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# 2151 AND 2051

## 20 GHz AND 2.6 GHz VXI COUNTERS

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#### CE CONFORMITY:

EC Directives 73/23/EEC, 89/336/EEC, 92/31/EEC and 93/68/EEC

Units that carry the CE mark are designed to conform to standards, EN 61010-1, EN 50081-1, EN 50082-1, when used in accordance with these instructions.

#### SAFETY

Always operate the product in accordance with the instructions in this manual.

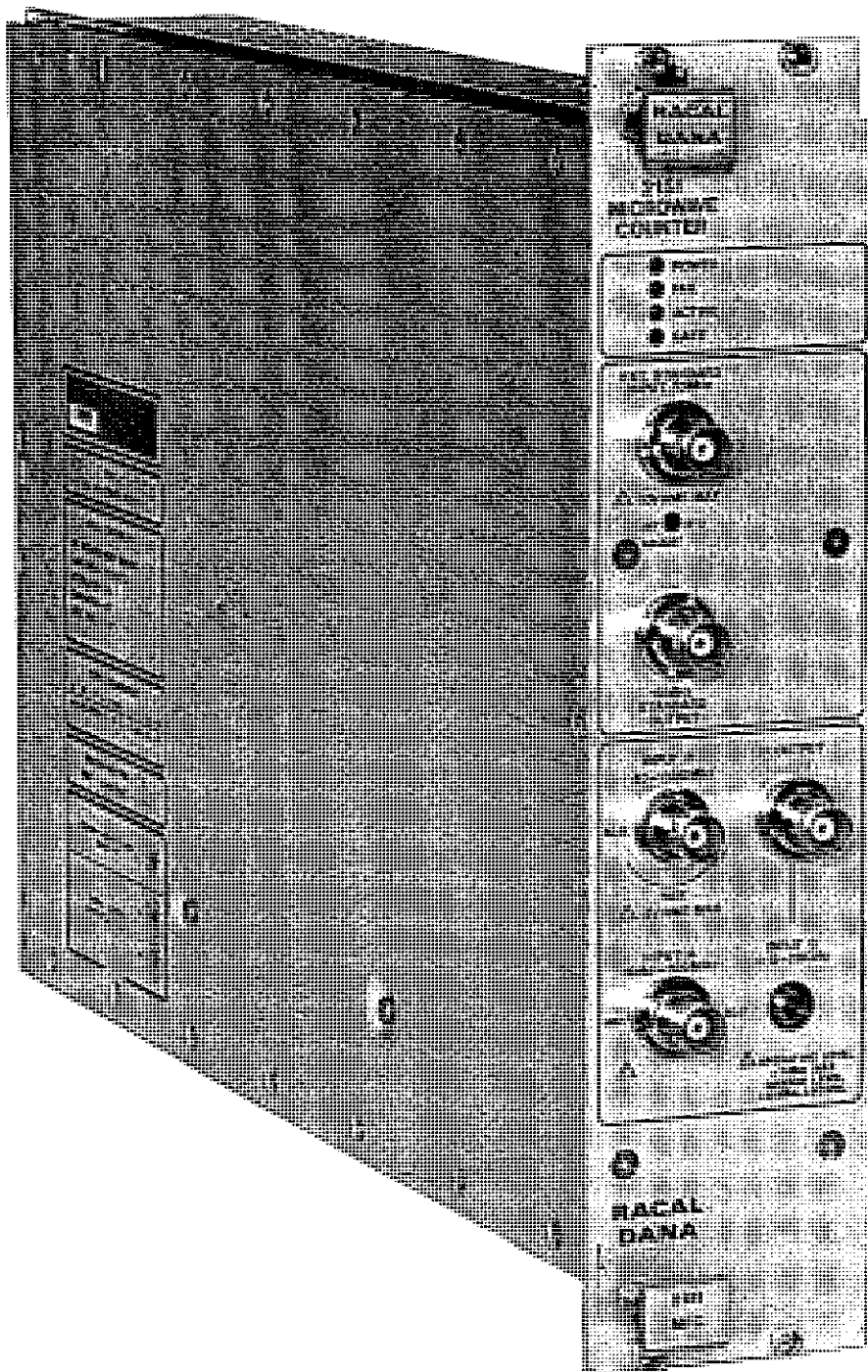
#### EMC

To ensure that EMC integrity is retained always follow good EMC practice. In particular:

- (1) Use good quality coaxial connections for signal input and output leads
- (2) Use good quality screened data or control cables and connectors.
- (3) Ensure that cable screens are properly terminated within the connectors. Do not use cables if the terminations are loose or frayed.
- (4) Ensure that the screening is continuous through to the chassis of the equipment.
- (5) Ensure that filler panels are fitted to all unused slots in the VXI mainframe.
- (6) Note it may be necessary to fit EMI suppression ferrites to one or more of the connecting leads to ensure compliance of the complete system with EMC regulations.
- (7) Ensure that any associated equipment is CE marked or is of good EMC design and performance.

(2151)

RACAL Instruments Ltd.



**RACAL**

A1571

Microwave Counter : 2151



**RACAL**

A1571

Frequency Counter : 2051

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## SECTION 1

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

### Model 2151

#### Technical Specifications

##### INPUTS

###### Input A:

|                   |                                                                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Range             | 10Hz to 100MHz                                                             |
| Sensitivity       | 20mV rms 10Hz to 80MHz<br>30mV 80MHz to 100MHz                             |
| Input Impedance   | 1M ohm/35p F                                                               |
| Maximum Input     | 260V (DC + AC rms) to 2kHz,<br>decreasing to 10V rms at 50kHz<br>and above |
| Input Attenuation | x1 and x20, selectable                                                     |
| Filter            | 50kHz low pass filter selectable                                           |

###### Input B:

|                 |                                                   |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Range           | 40MHz to 1.3GHz                                   |
| Sensitivity     | 10mV (to 1GHz)<br>75mV (at 1.3GHz)                |
| Input Impedance | 50 ohm nominal                                    |
| Operating Range | 10mV to 5V rms                                    |
| Damage Overload | 7V rms (protected by fuse)                        |
| VSWR            | 2.0 : 1 typical (to 1GHz)                         |
| AM Tolerance    | ≥ 90% (for trough > minimum<br>pk-pk sensitivity) |

###### Input C:

|                            |                                                           |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Range                      | 500MHz to 20GHz                                           |
| Sensitivity                | -32dBm (to 12.4GHz)<br>-27dBm (to 20GHz)                  |
| Maximum<br>Operating Level | +7dBm                                                     |
| Damage Level               | 25dBm peak<br>+33dBm with Option 11 high<br>power limiter |
| Input Connector            | PC 3.5 female                                             |
| Input VSWR                 | <2 : 1 to 10GHz<br><3 : 1 to 20GHz                        |
| AM Tolerance               | ≥ 90% (for trough > minimum<br>pk-pk sensitivity)         |

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#### FM Tolerance

| Mode                                   | Modulation Rate                                | FM Tolerance<br>Max. Deviation            |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Automatic<br>Normal<br>Low FM<br>Track | 1kHz - 10MHz<br>45Hz - 10MHz<br>300kHz - 10MHz | 20MHz pk-pk<br>20MHz pk-pk<br>20MHz pk-pk |
| Manual                                 | 1kHz - 10MHz                                   | 60MHz pk-pk                               |

#### Aquisition Time

| Mode                                   | Aquisition Time                   |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Automatic<br>Normal<br>Low FM<br>Track | <125mSec<br><1.255mSec<br><60mSec |
| Manual                                 | <20mSec                           |

#### Tracking Speed

| Mode                      | Tracking Speed                    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Normal<br>Low FM<br>Track | 1MHz/Sec<br>80kHz/Sec<br>1GHz/Sec |

#### Amplitude Discrimination (typical)

6dB for signals within 500MHz  
20dB for signals at any frequency

#### Spillover

≥ -50dBm  
(-70dBm if Input A or B selected,  
or sleep mode)

#### Input C Modes of Operation:

**Normal** Counter acquires and measures frequency of the highest level signal within the sensitivity range (subject to amplitude discrimination specifications). Optimum internal local oscillator frequency and harmonic number are determined automatically.

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Low FM</b> | For low modulation rates, Low FM Mode selects an extended acquisition time                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Track</b>  | For faster measurement and data output rates, Track Mode selects the fastest possible acquisition cycle and tracks the movement of fast moving input frequencies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Manual</b> | For fastest measurement and data output rates, Manual Mode suspends automatic operation and microprocessor calculates optimum internal local oscillator frequency and harmonic number from a user-entered centre frequency<br><br>NB user enters centre frequency to within $\pm 20\text{MHz}$ of input frequency ( $\pm 3\text{MHz}$ below $1\text{GHz}$ ) and for full FM tolerance frequency must be entered with $\pm 1\text{MHz}$ |

## IF OUTPUT

Available when measurements are made using Input C in Manual Mode. Available intermittently during gate time in Auto Mode (due to acquisition cycle).

