruggedness, long life and easy interface with semiconductor circuitry.

- Display bezels are available to accommodate the majority of the LED displays:
- Discrete LED displays in a range of character heights 0.3, $0.43,0.56,1$ and 2.24 in . Certain types have segment colours available in red and green, with common anode or common cathode connections and dual format i.e. 7segment or $\pm 1$, thus providing many possible multi-digit display versions. These operate from 2 mA drive currents making them ideal for battery powered applications. Displays utilising the industry standard $5 \times 7$ dot matrix font are available in heights of 1.16 and 2 in as either common anode or common cathode row configurations.
- 0.5in multiplexed displays in four digit format in either common anode or common cathode versions. Displays may be edge stacked to give increased number of digits. Multiplexing reduces the number of decoders and drivers and requires less power than dc drive to achieve the same display intensity.
- 0.11in 4 digit multiplexed display housed in a 14 pin dual in-line clear moulded package incorporating magnifier lens. Device may be end stacked for longer displays and is typical of the types used in desktop calculators, handheld instruments, metering devices and various consumer products, where low power consumption and battery supplies are required.
- 0.27in discrete displays with logic. Two different displays are available with integrated logic chip. One version offers a hexadecimal display with TTL compatible 4-bit latch and decoder/driver, whilst the other offers a 7 -segment display with BCD counter, 4-bit latch and decoder/driver.
- 10 segments LED bar arrays. These types, red and green versions, are in a 20 pin DIL package which may be end stacked as desired.
Suitable Bar Array driver is the 3914 device, RS stock no. 308-174 (see semiconductor section of the RS C atalogue).


## Liquid crystal

Unlike all other types of displays these do not emit light but reflect incident or transmit back light. Power consumption is extremely low making them ideally suited for battery powered equipment. The types available are field effect devices with either $2,31 / 2,4,41 / 2,6$ or 8 digit, 7 -segment format. Operation is from an ac supply, typically 5 Vrms . For this reason special forms of decoding are necessary; this is further explained in section II. Panel mounting bezels are available to accommodate LCD displays.

Note: The maximum dc component allowed to appear across the device is 25 mV .

## LED backlight panels

A range of coloured solid state light guides which have been specially processed to give bright even illumination. Miniature LED light sources are optically connected to the edge of the backlight panel producing a panel of light which is efficient, reliable, has low power consumption and is easy to drive (dc-current limited). These backlight panels can be used to illuminate the Transflective range of direct drive 7 segment LCD's. RS stock nos. 215-6464, 185-8535, 215-6458, 185-0159, 185-0171, 185-0200, 185-0187, 185-0193 and 1850216.

## Section II decoders/drivers

7447A
BCD to 7-segment TTL decoder/driver for use with filament or LED displays. Incorporating open collector output transistors capable of sinking 40mA. Figure 1 gives details of interconnecting filament and common anode LED displays with the 7447A.


## 4511B

BCD to 7-segment C-MOS decoder/driver with integral latch. Active pull up output capable of sourcing 25 mA . Will drive a filament, common cathode LED or phosphorescent display directly. Figure 2 shows methods of driving various displays.

Figure 2


## 8880

A high voltage 7-segment decoder/driver designed to decode BCD and drive gas filled 7-segment display tubes, (Figure 5).

0.27 in with logic (hexadecimal TIL 311)

Full hexadecimal decoding with integral latch, blanking and constant current drive to LED display. The two decimal points require external limiting resistors, (Figure 6).

0.27 in with logic (7-segment TIL 306)

7 -segment decoder/driver with integral BCD counter and four bit latch. Features allow high speed fully synchronous multi-digit counter-systems to be realised without resort to external logic, (Figure 7).

Figure 7a


Figure 7b


## Additional information

## Multi-digit displays

The simplest method of direct driving multi-digit displays is to use a decoder/driver for each digit and operate each independently, however, various facilities may be required necessitating interconnections between each decoder. (See multiplexing.)

## Multiplexing

Time division multiplexing can reduce the number of decoders required together with a reduction in the number of interconnections between display and driver circuitry. This form is particularly suited for remote displays. Multiplexing is already incorporated in some multi-digit drivers when the number of output pins is limited, such devices as the ZN1040E and the 7217 have full multiplexing over four digits. The basic operation for this method of driving is shown in Figure 8.