### Frequency Range

|                                       |                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Automatic Mode and Manual Mode</b> | 41MHz to 112MHz                                                          |
| <b>Output Level</b>                   | -10dBm nominal                                                           |
| <b>Output Impedance</b>               | 50 ohms nominal                                                          |
| <b>Reverse Damage Level</b>           | 50V (DC + AC rms) to 210 KHz, decreasing to 3V rms at 3.5 MHz and above. |

## MEASUREMENT MODES

### Frequency A and B:

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Range Frequency A</b> | 10Hz to 100MHz  |
| <b>Range Frequency B</b> | 40MHz to 1.3GHz |

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Digits Displayed (Resolution)</b> | 3 to 10 digits |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|

|                           |                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>LSD Displayed (Hz)</b> | $F \times 10^{-D}$<br>(F = frequency rounded up to next decade, D = no. of digits) |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### Frequency C:

|              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>Range</b> | 500MHz to 20GHz |
|--------------|-----------------|

|                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>LSD Displayed (Resolution)</b> | 0.1Hz to 1MHz (selectable) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|

### Ratio B/A:

Available as both software and hardware ratio

|              |                                                                        |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Range</b> | $\frac{40\text{MHz to } 1.3\text{GHz}}{10\text{Hz to } 100\text{MHz}}$ |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                     |                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>LSD Software</b> | $(\text{Ratio} \times F_B \times 10^{-(D=B)})$<br>D = No. of digits, $F_B$ = Input B frequency rounded to next decade |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>LSD Hardware</b> | 6-9 digits $\frac{640 \times \text{Ratio}}{F_A \times \text{Gate Time}}$<br>3-5 digits As above or $\text{Ratio} \times 10^{(4-D)}$ whichever is the greater (D = No. of digits) |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                   |                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Resolution</b> | $\pm \text{LSD} \pm \left[ \frac{1.4 \times \text{A Trig Error}}{\text{Gate Time}} \right] \times \text{Ratio}$ |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

$$\text{Trigger Error} = \frac{[E_i^2 + E_n^2]^{1/2}}{\text{Slew rate at Trigger Point}}$$

$E_i$  = Input noise in 100MHz BW  
 $E_n$  = Input amplifier noise

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Accuracy</b> | $\pm \text{Resolution}$ |
|-----------------|-------------------------|

### Ratio C/A, C/B:

Available as software ratio only

|                  |                                                                        |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Range C/A</b> | $\frac{500\text{MHz to } 20\text{GHz}}{10\text{Hz to } 100\text{MHz}}$ |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                  |                                                                         |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Range C/B</b> | $\frac{500\text{MHz to } 20\text{GHz}}{40\text{MHz to } 1.3\text{GHz}}$ |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|            |                                                                                                                                       |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>LSD</b> | $(\text{Ratio} \times F_C \times 10^{-(D+B)})$<br>D = No. of digits selected<br>$F_C$ = Frequency into input C rounded to next decade |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                   |                            |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Resolution</b> | 0.1Hz to 1MHz (selectable) |
|-------------------|----------------------------|

|                       |                                                                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Accuracy (C/A)</b> | $\pm \frac{(\text{accuracy of } F_C)}{F_C} \pm \frac{\text{accuracy of } F_A}{F_A}$ |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                       |                                                                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Accuracy (C/B)</b> | $\pm \frac{(\text{accuracy of } F_C)}{F_C} \pm \frac{\text{accuracy of } F_B}{F_B}$ |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                 |                                                                                                                                               |                                      |                                                         |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Math:</b>    |                                                                                                                                               | <b>Standard Output:</b>              |                                                         |
| <b>Multiply</b> | Used to multiply readings by the factor held in the Multiply store (user defined number)                                                      | <b>Frequency</b>                     | 10MHz                                                   |
| <b>Offset</b>   | Used to automatically offset readings by the factor held in the offset store. The factor may be the current reading or a user defined number. | <b>Level</b>                         | TTL compatible giving approximately 1V p-p into 50 ohms |
| <b>Smooth</b>   | Selects a running average function in order to display the optimum resolution relevant to the stability of the input signal                   | <b>Impedance</b>                     | 90 ohms nominal                                         |
|                 |                                                                                                                                               | <b>Maximum reverse applied input</b> | ± 15V with no permanent damage                          |

## TIMEBASE SPECIFICATIONS

### Internal Standard: (TCXO)

|                         |                                                                |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Frequency</b>        | 10MHz                                                          |
| <b>Adjustment Range</b> | ± 5ppm min.(multiple turn trimmer)                             |
| <b>Aging</b>            | 1ppm/year                                                      |
| <b>Temp. Stability</b>  | ± 1ppm max. with respect to frequency at 25°C from 0°C to 40°C |

### External Standard Input:

|                        |                                                                                 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Frequency</b>       | 10MHz                                                                           |
| <b>Signal Range</b>    | 100mV rms (sine) to 10Vrms (sine)                                               |
| <b>Damage Level</b>    | 10V rms (sine)                                                                  |
| <b>Input Impedance</b> | 1kohm nominal for signals < 1V pk-pk<br>500 ohm nominal for signals ≥ 10V pk-pk |

**Coupling** AC coupled

### VXIbus "CLK10" Standard

A 10 MHz system clock is sourced from the VXIbus slot 0 controller, distributed on connector P2, differential ECL

**Reference Clock** If an external 10MHz reference is connected via front panel input, it will automatically override the internal TCXO reference. This is the "counter reference"

Interface commands enable selection of reference from "counter reference" or from "CLK10" input available on VXIbus backplane

**Check** 10MHz displayed

## GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

**Gate Times** Automatically determined depending on resolution selected

**Range** 1mSec to 20Sec (10Sec max. for channel C)

**Sample Rate** Rate selectable and the value displayed

### Front Panel:

**Indicators**  
Fail : Red  
Active : Amber  
Gate : Green  
Power : Green

### Input/Output Connectors

A channel input (BNC female)  
B channel input (BNC female)  
C channel input precision connector, PC 3.5 female)  
External standard input (BNC female)  
10MHz standard output (BNC female)  
IF output for Channel C (BNC female)

### Rear Panel Components

VXIbus interface sockets P1 and P2 (96-pin DIN pattern)

### Side Panel Components

Logical address selection switches  
interrupt level selection switch

## Power Requirements:

### Voltage

| Voltage          | Current |
|------------------|---------|
| -2VDC            | 0A      |
| +5VDC            | 840mA   |
| +5V DC (standby) | 0A      |
| -5.2V DC         | 825mA   |
| +12V DC          | 600mA   |
| -12V DC          | 0A      |
| +24V DC          | 172mA   |
| -24V DC          | 0A      |

Power Rating <20W

Operating Temp.  
Range 0°C to 50°C

Storage Temp.  
Range -40°C to +70°C

Safety Designed to meet the requirements  
of IEC 348 and follow the guidelines  
of UL 1244

### Cooling Requirements:

Air Flow 0.43 litres/sec  
Differential Pressure 0.3mm H<sub>2</sub>O

This is the recommended working point to give a 10°C  
maximum rise in temperature for both 2051 and 2151.

## VXIbus SPECIFICATIONS

**Device type** VXIbus message based instrument

**Compatibility** Fully compatible with VXIbus  
System Specification Revision 1.2  
for message based instruments

**Protocol** Word Serial, IEEE-STD-488.2

**Output** Engineering format, 12 digits  
and exponent

**Module** C-size, 2 slot wide  
262mm (H) x 60.7mm (W)  
x 355mm (D)  
Weight 3.0 kg maximum

**Logical Address** Switch selectable 1 to 254

**Interrupt Levels** Switch selectable 1 to 7

1-4

## OPTIONS

### Option 11 Power Limiter

Internally fitted to increase Input C protection

**Max. CW Power** 36dBm (4W) to 18GHz  
decreasing to 34dBm (2W) at  
20GHz

**Insertion Loss** 3 to 4dB depending on frequency

### Ordering Information

|      |                                |
|------|--------------------------------|
| 2151 | 20GHz VXIbus Microwave Counter |
|------|--------------------------------|

## OPTIONS

|    |                             |         |
|----|-----------------------------|---------|
| 11 | Input Power Limiter         | 11-9011 |
| 69 | 1.3GHz Fuse (pkt 5)         | 11-1718 |
| 93 | High Impedance 100MHz probe | 23-9104 |

## SUPPLIED ACCESSORIES

Operators Manual

Spare Channel B (1.3GHz) Fuse

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## **MODEL 2051**

### **Technical Specifications**

#### **INPUTS**

##### **Input A:**

See 2151 Specifications

##### **Input B:**

|                        |                                                                     |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Range</b>           | 40MHz to 2.6GHz                                                     |
| <b>Sensitivity</b>     | Better than 10mV<br>80MHz to 2.6GHz                                 |
| <b>Operating Range</b> | 10mV to 4V rms                                                      |
| <b>Damage Overload</b> | +33dBm 10mV rms                                                     |
| <b>AM Tolerance</b>    | ≥90% (for trough > minimum<br>pk-pk sensitivity)<br>(80MHz to 1GHz) |

#### **Power Requirements:**

##### **Voltage**

| <b>Voltage</b>   | <b>Current</b> |
|------------------|----------------|
| -2VDC            | 0A             |
| +5VDC            | 840mA          |
| +5V DC (standby) | 0A             |
| -5.2V DC         | 735mA          |
| +12V DC          | 190mA          |
| -12V DC          | 0A             |
| +24V DC          | 0A             |
| -24V DC          | 0A             |

**Power Rating** ≤11W

**Module** C-size, 1 slot wide  
262mm (H) x 30-18mm (W)  
x 355mm (D)  
Weight 2.2 kg maximum

All other specifications - see 2151 specifications.

#### **Ordering Information**

|             |                                        |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>2051</b> | <b>2.6GHz VXIbus Frequency Counter</b> |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|

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AL01/Iss.01/03.94

**INTRODUCTION**

- 1 The Racal Instruments VXIbus microwave counter, Model 2151, is a microprocessor-controlled instrument offering high-accuracy measurements with a comprehensive range of facilities. These facilities include Automatic/Manual Operation, Tracking, Offset, Multiply, and Store and Recall. All the instrument's functions are controlled remotely via the VXI interface.
- 2 The Racal Instruments VXIbus UHF counter, Model 2051, offers high accuracy measurement over a reduced frequency range, with a similar range of facilities to those provided on the Model 2151.

**MEASUREMENT FUNCTIONS****Frequency A Function**

- 3 The Frequency A Function is used to measure the frequency of the signal applied to INPUT A. A resolution of up to ten digits can be selected with a gate time of 1 millisecond to 20 seconds depending on the resolution selected.

**Frequency B Function**

- 4 The Frequency B Function is used to measure the frequency of the signal applied to INPUT B. A resolution of up to ten digits can be selected with a gate time of 1 millisecond to 20 seconds depending on the resolution selected.

**Frequency C Function (2151 only)**

- 5 The Frequency C Function is used to measure the frequency of the signal applied to INPUT C. A resolution of 0.1 Hz to 1 MHz can be selected with a gate time of 1 millisecond to 10 seconds depending on the resolution selected and frequency being sampled.

**Ratio C/B Function (2151 only)**

- 6 The Ratio C/B Function is used to measure the ratio of the frequency applied to INPUT C to that applied to INPUT B.

**Ratio C/A Function (2151 only)**

- 7 The Ratio C/A Function is used to measure the ratio of the frequency applied to INPUT C to that applied to INPUT A.

**Ratio B/A Function**

- 8 The Ratio B/A Function is used to measure the ratio of the frequency applied to INPUT B to that applied to INPUT A.

## CHECK FUNCTION

- 9      The check function measures the internal standard frequency to confirm counter operation. With the CHECK function selected a number of functional tests of the instrument's circuits can be made without the use of additional test equipment (Special Functions 71 to 75). Although these tests do not check the instrument's performance to its published specification, they can be used to verify that the instrument is operating correctly.

## SIGNAL INPUT CHANNELS

- 10     Signal input channels A, B and C are fully independent.

The main characteristics of INPUT A are as follows:

- (1)    Frequency range of 10 Hz to 100 MHz;
- (2)    BNC input connector;
- (3)    Input impedance of 1 MegOhm;
- (4)    Damage overload of 260 V (DC & AC r.m.s.) to 2 kHz, reducing to 10 V r.m.s. at 50 kHz and above.
- (5)    50 kHz Low Pass Filter (selectable).
- (6)    x20 Attenuator (selectable).

- 11     The main characteristics of INPUT B are as follows:

- (1)    Frequency range of 40 MHz to 1.3 GHz (2151) or 80 MHz to 2.6 GHz (2051);
- (2)    BNC input connector (Fused) (2151 only);
- (3)    Input impedance of 50 Ohms;
- (4)    Damage overload of +29 dBm protected by the fuse inside the input connector (2151 only).
- (5)    Overload trip level of 4.8 V r.m.s. (2051 only)

- 12     The main characteristics of INPUT C (2151 only) are as follows:

- (1)    Frequency range of 500 MHz to 20 GHz;
- (2)    Input connector - Type APC 3.5;
- (3)    Input impedance of 50 Ohms;
- (4)    Damage overload of +25 dBm peak.

## **ADDITIONAL FREQ C ACQUISITION MODES (2151 ONLY)**

- 13
- (1) **MANUAL** - This function is used to override the automatic acquisition cycle of FREQ C. It enables the user to enter manually a center frequency and achieve the fastest possible read rates.
  - (2) **LOW FM** - When enabled this function selects an extended acquisition time to enable frequency readings of signals with low modulation rates. This function is used only during FREQ C measurements.
  - (3) **TRACK** - When enabled this function selects the fastest possible auto-acquisition cycle to enable swept-frequency readings. This function is used only during FREQ C measurements.

## **MATHS FUNCTIONS**

- 14
- (1) **MULT** - When activated this function scales readings by the factor stored in the 'MULT' store.
  - (2) **OFFSET** - When activated this function displays the difference between the measured value and the number held in the 'OFFSET' store.
  - (3) **SMOOTH** - This is a Special Function (SF 21). Selecting SMOOTH causes the counter to take a running average of the input frequency.

## **SPECIAL FUNCTIONS**

- 15
- This function preselects special functions and enables them.

## **STORE/RECALL FUNCTIONS**

- 16
- (1) **STORE** - This function enables the operator to store data in specific stores.
  - (2) **RECALL** - This function enables the operator to recall the contents of specific stores.

## **SAMPLE RATE**

- 17
- SAMPLE** - This function is continuously enabled and controls the sample rate.

## ERROR INDICATION

- 18 Certain errors in the operation of the instrument will result in the generation of error codes.

## HOLD FEATURE

- 19 The Hold feature allows readings to be held indefinitely. A new measurement cycle is initiated using the MEAS?, \*TRG or word serial TRIGGER.

## RESOLUTION AND GATE TIME

- 20 The gate time is determined by the resolution selected. Details of the relationship between gate time and resolution for each measurement mode are given in Section 4 of this manual.

## EXTERNAL FREQUENCY STANDARD INPUT

- 21 The instrument normally uses the internal frequency standard but may be operated using an external frequency standard. The instrument will operate from the external standard, in preference to the internal standard (TCXO), whenever the signal at the EXT. STD. INPUT socket is of sufficient amplitude. It will revert to operation from the internal standard automatically if the input from the external standard is removed. Selection of the CLK10 frequency standard overrides the internal or external frequency standard, this is supplied to the instrument via a rear edge connector (P2) and is software selectable.

## INITIALIZATION

- 22 When the instrument is first switched on, or when it is initialized under program control, it will perform the following:
- (1) A software and hardware check. Error messages will be generated if a fault is found.
  - (2) The instrument will then set itself to the following state:

|     | <u>FUNCTION</u>  | <u>STATE</u>                            |
|-----|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| (a) | MEASUREMENT MODE | FREQ C (2151),<br>FREQ B (2051)         |
| (b) | RESOLUTION       | 1 Hz (2151),<br>9 digits (2051)         |
| (c) | MANUAL           | OFF (Store value: 1 GHz)<br>(2151 only) |

|     |                     |                                                       |
|-----|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| (d) | SF                  | OFF (Store value: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90) |
| (e) | MULT                | OFF (Store value: 1)                                  |
| (f) | OFFSET              | OFF (Store value: 0)                                  |
| (g) | SAMPLE RATE         | OPTIMUM (Store value: 0)                              |
| (h) | LOW FM              | OFF (2151 only)                                       |
| (j) | TRACK               | OFF (2151 only)                                       |
| (k) | HOLD                | OFF (2151 only)                                       |
| (l) | LO Store (for SF41) | 340 MHz (2151 only)                                   |
| (m) | HN Store (for SF41) | -37 (2151 only)                                       |
| (n) | DUMP Mode           | OFF                                                   |

#### VXI INTERFACE

- 23 All the instruments functions are controlled via the VXI. The VXI may interface the instrument to different control media including GPIB, RS232 and Ethernet.

### UNPACKING

- 1      Unpack the instrument carefully to avoid unnecessary damage to the factory packing. If it becomes necessary to return the instrument to Racal Instruments for calibration or repair, the original packaging should be used. If this is not possible, a strong shipping container should be used. Ensure that sufficient internal packing is used to prevent movement of the instrument within the container during transit.
- 2      The MBA link (LK3) is normally set for operation on VXI Revision 1.3 (i.e. link open). Reposition link (i.e. link closed) for operation on VXI Revision 1.2.

### SETTING THE LOGICAL ADDRESS AND INTERRUPT PRIORITY SWITCHES

- 3      Set the Logical address in the range 1 to 254 (decimal) by setting the two switches to the hexadecimal equivalent. To set the switches use a small flat bladed screwdriver. See TABLE 3.1 for the decimal to hexadecimal conversion.
- 4      Set the Interrupt Priority in the range 1 to 7 by setting the switch to the required number, use a small flat bladed screwdriver. Do not attempt to set this switch to positions 8, 9 and 0.

### INSTALLATION

- 5      After setting the Logical Address and Interrupt Priority Switches, install the instrument in the chassis. Insert the instrument in its slot, ensuring that it is correctly located in the runners, and push it gently into the chassis until the instrument plugs (P1 and P2) connect with their respective sockets at the rear of the chassis. Lock the instrument in the chassis by tightening the locking screws at the top and bottom of the instrument front panel. Ensure that the IACK daisy chain jumpers or switches are open for the appropriate slot (see chassis instructions).

#### Connection to the VXI

- 6      Connection to the VXI is made via two 96 pin connectors (P1 and P2) mounted on the rear edge of the instrument board. The pin assignments are given in TABLE 3.2 and TABLE 3.3.

### FREQUENCY STANDARD

- 7      Three frequency standards are available for use, these are the instruments own internal frequency standard, a 10 MHz standard connected to the EXT. STD connector or the CLK10 standard. The CLK10 standard is selected under program control. The connection for the external standard should be made using coaxial cable. Switch on the frequency standard and the instrument.

**TABLE 3.1**  
**Decimal to Hexadecimal Conversion**

| Dec. Hex. | Dec. Hex. | Dec. Hex. | Dec. Hex. | Dec. Hex. | Dec. Hex. |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 01      | 44 2C     | 87 57     | 130 82    | 173 AD    | 216 D8    |
| 2 02      | 45 2D     | 88 58     | 131 83    | 174 AE    | 217 D9    |
| 3 03      | 46 2E     | 89 59     | 132 84    | 175 AF    | 218 DA    |
| 4 04      | 47 2F     | 90 5A     | 133 85    | 176 B0    | 219 DB    |
| 5 05      | 48 30     | 91 5B     | 134 86    | 177 B1    | 220 DC    |
| 6 06      | 49 31     | 92 5C     | 135 87    | 178 B2    | 221 DD    |
| 7 07      | 50 32     | 93 5D     | 136 88    | 179 B3    | 222 DE    |
| 8 08      | 51 33     | 94 5E     | 137 89    | 180 B4    | 223 DF    |
| 9 09      | 52 34     | 95 5F     | 138 8A    | 181 B5    | 224 E0    |
| 10 0A     | 53 35     | 96 60     | 139 8B    | 182 B6    | 225 E1    |
| 11 0B     | 54 36     | 97 61     | 140 8C    | 183 B7    | 226 E2    |
| 12 0C     | 55 37     | 98 62     | 141 8D    | 184 B8    | 227 E3    |
| 13 0D     | 56 38     | 99 63     | 142 8E    | 185 B9    | 228 E4    |
| 14 0E     | 57 39     | 100 64    | 143 8F    | 186 BA    | 229 E5    |
| 15 0F     | 58 3A     | 101 65    | 144 90    | 187 BB    | 230 E6    |
| 16 10     | 59 3B     | 102 66    | 145 91    | 188 BC    | 231 E7    |
| 17 11     | 60 3C     | 103 67    | 146 92    | 189 BD    | 232 E8    |
| 18 12     | 61 3D     | 104 68    | 147 93    | 190 BE    | 233 E9    |
| 19 13     | 62 3E     | 105 69    | 148 94    | 191 BF    | 234 EA    |
| 20 14     | 63 3F     | 106 6A    | 149 95    | 192 C0    | 235 EB    |
| 21 15     | 64 40     | 107 6B    | 150 96    | 193 C1    | 236 EC    |
| 22 16     | 65 41     | 108 6C    | 151 97    | 194 C2    | 237 ED    |
| 23 17     | 66 42     | 109 6D    | 152 98    | 195 C3    | 238 EE    |
| 24 18     | 67 43     | 110 6E    | 153 99    | 196 C4    | 239 EF    |
| 25 19     | 68 44     | 111 6F    | 154 9A    | 197 C5    | 240 F0    |
| 26 1A     | 69 45     | 112 70    | 155 9B    | 198 C6    | 241 F1    |
| 27 1B     | 70 46     | 113 71    | 156 9C    | 199 C7    | 242 F2    |
| 28 1C     | 71 47     | 114 72    | 157 9D    | 200 C8    | 243 F3    |
| 29 1D     | 72 48     | 115 73    | 158 9E    | 201 C9    | 244 F4    |
| 30 1E     | 73 49     | 116 74    | 159 9F    | 202 CA    | 245 F5    |
| 31 1F     | 74 4A     | 117 75    | 160 A0    | 203 CB    | 246 F6    |
| 32 20     | 75 4B     | 118 76    | 161 A1    | 204 CC    | 247 F7    |
| 33 21     | 76 4C     | 119 77    | 162 A2    | 205 CD    | 248 F8    |
| 34 22     | 77 4D     | 120 78    | 163 A3    | 206 CE    | 249 F9    |
| 35 23     | 78 4E     | 121 79    | 164 A4    | 207 CF    | 250 FA    |
| 36 24     | 79 4F     | 122 7A    | 165 A5    | 208 D0    | 251 FB    |
| 37 25     | 80 50     | 123 7B    | 166 A6    | 209 D1    | 252 FC    |
| 38 26     | 81 51     | 124 7C    | 167 A7    | 210 D2    | 253 FD    |
| 39 27     | 82 52     | 125 7D    | 168 A8    | 211 D3    | 254 FE    |
| 40 28     | 83 53     | 126 7E    | 169 A9    | 212 D4    |           |
| 41 29     | 84 54     | 127 7F    | 170 AA    | 213 D5    |           |
| 42 2A     | 85 55     | 128 80    | 171 AB    | 214 D6    |           |
| 43 2B     | 86 56     | 129 81    | 172 AC    | 215 D7    |           |