Figure 8


## 1502984629

## Intensity control

Adjustment of the light output of LED and filament displays may be achieved by pulse width modulating the blanking input of the decoder. Refer to Figure 9. The frequency of this modulation should be high enough to prevent display flicker at short duty cycles.
The 7447A decoder does not have blanking inputs but the ripple blanking output may be used. In this case commoning more than one input may only be done when each RBO pin is individually buffered thereby preventing interaction. Intensity control cannot be incorporated into liquid crystal displays.


## Zero suppression

Leading or trailing zero suppression, often termed ripple blanking, is a means by which unnecessary zeros in the display are blanked. The connections required are shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10


The 7447A incorporates ripple blanking input and output connections whilst the 4511B and 4543B do not. However, by using external gating the blanking input may be incorporated to achieve this facility.

## Storage

A storage of latching operation (i.e. where once 'Iatched' further changes in the BCD inputinformation do not affect the display) may be achieved either by using the internal latches of the 4511B or 4543 B , or separate latches such as the 7475 Quad bi-stable latch in conjunction with the 7447A. Multidigit drivers incorporate latching facilities.

## Lamp test

A lamp test facility is incorporated in some of these decoders. When operated all segments of the display are illuminated regardless of the input data.

## Display/Decoder selection

| Decoder/Driver | 7447A | 4511B | 4543B | 4070B | ZN1040E | 7412 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Display type: <br> Common anode LED <br> Common cathode LED | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{ } \\ & \sqrt{ } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{*} \\ & \sqrt{*} \end{aligned}$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Multi-digit multiplexed Common anode |  |  |  |  | $\sqrt{*}$ | $\sqrt{ }$ |
| Liquid crystal Gas discharge Phosphorerscent |  | $\checkmark$ | $\begin{gathered} \sqrt{ } \\ \sqrt{*} \\ \sqrt{ } \end{gathered}$ | $\sqrt{ }$ | $\sqrt{*}$ |  |
| 0.27 hexadecimal 0.27 7-segment | INTEGRAL LOGIC |  |  |  |  |  |

* requires buffer transistors

Note: Apart from the display/decoder pairs show above additional forms of display driving may be achieved using external buffer or inverting stages.

## Section III Liquid Crystal Display

Direct Drive 7 segment reflective and transflective pin connectors.

Figure 11


Figure 12


RS stock nos. 215-6442 and 215-6464

Figure 13



RS stock nos. 185-8529 and 185-8535
RS stock nos. 215-6436 and 215-6458

Figure 14


RS stock nos. 184-7709 and 185-0159

Figure 15


RS stock nos. 184-7715 and 185-0171
RS stock nos. 184-7743 and 185-0200
RS stock nos. 294-8825 and 294-8831

Figure 16


RS stock nos. 184-7721 and 185-0187

Figure 17





RS stock nos. 184-7737 and 185-0193

Figure 18


RS stock no. 185-0216

Dimensions

| Display type | RS stock no. | No. of digits | Character Height | L. | $\begin{gathered} \text { H. } \\ \text { (ex. pins) } \end{gathered}$ | D. | Lead <br> Pitch | Row Spacing |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Reflective | 215-6442 | 2 | 12.7 | 30.5 | 28 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 32.7 |
| Transflective | 215-6464 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 185-8529 | $\begin{gathered} 31 / 2 \\ \text { LOBAT } \end{gathered}$ | 8.9 | 50.8 | 22.8 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 25.40 |
| Transflective | 185-8535 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 215-6436 | $\begin{gathered} 31 / 2 \\ \text { LOBAT } \end{gathered}$ | 12.7 | 50.8 | 30.5 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 33.02 |
| Transflective | 215-6458 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 184-7709 | $31 / 2$ | 12.7 | 50.8 | 30.5 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 33.02 |
| Transflective | 185-0159 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 184-7715 | 4 | 12.7 | 50.8 | 30.5 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 33.02 |
| Transflective | 185-0171 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 184-7743 | 4 | 17.8 | 69.9 | 30.5 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 40.64 |
| Transflective | 185-0200 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 294-8825 | 4 | 25.4 | 93.98 | 45.72 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 48.26 |
| Transflective | 294-8831 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 184-7721 | $41 / 2$ | 10.2 | 50.8 | 38.1 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 33.02 |
| Transflective | 185-0187 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reflective | 184-7737 | 6 | 12.7 | 69.9 | 30.5 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 33.02 |
| Transflective | 185-0193 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Transflective | 185-0216 | 8 | 12.7 | 93.8 | 30.5 | 2.2 | 2.54 | 33.02 |

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