A 10 MHz signal, derived from the standard in use, is available at the 10 MHz STD OUTPUT connector on the front panel of the instrument. If this signal is used, the connection should be made using coaxial cable.

TABLE 3.2

## P1 VXI Connector Pin Assignment

| Pin | Row A<br>Signal<br>Mnemonic | Row B<br>Signal<br>Mnemonic | Row C<br>Signal<br>Mnemonic |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1   | D00                         | BBSY*                       | D08                         |
| 2   | D01                         | BCLR*                       | D09                         |
| 3   | D02                         | ACFAIL*                     | D10                         |
| 4   | D03                         | BG0IN*                      | D11                         |
| 5   | D04                         | BG0OUT*                     | D12                         |
| 6   | D05                         | BG1IN*                      | D13                         |
| 7   | D06                         | BG1OUT*                     | D14                         |
| 8   | D07                         | BG2IN*                      | D15                         |
| 9   | GND                         | BG2OUT*                     | GND                         |
| 10  | SYSCLK                      | BG3IN*                      | SYSFAIL*                    |
| 11  | GND                         | BG3OUT*                     | BERR*                       |
| 12  | DS1*                        | BR0*                        | SYSRESET*                   |
| 13  | DS0*                        | BR1*                        | LWORD*                      |
| 14  | WRITE*                      | BR2*                        | AM5                         |
| 15  | GND                         | BR3*                        | A23                         |
| 16  | DTACK*                      | AM0                         | A22                         |
| 17  | GND                         | AM1                         | A21                         |
| 18  | AS*                         | AM2                         | A20                         |
| 19  | GND                         | AM3                         | A19                         |
| 20  | IACK*                       | GND                         | A18                         |
| 21  | IACKIN*                     | SERCLK                      | A17                         |
| 22  | IACKOUT*                    | SERDAT*                     | A16                         |
| 23  | AM4                         | GND                         | A15                         |
| 24  | A07                         | IRQ7*                       | A14                         |
| 25  | A06                         | IRQ6*                       | A13                         |
| 26  | A05                         | IRQ5*                       | A12                         |
| 27  | A04                         | IRQ4*                       | A11                         |
| 28  | A03                         | IRQ3*                       | A10                         |
| 29  | A02                         | IRQ2*                       | A09                         |
| 30  | A01                         | IRQ1*                       | A08                         |
| 31  | -12V                        | +5V STBY                    | +12V                        |
| 32  | +5V                         | +5V                         | +5V                         |

TABLE 3.3

## P2 VXI Connector Pin Assignment

| Pin | Row A<br>Signal<br>Mnemonic | Row B<br>Signal<br>Mnemonic | Row C<br>Signal<br>Mnemonic |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1   | ECLTRG0                     | +5V                         | CLK10+                      |
| 2   | -2V                         | GND                         | CLK10-                      |
| 3   | ECLTRG1                     | RSV1                        | GND                         |
| 4   | GND                         | A24                         | -5.2V                       |
| 5   | LBUSA00                     | A25                         | LBUSC00                     |
| 6   | LBUSA01                     | A26                         | LBUSC01                     |
| 7   | -5.2V                       | A27                         | GND                         |
| 8   | LBUSA02                     | A28                         | LBUSC02                     |
| 9   | LBUSA03                     | A29                         | LBUSC03                     |
| 10  | GND                         | A30                         | GND                         |
| 11  | LBUSA04                     | A31                         | LBUSC04                     |
| 12  | LBUSA05                     | GND                         | LBUSC05                     |
| 13  | -5.2V                       | +5V                         | -2V                         |
| 14  | LBUSA06                     | D16                         | LBUSC06                     |
| 15  | LBUSA07                     | D17                         | LBUSC07                     |
| 16  | GND                         | D18                         | GND                         |
| 17  | LBUSA08                     | D19                         | LBUSC08                     |
| 18  | LBUSA09                     | D20                         | LBUSC09                     |
| 19  | -5.2V                       | D21                         | -5.2V                       |
| 20  | LBUSA10                     | D22                         | LBUSC10                     |
| 21  | LBUSA11                     | D23                         | LBUSC11                     |
| 22  | GND                         | GND                         | GND                         |
| 23  | TTLTRG0*                    | D24                         | TTLTRG1*                    |
| 24  | TTLTRG2*                    | D25                         | TTLTRG2*                    |
| 25  | +5V                         | D26                         | GND                         |
| 26  | TTLTRG4*                    | D27                         | TTLTRG5*                    |
| 27  | TTLTRG6*                    | D28                         | TTLTRG7*                    |
| 28  | GND                         | D29                         | GND                         |
| 29  | RSV2                        | D30                         | RSV3                        |
| 30  | MODID                       | D31                         | GND                         |
| 31  | GND                         | GND                         | +24V                        |
| 32  | SUMBUS                      | +5V                         | -24V                        |

## FUNCTIONAL CHECK

- 9 The functional check tests the operation of many of the instrument's circuits to establish whether the instrument is functioning correctly. The procedure should be followed when the instrument is first taken into use, and after transportation to a new location. It does not check that the instrument is operating to the published specification. Detailed specification tests are given in the Maintenance Manual. Switch the instrument on, it will then set itself to the initialized state.

### VXI Check

- 10 The procedure which follows checks the ability of the instrument to accept, process and send IEEE 488.2 messages via the VXI.
- 11 Connect the controller to the VXI interface via its communication medium (e.g. GPIB, RS232, Ethernet etc.). It is assumed that the logical address of the instrument is 02 (to change the instrument address see "SETTING THE LOGICAL ADDRESS AND INTERRUPT PRIORITY SWITCHES"). See your VXI Interface Device manual for details on how the 2151/2051's logical address is mapped to an external address, (it is assumed in the following instructions that the logical address is mapped directly to the external address). The interrupt switch should be set to a corresponding interrupt handler within the interface device.
- 12 Successful completion of the VXI check proves that the instrument's VXI interface is operating correctly and the instrument is responding. The procedure does not check that all the device-dependent commands can be executed. However, if the VXI interface works correctly and the instrument operates correctly, there is a high probability that it will respond to all device-dependent commands.

### CHECK Message Check

- 13 Switch the instrument and the controller ON. The red FAILED indicator will light for approximately two to three seconds and then go off after the instrument has finished its self-test. If the indicator does not light, or it remains on, there is a fault on the VXI board. The amber ACTIVE indicator should flash when the SLOT 0 controller configures the system (after five seconds) and then remain off. If the indicator does not flash, or if it flashes continuously, there is a fault on the VXI board.

## Data Output Check

14 Test as follows:

| Action                                                                       | Controller Code |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Set the instrument to the check mode.                                        | "CHECK"         |
| Request a measurement to be taken and the result placed in the output queue. | "MEAS?"         |

Read back the result and check that the controller displays CK+00010.00000000E+06 with the cursor moved to the next line, indicating that the line feed (LF) and last byte identifier have been accepted.

## SRQ and Status Byte Check

NOTE: This check requires that the Interrupt Priority switch be set to a value coincident with an interrupt handler in the interface device (refer to the VXIbus System Specification for details on Interrupt Priority).

15 Test as follows:

| Action                                                                                            | Controller Code   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Set the instrument to generate an interrupt on receipt of a command error.                        | "*ESE 32;*SRE 32" |
| Force the generation of a command error by sending the non-existent device-dependent command XXX. | "XXX"             |

### Input Channel Function Checks

- 16 Check each input in turn (A, B and C) by connecting a known frequency (within the band of each input) to the channel under test and checking the reading using the MEAS? command.
- 17 Test as follows:

| Action                                                                                       | Controller Code |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Set the instrument to the required channel and resolution, and request a measurement result. | "FRQA 10;MEAS?" |

Read back the result and check that the result displayed on the controller is that of the signal frequency connected to the channel under test. Carry out the check on the other two channels.

**INTRODUCTION**

- 1 The instrument must be prepared for use and the functional check done in accordance with the instructions given in Section 3.

**DESCRIPTION OF FRONT PANEL CONNECTORS AND INDICATORS**

2

| Reference | Item                      | Description                                                                                                                     |
|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1         | POWER Indicator (Green)   | Lights when the instrument is switched on.                                                                                      |
| 2         | FAILED Indicator (Red)    | Lights to indicate that the instrument has failed its self test.                                                                |
| 3         | ACTIVE Indicator (Amber)  | Lights while data transfer between a VXI commander and the instrument is in progress.                                           |
| 4         | GATE Indicator (Green)    | Lights while a measurement cycle is in progress.                                                                                |
| 5         | EXT. STANDARD INPUT 10MHz | A BNC female connector for connecting a 10 MHz external frequency standard.                                                     |
| 6         | INT STD ADJUST            | This aperture provides access to allow adjustment of the internal frequency standard.                                           |
| 7         | 10 MHz STANDARD OUTPUT    | A BNC female connector providing a 10 MHz signal locked to the frequency standard in use.                                       |
| 8         | INPUT B Connector         | BNC female fused connector for inputs from 40 MHz to 1300 MHz (2151) or Type 'N' female connector for 80 MHz to 2.6 GHz (2051). |

| Reference | Item              | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9         | INPUT A Connector | BNC female connector for inputs from 10 Hz to 100 MHz.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 10        | INPUT C Connector | PC 3.5 female connector for inputs from 0.5 GHz to 20 GHz (2151 only).                                                                                                                                                      |
| 11        | IF OUTPUT         | A BNC female connector providing an I.F. output when making measurements on INPUT C. Output is continuously available in manual operation. In automatic operation the output is available during the gate time (2151 only). |

## DESCRIPTION OF SIDE PANEL SETTING CONTROLS

3

| Reference | Item                    | Description                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1         | Logical Address Control | Two 16-position hexadecimal rotary switches. Sets the Logical address of the instrument, the available addresses are 1-254 (Hexadecimal 01 to FE). |
| 2         | Interrupt Level Control | Ten-position rotary switch. Sets the Interrupt Level, levels are 1 to 7. Do not set this switch to positions 8, 9 and 0.                           |

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## INITIAL SWITCH-ON

- 4 Switch on the controller and other devices, including the 2151, and proceed with the functional check as described in Section 3 if this has not been done already.

NOTE: References within the operating instructions, i.e. (Ref. A1) or (Ref. B1), refer to command descriptions in TABLE 4.13a to TABLE 4.13d or TABLE 4.14a to TABLE 4.14k, in this section of the manual.

## FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT - INPUT A

- 5 (1) Select Input A using the command "FRQA x", (Ref. B1).

NOTE: "x" is a number entered, in the range 3 to 10, to set the reading resolution. Gate time is related to the resolution selected. If omitted the previously set resolution will be used.

- (2) If a frequency below 50 kHz is to be measured in the presence of HF noise, select the low-pass input filter using the command "FILTA ON". The command "FILTA OFF" switches the filter off, (Ref. B9).

### CAUTION: SIGNAL LEVEL

ENSURE THAT THE INPUT SIGNAL LEVEL DOES NOT EXCEED THE DAMAGE LEVELS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1 OF THIS MANUAL.

- (3) If the x20 Attenuator is required, use the command "ATTENA ON". The command "ATTENA OFF" switches the attenuator off, (Ref. B8).
- (4) Connect the signal to be measured to INPUT A.
- (5) If HOLD mode operation is required, use the command "HOLD ON", (Ref. B11). To take a measurement, use the "MEAS?" or "\*TRG" (Ref. A14) command.
- (a) "MEAS?" (Ref. B12) automatically places the result in the instrument's output queue ready for reading.
- (b) If "\*TRG" (Ref. A14) is used, then send "DISP?" (Ref. B13) to place the reading in the output queue.

## FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT - INPUT B

- 6 (1) Select Input B using the command "FRQB x", (Ref. B2).

NOTE: "x" is a number entered, between 3 and 10, to set the reading resolution. Gate time is related to the resolution selected. If omitted the previously set resolution will be used.

### CAUTION: SIGNAL LEVEL

ENSURE THAT THE INPUT SIGNAL LEVEL DOES NOT EXCEED THE DAMAGE LEVELS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1 OF THIS MANUAL.

NOTE: INPUT B is fused, see SECTION 1 of this manual.

- (2) Connect the signal to be measured to INPUT B.
- (3) If HOLD mode operation is required, use the command "HOLD ON", (Ref. B11). To take a measurement, use the "MEAS?" or "\*TRG" command.
- (a) "MEAS?" (Ref. B12) automatically places the result in the instrument's output queue.
- (b) If "\*TRG" (Ref. A14) is used, then send "DISP?" (Ref. B13) to place the reading in the output queue.
- (4) To return to continuous measurement mode send "HOLD OFF".

## FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT - INPUT C (2151 ONLY)

### Normal Automatic Mode

- 7 (1) Select Input C using the command "FRQC x", (Ref. B3).

NOTE: "x" is a number entered, see Technical Specification or Ref. B3, to set the reading resolution. Gate time is related to the resolution selected and the input frequency. If omitted the previously set resolution will be used.

### CAUTION: SIGNAL LEVEL

ENSURE THAT THE INPUT SIGNAL LEVEL DOES NOT EXCEED THE DAMAGE LEVELS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1 OF THIS MANUAL.

- (2) Connect the signal to be measured to INPUT C.
- (3) If HOLD mode operation is required, use the command "HOLD ON", (Ref. B11). To take a measurement, use the "MEAS?" or "\*TRG" command.
- (a) "MEAS?" (Ref. B12) automatically places the result in the instrument's output queue.

- (b) If "\*"TRG" (Ref. A14) is used, then send "DISP?" (Ref. B13) to place the reading in the output queue.
- (4) To return to continuous measurement mode send "HOLD OFF".

### **Manual Mode**

- 8 In this mode the measured frequency, or a keyboard entered frequency value, is entered into the MANUAL Store, then MANUAL Mode is then selected, (Ref. B14).
  - (1) To store a center frequency (the example shows 19 GHz), send the command string "MAN 19E9".
  - (2) To store the frequency measurement, send the command string "MAN DISP".
  - (3) If Manual Mode was previously selected the new entered value of frequency is used immediately, otherwise, to enable Manual Mode send "MAN ON". The command "MAN OFF" switches the Manual Mode off, setting the instrument to normal automatic mode.

### **Further Functions in FREQ C (Automatic Mode Only)**

- 9 In FREQ C, normal AUTOMATIC Mode, two more functions are available, these are LOW FM and TRACK.

#### **NOTE 1:**

These functions are not available in MANUAL Mode.

#### **NOTE 2:**

LOW FM and TRACK functions are mutually exclusive; only one of the functions being available at a time.

- 10 Selection of one function (e.g. TRACK), whilst the other function (LOW FM) is in use, will switch off the previously used function (LOW FM). Switching off the last used function (TRACK) will then return the instrument to AUTOMATIC Mode, NOT the previously used function.

### **Set LOW FM (FREQ C)**

- 11 This function utilizes longer gate times to accommodate signals with low modulation rates, (Ref. B15).
- 12 To use this function proceed as follows:
  - (1) Proceed as described in 'FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT - INPUT C'.
  - (2) Send the command "LOWFM ON".
  - (3) To exit this function send "LOWFM OFF".

### **Set TRACK (FREQ C)**

13 This function enables the instrument to measure swept frequencies, (Ref. B16).

14 To use this function proceed as follows:

- (1) Proceed as described in 'FREQUENCY MEASUREMENT - INPUT C'.
- (2) Send the command "TRACK ON".
- (3) To exit this function send "TRACK OFF".

### **RATIO MEASUREMENTS C/B (2151 ONLY), C/A (2151 ONLY) AND B/A**

15 These three Ratio Modes use a 'software' ratio method, whereby the denominator is sampled first, followed by the numerator. The microprocessor in the instrument then computes the ratio.

16 For certain specific applications a 'hardware' version of RATIO B/A is available by enabling Special Function 91. This allows 'real time' ratio measurements to be made.

- (1) To select the relevant RATIO function, send the command "RACB x" (Ref. B7), "RACA x" (Ref. B6) or "RABA x" (Ref. B5).

NOTE: "x" is a number entered, in the range 3 to 10, to set the reading resolution. Gate time is related to the resolution selected. If omitted the previously set resolution will be used.

- (2) If INPUT A is being used:

- (a) For a frequency below 50 kHz in the presence of HF noise, select the Low-Pass Input Filter ("FILTA ON"), (Ref. B9).

- (b) If required select the Attenuator ("ATTENA ON"), (Ref. B8).

#### **CAUTION: SIGNAL LEVEL**

ENSURE THAT THE INPUT SIGNAL LEVEL DOES NOT EXCEED THE DAMAGE LEVELS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1 OF THIS MANUAL.

NOTE: INPUT B is fused, see SECTION 1 of this manual.

- (3) If HOLD mode operation is required, use the command "HOLD ON", (Ref. B11). To take a measurement, use the "MEAS?" or "\*TRG" command.

- (a) "MEAS?" (Ref. B12) automatically enters the result in the instrument's output queue.

- (b) If "\*TRG" (Ref. A14) is used, then send "DISP?" (Ref. B13) to enter the reading in the output queue

- (4) To return to continuous measurement mode send "HOLD OFF".

## MEASUREMENT SAMPLE RATE

- 17 On initial switch-on the instrument will sample signals at the optimum rate. However, the user can slow the sample rate down using the SAMPLE function, (Ref. B19). This sets the 'dead time' between readings and hence controls the sample rate.

### Setting and Using the Sample Rate

- 18 To alter the sample rate, send the command "SAMPLE x", (Ref. B19). This enters the sample rate into the SAMPLE register and is used immediately.

NOTE: "x" is a number entered to set the maximum sample rate. If zero is entered, the counter will run at maximum speed compatible with the system set-up.

### Interrogating the Sample Rate

- 19 To display the sample rate at the controller, send the command string "SAMPLE?", (Ref. B26).

## MULT FUNCTION

- 20 This function is used to display (at the controller) the input signal multiplied by the number held in the MULT (Multiply) register, (Ref. B18). This function can be used, for instance, to display the true frequency reading of a signal source that has been divided or multiplied before being sampled by the instrument.

### Setting the Multiplier

- 21 To store a multiplier for later use, send the command "MULT x", (Ref. B18).

NOTE: "x" is a number entered to set the multiplier.

### Enabling the Multiplier

- 22 To enable the stored multiplier, send the command "MULT ON", (Ref. B18).

- 23 To disable the MULT function send "MULT OFF".

### Interrogating the Multiplier

- 24 If necessary the stored multiplier can be displayed at the controller by sending the command "MULT?", (Ref. B25).

## OFFSET FUNCTION

- 25 This function can be used to add or subtract a value to the measured frequency, (Ref. B17). It is also used to subtract the displayed frequency (nulling) to view drift or offset. For example: measuring the IF of a radio receiver, after entering the receiver local oscillator frequency as a positive offset, enables the true input frequency to be displayed.

### Setting the Offset

- 26 If enabled, the offset frequency entered is normally subtracted from the measured signal frequency.
- (1) To store the offset frequency, send the command string (this example shows 10.5 MHz), "OFFSET +/-10.5E6", (Ref. B17). This enters the offset frequency into the OFFSET register.
  - (2) To store the measured frequency as an offset, send the command string "OFFSET DISP", (Ref. B17).

### Enabling the Offset

- 27 To enable the stored offset, send the command string "OFFSET ON". The OFFSET function is disabled by sending "OFFSET OFF", (Ref. B17).

### Interrogating the Offset

- 28 If necessary the stored offset can be displayed at the controller by sending the command "OFFSET?", (Ref. B24).

## SMOOTH FUNCTION

- 29 Selecting SMOOTH enables the instrument to take a 'running average' of the input frequency and display at the controller those digits that are stable. Place holding zeros are inserted in place of unstable digits.
- 30 To enable the SMOOTH function send the command "SF 21,ON". The function is disabled by sending "SF 20".

## CLK10 FREQUENCY STANDARD

- 31 The CLK10 Frequency Standard can be selected in preference to the external standard, or the instruments own internal standard (whichever standard is in use at the time).
- 32 To select CLK10 send the command "CLK10 ON". Sending "CLK10 OFF" reverts the system to the original frequency standard by switching the CLK10 standard off, (Ref. B10).

## GATE TIME

- 33 For INPUTs A and B, Gate Time is related to the resolution selected, as shown in TABLE 4.1a.

**TABLE 4.1a**

**Gate Times for FREQUENCIES A and B**

| Number of digits in<br>FREQ A, FREQ B & CHECK | Gate Time | Resolution Number |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 10                                            | 20 s      | 10                |
| 9                                             | 1 s       | 9                 |
| 8                                             | 100 ms    | 8                 |
| 7                                             | 10 ms     | 7                 |
| 6                                             | 1 ms      | 6                 |
| 5                                             | 1 ms      | 5                 |
| 4                                             | 1 ms      | 4                 |
| 3                                             | 1 ms      | 3                 |

- 34 For INPUT C, Gate Time is related to both the resolution selected and the input frequency, as shown in TABLE 4.1b.

**TABLE 4.1b**

**Gate Times for FREQUENCY C**

| Frequency<br>GHz | 1 Hz   | Resolution |        |       |
|------------------|--------|------------|--------|-------|
|                  |        | 10 Hz      | 100 Hz | 1 kHz |
| 0.5- 1.0         | 100 ms | 10 ms      | 1 ms   | 1 ms  |
| 1.0- 4.0         | 200 ms | 20 ms      | 2 ms   | 1 ms  |
| 4.0- 8.0         | 400 ms | 40 ms      | 4 ms   | 1 ms  |
| 8.0-12.0         | 600 ms | 60 ms      | 6 ms   | 1 ms  |
| 12.0-16.0        | 800 ms | 80 ms      | 8 ms   | 1 ms  |
| 16.0-20.0        | 1 s    | 100 ms     | 10 ms  | 1 ms  |

## SPECIAL FUNCTIONS

35

The special functions provided for use by the operator are listed in TABLE 4.2 Major Special Functions, and TABLE 4.3 Minor Special Functions. The major special functions are those most commonly used by the operator. Each special function is defined by a two-digit number.

**TABLE 4.2**

### Major Special Function

| Function                                    | Code |
|---------------------------------------------|------|
| Cancels Smooth function                     | 20   |
| Selects Smooth function (See NOTE 1)        | 21   |
| Leading (function) letters in O/P string    | 80   |
| No leading (function) letters in O/P string | 81   |
| Cancels group 90 special functions          | 90   |
| Enables hardware ratio B/A                  | 91   |

**TABLE 4.3**

### Minor Special Function

| Function                                                   | Code |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Deselects Channel A filter                                 | 10   |
| Selects Channel A filter                                   | 11   |
| Cancels all group 30 special functions                     | 30   |
| Displays Local Oscillator Value (See NOTE 2)               | 31 * |
| Displays Intermediate Frequency (See NOTE 3)               | 32 * |
| Displays Harmonic Number as an integer (See NOTE 3)        | 33 * |
| Displays Harmonic Number with fractional part (See NOTE 3) | 34 * |
| Displays IF Detector Status (See NOTES 3 & 4)              | 35 * |
| Cancels all group 40 special functions                     | 40   |
| Allows setting of LO & Harmonic Number (See NOTES 3 & 5)   | 41   |
| Switches LO Off under all conditions (Quiet Mode)          | 42   |
| Cancels all group 50 special functions                     | 50   |
| Ignore IF level detector                                   | 51   |
| Deselects Channel A attenuator                             | 60   |
| Selects Channel A attenuator                               | 61   |
| Basic 10 MHz check                                         | 70   |
| Exercise front panel displays and LEDs                     | 71 * |
| Start TEC, short calibration value                         | 72   |
| Start TEC, long calibration value                          | 73   |
| Stop TEC, short calibration value                          | 74   |
| Stop TEC, long calibration value                           | 75   |

\* Function applicable only with 'Service Front Panel' connected, see Maintenance Manual.

**NOTE 1:**

This function does not operate on diagnostic special functions.

**NOTE 2:**

This function only operates during INPUT C measurements and displays the Local Oscillator selected to make a measurement.

**NOTE 3:**

Operates under same conditions as Special Function 31.

**NOTE 4:**

"0" displayed = Detector False.

"1" displayed = Detector True.

(Special Function 41 must also be active).

**NOTE 5:**

LO and Harmonic Number (HN) store both active.

**NOTE 6:**

Special Functions 30, 40 and 50 are only available on 2151.

### **Setting the Special Function Register**

- 36 When a special function is to be used, its number must first be entered into the register. To do this send the command string:

"SF NN", (Ref. B34).

Where NN is the special function number to be entered. The instrument returns to the measurement mode automatically once the number is stored.

- 37 When a number is stored, it overwrites the previously stored number in the same decade. To remove a number from the register, another number must be stored.

### **Enabling and Disabling the Special Functions**

- 38 The group of special functions whose numbers are entered in the special function register are enabled by sending the command "SF ON". The special functions are disabled by sending "SF OFF".

- 39 The default state corresponds to the default state of the special function register, i.e., with special functions 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90 enabled.

**NOTE:**

A special function entered in the register while the special functions are enabled will be enabled immediately.

## ERROR CODES

40

The instrument is able to detect a number of error states, which are indicated on the controller. The meanings of the error codes are shown in TABLE 4.4.

**TABLE 4.4**  
**Error Messages**

| Error | Meaning                                                                              |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Op Er | Operator error caused by 'illegal' entries or attempt to enter a value out of range. |
| Er 02 | Measurement result too large, or small, to display.                                  |
| Er 03 | Overflow of internal counters.                                                       |
| Er 50 | Incorrect result obtained when in CHECK mode.                                        |
| Er 51 | Local oscillator out of lock (2151 only).                                            |
| Er 60 | EPROM paging failure.                                                                |
| Er 61 | RAM failure.                                                                         |

**NOTE:**

Op Er, Er 60 and Er 61 are applicable only when the Service Front Panel is connected to the instrument, see Maintenance Manual.

### Clearing the Error Codes

41

Error codes are cleared as follows:

- (1) Op Er, Er 02 and Er 03: Clear by sending the reset command or if the Service Front Panel is connected, press RESET key.
- (2) Er 50, Er 51, Er 60 and Er 61: These are equipment failure errors, switch off instrument and return it for repair.

## VXI OPERATING MODES

- 42 The instrument can be operated via the VXI using the 'BYTE AVAILABLE' and 'BYTE REQUEST' VXI commands.

## READING OUT DATA

- 43 The rate at which measurements are made is determined by the instrument. The output buffer is updated at the end of each measurement cycle, overwriting the previous measurement data if this has not been transferred to the controller.
- 44 The transfer of data from the instrument to the controller is triggered by the controller. The instrument's output buffer is cleared when the data transfer is complete. Problems arising from the differences between the measurement rate and data transfer trigger rate are resolved according to the following protocol:
- (1) If data transfer is in progress at the end of a measurement cycle, the updating of the output buffer is delayed. The data transferred will relate to the previous measurement cycle.
  - (2) If the data transfer trigger occurs during a measurement cycle and the output buffer is empty, data transfer will be delayed until the buffer is updated. the data transferred will then relate to the latest measurement cycle.
  - (3) If a measurement cycle is completed before the results of the previous cycle have been transferred to the controller, the buffer will be updated. The data for the previous cycle will be overwritten and lost.
- 45 The rate at which measurements are made can be controlled in the following ways:
- (1) The gate time of the instrument (duration of the measurement cycle) can be controlled by choosing an appropriate resolution.
  - (2) The instrument can be operated in the HOLD mode. Single measurement cycles can be triggered, when required, by means of the \*TRG or MEAS? commands.
  - (3) The instrument hold time can be set by entering a value, in seconds, into the sample store from the controller.
- 46 The format of the data output is described in TABLE 4.5.

## CONTROLLING THE INSTRUMENT

- 47 All the instruments functions are controlled by means of device-dependent commands, sent via the bus, using the 'BYTE A VAILABLE' VXI command.

- 48        The measurements made, and data regarding the instrument's status, can be read via the bus with the 'BYTE REQUEST' command.

## **DATA OUTPUT FORMAT - NORMAL**

- 49        The same output message format is used for the transmission of measured values and numbers recalled from the instrument's internal stores. The message consists of a string of 21 ASCII characters for each value transmitted. These are to be interpreted as shown in TABLE 4.5. The units should be assumed to be Hz, seconds, or a ratio, depending upon the commands previously given to the instrument.

## **DATA OUTPUT FORMAT - DUMP MODES**

- 50        Dump mode output format is in the same output message format as normal data outputs. Reading resolution is decreased thus decreasing computing and output time to allow for faster sample rates. Resolution of the readings is limited in the following ways:
- (1)      FREQ. C readings restricted to 10 kHz resolution.
  - (2)      FREQ. A and FREQ. B readings restricted to four digits resolution.
- 51        Certain other modes are forced in Dump mode, see TABLE 4.14g. Refer to TABLE 4.7 and 4.8 for Dump mode byte functions.

TABLE 4.5

## Output Message Format

| Byte No. | Interpretation          | Permitted ASCII Characters                             |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 1        | Function Letter         | See TABLE 4.6                                          |
| 2        | Function Letter         | See TABLE 4.6                                          |
| 3        | Space                   | Missing if SF81 is active                              |
| 4        | Sign of measurement     | + or -                                                 |
| 5        | Most Significant Digit  | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 6        | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 7        | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 8        | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 9        | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 10       | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 11       | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 12       | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 13       | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 14       | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 15       | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 16       | Digit                   | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 17       | Least Significant Digit | 0 to 9 or .                                            |
| 18       | Exponent Indicator      | E                                                      |
| 19       | Sign of exponent        | + or -                                                 |
| 20       | More Significant Digit  | 0 to 9                                                 |
| 21       | Least Significant Digit | 0 to 9                                                 |
| 22       | New Line (NL)           | Also known as LF (Linefeed).<br>'END' is sent with NL. |

## NOTE 1:

Bytes 5 to 17 will always include 13 digits and a decimal point. Zeros will be added, where necessary, in the more significant digit positions.

## NOTE 2:

The exponent indicated by bytes 20 and 21 will always be a multiple of three.

**TABLE 4.6**  
**Function Letters**

| Function                   | Function Letters |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Frequency A                | FA               |
| Frequency B                | FB               |
| Frequency C                | FC               |
| Check                      | CK               |
| Ratio C/B                  | CB               |
| Ratio C/A                  | CA               |
| Ratio B/A                  | BA               |
| Recalled Data              | Function Letters |
| Resolution                 | RS               |
| Manual Store               | MN               |
| Offset Store               | OS               |
| Mult. Store                | MU               |
| Sample Rate Store          | SA               |
| Harmonic Number            | HN               |
| Local Oscillator Frequency | LO               |

NOTE: Bytes 1, 2 and 3 are not sent when special function 81 is active.

**TABLE 4.7****Frequency C Dump**

| Byte | Character | Function       |
|------|-----------|----------------|
| 1    | 0 to 9    | GHz x 10       |
| 2    | 0 to 9    | GHz            |
| 3    | 0 to 9    | MHz x 100      |
| 4    | 0 to 9    | MHz x 10       |
| 5    | 0 to 9    | MHz            |
| 6    | 0 to 9    | kHz x 100      |
| 7    | 0 to 9    | kHz x 10       |
| 8    | 0 to 9    | kHz (See NOTE) |

NOTE:  
END sent with this byte.

**TABLE 4.8****Frequency A and B Dump**

| Byte | Character | Function                            |
|------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 1    | 0 to 9    | Most significant digit (see NOTE 1) |
| 2    | 0 to 9    | Digit                               |
| 3    | 0 to 9    | Digit                               |
| 4    | 0 to 9    | Digit                               |
| 5    | 0 to 9    | Digit                               |
| 6    | 0 to 9    | Digit                               |
| 7    | 0 to 9    | Least significant digit             |
| 8    | E         | Exponent                            |
| 9    | 0 to 9    | Exponent Value (see NOTE 2)         |

NOTE 1:  
Implied decimal point position is before Byte 1.

NOTE 2:  
END sent with this byte.

## REQUESTING SERVICE

- 52 The instrument can be set, by means of device-dependent commands, to request service from the controller by sending an interrupt request (IRQ).
- (1) A response message is ready.
  - (2) A VXIbus defined error occurs.
  - (3) A device defined error occurs.
  - (4) A change of frequency standard occurs.
- 53 The generation of the IRQ may also be inhibited. Generation of all IRQs is disabled when the instrument is first switched on.

## STATUS BYTE

- 54 The format of the status byte, generated in response to a 'READ STB' command, is given in TABLE 4.10.

## SETTING THE ENABLE REGISTERS

- 55 The Enable Registers to be set up are as follows:
- (1) Service Request Enable Register - set using \*SRE.
  - (2) Standard Event Status Enable Register - set using \*ESE.
  - (3) Device Defined Event Status Enable Register - set using ESE.
- 56 Each bit in an enable register set to logic '1' enables the equivalent bit in its associated service register, see Table 4.9 for Associated Registers.

Table 4.9

Associated Registers

| Enable Register                             | Service Register                     |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Service Request Enable Register             | Status Byte Register                 |
| Standard Event Status Enable Register       | Standard Event Status Register       |
| Device Defined Event Status Enable Register | Device Defined Event Status Register |

- 57 The enable registers are set up by entering the register enable codes in NR1 format. NR1 format comprises decimal numbers in the range 0 to 255 representing the binary codes entered into the enable registers. See TABLE 4.10 to TABLE 4.12 for register contents.
- 58 The following example illustrates a register bit setting code and the NR1 format entry.
- 59 Example:
- |                                               |        |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DIO Line Number:                              | 8      | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Bit Number:                                   | 7      | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Required Bit Setting:                         | 0      | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Binary Code:                                  | 100110 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| NR1 Format Decimal Number Code to be entered: | 38     |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
- 60 NR1 format codes can be entered as single digit numbers, two digit numbers or three digit numbers; e.g. 38, 038, 005, 05, 5, 120 etc.

**TABLE 4.10**  
**Status Byte and Service Request Enable Registers**

| DIO Line | Bit | Function                                                                      |
|----------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1        | 0   | Not used - always logic 0                                                     |
| 2        | 1   | Not used - always logic 0                                                     |
| 3        | 2   | Not used - always logic 0                                                     |
| 4        | 3   | '1' = Summary of Device Event Status<br>Register showing one or more logic 1s |
| 5        | 4   | '1' = Response message available                                              |
| 6        | 5   | '1' = Summary of Standard Event Status<br>Register showing one or more 1s     |
| 7        | 6   | '1' = Service requested                                                       |
| 8        | 7   | Not used - always logic 0                                                     |

**TABLE 4.11**

**Standard Event Status and Enable Registers**

| DIO Line | Bit | Function                               |
|----------|-----|----------------------------------------|
| 1        | 0   | '1' = Operation Complete               |
| 2        | 1   | Not used - always logic 0              |
| 3        | 2   | '1' = Query Error (see NOTE 1)         |
| 4        | 3   | Not used - always logic 0              |
| 5        | 4   | '1' = Execution Error (see NOTE 2)     |
| 6        | 5   | '1' = Command Error (see NOTE 3)       |
| 7        | 6   | Not used - always logic 0              |
| 8        | 7   | '1' = Power On (after power interrupt) |

**NOTE 1:**

Error generated either if controller tries to read the Output Queue when no output is available or data in the Output Queue is lost.

**NOTE 2:**

Error generated either if data associated with a particular command header is out of range, of the wrong type for a particular command, or if a valid program message could not be executed.

**NOTE 3:**

Command Error can be as a result of one of the following:

- (1) Syntax error.
- (2) Device has received an unrecognized or unimplemented header.
- (3) 'GET' message has occurred within a program message.
- (4) The command string will be correctly executed up to the point the error occurs. The remaining string up to the next command separator (;), or a valid program message terminator, will be ignored. Execution will continue as normal after reception of either of these delimiters.

**TABLE 4.12****Device Defined Event Status and Enable Registers**

| DIO Line | Bit | Function                                         |
|----------|-----|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1        | 0   | '1' = Indicates change of standard               |
| 2        | 1   | '1' = Indicates Channel B overload               |
| 3        | 2   | Not used - always logic 0                        |
| 4        | 3   | '1' = Result out of range (see NOTE 1)           |
| 5        | 4   | '1' = Internal counters overflow (see NOTE 2)    |
| 6        | 5   | '1' = Local Oscillator out of lock (see NOTE 3). |
| 7        | 6   | '1' = Check mode error (see NOTE 4)              |
| 8        | 7   | Not used - always logic 0                        |

NOTE 1:  
ER 02 generated.

NOTE 2:  
ER 03 generated.

NOTE 3:  
ER 04 generated (2151 only).

NOTE 4:  
ER 50 generated.

## MESSAGE PROTOCOL AND SYNTAX

- 61 The VXIbus protocol provides a communication medium, using different types of messages, between a controller and controlled devices (i.e. Measuring instruments such as the 2151 Microwave Counter). This medium is passed between controller and device via the VXI Interface Bus and the controllers own communication medium (e.g. Ethernet, GPIB or RS232).
- 62 The IEEE 488.2 Standard lays down further hard and fast rules for message construction and content (referred to as PROTOCOL and SYNTAX).

### System Message Traffic

- 63 Messages passed between controller and device consist of the following types:
- (1) Program Messages - passed from controller to device. Program messages contain commands telling the device to do something, queries asking the device for data and status information, and data for setting device operating parameters.
  - (2) Response Messages - Passed from device to controller. Response messages contain responses to queries and commands, data containing error information and results from measurements taken.
- 64 An example of a command is shown as follows:

|                                  |                                                                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Controller sends<br>the command: | Device interprets and<br>acts upon the command<br>by selecting: |
| 'FRQA'                           | 'FRQA'                                                          |

- 65 An example of a query is shown as follows:

|                                |                                                             |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Controller sends<br>the query: | Device responds by sending the answer<br>to the controller: |
| 'GATE?'                        | '1' (indicating that the gate is open)                      |

NOTE: In this example the device has first acted as a listener to enable it to receive the query, then acted as a talker to send the answer back to the controller as a response message.

### Program Messages

- 66 Program messages are made up of Program Message Units (PMUs), PMU Separators (;) and a Program Message Terminator (PMT), see TABLE 4.15 Permitted Terminators. A program message may include up to ten PMUs and is constructed as follows:

PMU ; PMU ; PMU ; PMU ; PMU PMT

67 Each PMU within the message is made up of a PMU Header (a mnemonic of ASCII characters), a Header separator (a white space character), Data and Data separators (.). A PMU is constructed as follows:

HEADER[ ] DATA , DATA , DATA , DATA , DATA ;

NOTE: In this example the white space character is represented by square brackets [ ]. Text spaces shown in the preceding and following examples are included for clarity only, no spaces in messages are to be used except where indicated by the square brackets.

This device accepts Program Messages into a buffer that can hold 10 string characters or 20 numerical characters.

### Response Messages

68 Response messages are constructed in a similar manner to program messages. Response messages consist of Response Message Units (RMUs), RMU Separators (;) and a Response Message Terminator (RMT). The RMT is always the NL (or LF) character with END. A response message is constructed as follows:

RMU ; RMU ; RMU ; RMU ; RMU RMT

69 This device can store, in the Output Queue, five Response Message Units.

71 Each RMU within the message is made up of a RMU Header (a mnemonic of ASCII characters), a Header separator (a white space character), Response Data and Response Data separators (.). A RMU is constructed as follows:

HEADER[ ] RESPONSE DATA , RESPONSE DATA , RESPONSE DATA ;

NOTE: In this example the white space character is represented by square brackets [ ].

### White Space Character

71 The white space character may be any ASCII encoded byte in the ranges of 0 to 9 and 11 to 32 inclusive. The most commonly used white space character is the space character (ASCII encoded byte 32) as generated by a QWERTY keyboard space bar.

## OVERLAPPED/SEQUENTIAL COMMANDS

72 Every device-dependent command is defined as either sequential or overlapped.

73 A sequential command is started and completed before the succeeding command is executed.

74 An overlapped command is started but not necessarily completed before the succeeding command is started.

75 The synchronization commands [\*WAI (Ref. A6), \*OPC (Ref. A4), \*OPC? (Ref. A5)] can be used to either control or indicate when the commands have been completed.

## COMMANDS

- 76 Each entry represents a complete Program Message Unit (PMU). A program string may contain more than one PMU separated by the PMU separator (;).
- 77 In the listed commands the boxes have the following meanings:
- (1) Capital letters represent mnemonics.
  - (2) 'chs' represents a command header separator (whitespace character).
  - (3) 'ds' represents a data separator (,).
  - (4) 'num' represents a numerical data entry in NR1, NR2 or NR3 format.
  - (5) 'DISP' represents the current reading.

TABLE 4.13a

### Common Commands

#### Ref. A1 - Identification Query



Puts into the Output Queue a unique identification of the device. Response is divided into four fields separated by commas:

Field 1 - Manufacturer

Field 2 - Model number

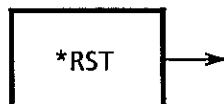
Field 3 - ASCII character 0

Field 4 - Software details

#### NOTE:

This Query should be the last Query message in any terminated message.

#### Ref. A2 - Reset



Sets device dependent functions to their power-up state. Also forces the OCIS and OQIS states.

**TABLE 4.13b**

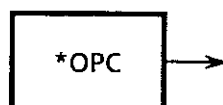
**Common Commands (Continued)**

**Ref. A3 - Self Test Query**



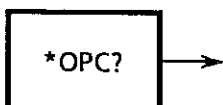
Performs all tests not needing operator intervention. If all checks pass then ASCII value 0 is placed in the Output Queue. If checks fail then the relevant number is placed in the Output Queue. The number output is in NR1 format.

**Ref. A4 - Operation Complete**



Causes the instrument to generate the operation complete message in the Standard Event Status Register when all pending selected device operations are completed.

**Ref. A5 - Operation Complete Query**



As \*OPC, but places an ASCII value 1 into the Output Queue instead of setting the Operation Complete message. This is in NR1 format.

**Ref. A6 - Wait to Continue**



The instrument is prevented from executing any further commands or queries until there are no further operations pending.

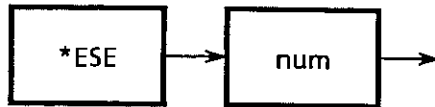
**Ref. A7 - Clear Status Command**



Clears the status reporting registers.

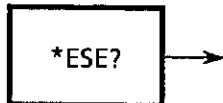
**TABLE 4.13c**  
**Common Commands (Continued)**

**Ref. A8 - Standard Event Status Enable**



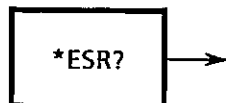
Sets the Standard Event Status Enable Register bits. This register determines which standard events will be reported to the Status Byte Register. Allowed range is 0 to 255, any unused bits will not be set.

**Ref. A9 - Standard Event Status Enable Query**



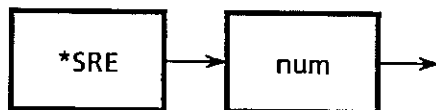
Places the contents of the Standard Event Status Enable Register into the Output Queue. This is in NR1 format.

**Ref. A10 - Standard Event Status Register Query**



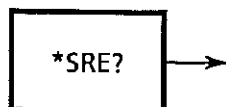
Places the contents of the Standard Event Status Register into the Output Queue. This is in NR1 format.

**Ref. A11 - Service request Enable Command**



Sets the Service Request Enable Register bits. Each bit summarizes either a queue or status register. Each bit, when enabled, will cause an interrupt when the corresponding queue becomes non-zero or any hit becomes true in a status register. Allowed range of data is 0 to 255, any unused bits will not be set.

**Ref. A12 - Service Request Enable Query**



Causes the instrument to place the contents of the Service Request Enable Register into the Output Queue. This is in NR1 format.

**TABLE 4.13d**

**Common Commands (Continued)**

**Ref. A3 - Status Byte Query**



Causes the instrument to place the contents of the status byte into the Output Queue. NR1 format. This returns the same value as a serial poll with the exception of bit 6 which is the Master Summary Status bit. NR1 format.

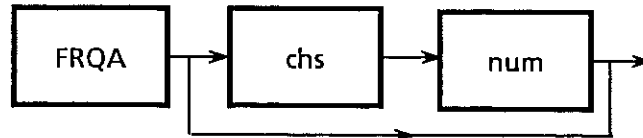
**Ref. A14 - Trigger Command**



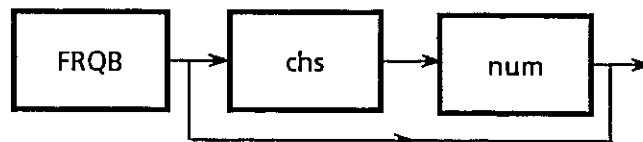
Causes the instrument to trigger a measurement. Any existing measurement is aborted.

TABLE 4.14a

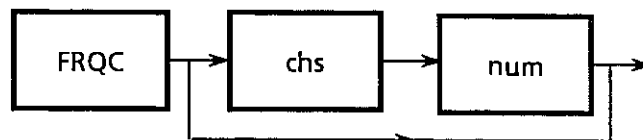
## Device Dependent Commands

Measurement Functions**Ref. B1 - Frequency A**

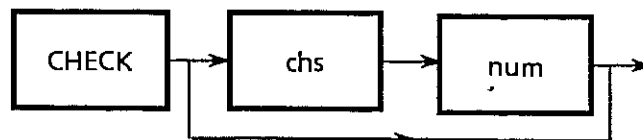
Selects Channel A input. Optional number (num) data, in the range of 3 to 10, is the resolution required. If this data is missing then the previous resolution will be used.

**Ref. B2 - Frequency B**

Selects Channel B input. Optional number (num) data, in the range of 3 to 10, is the resolution required. If this data is missing then the previous resolution will be used.

**Ref. B3 - Frequency C (2151 only)**

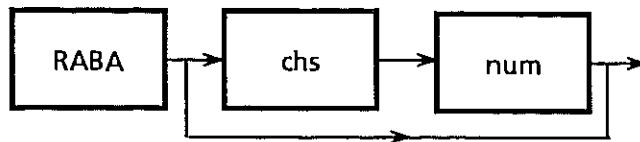
Selects Channel C input. Optional number (num) data, expressed as a frequency in Hz, kHz, MHz or GHz, rounded to the nearest decade, is the resolution required. If this data is missing then the previous resolution will be used. The range allowed is 0.1 Hz to 10 kHz.

**Ref. B4 - Check**

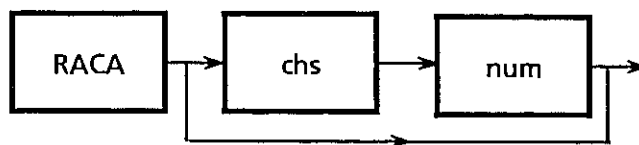
Selects 10 MHz check. Optional number (num) data, in the range of 3 to 10, is the resolution required. If this data is missing then the previous resolution will be used.

TABLE 4.14b

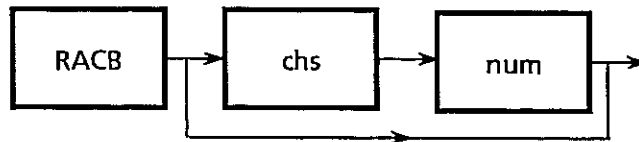
## Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

**Ref. B5 - Ratio B/A**

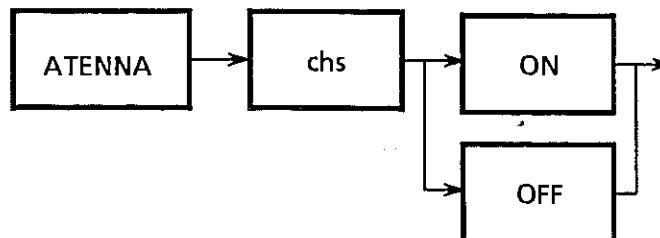
Selects the ratio of Channel B to Channel A. Optional number (num) data, in the range of 3 to 10, is the resolution required. If this data is missing then the previous resolution will be used.

**Ref. B6 - Ratio C/A (2151 only)**

Selects the ratio of Channel C to Channel A. Optional number (num) data, in the range of 3 to 10, is the resolution required. If this data is missing then the previous resolution will be used.

**Ref. B7 - Ratio C/B (2151 only)**

Selects the ratio of Channel C to Channel B. Optional number (num) data, in the range of 3 to 10, is the resolution required. If this data is missing then the previous resolution will be used.

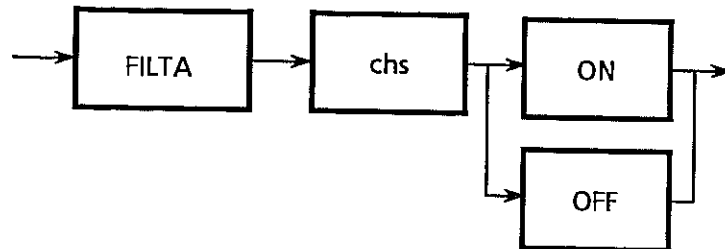
Hardware Control**Ref. B8 - Channel A Attenuator Control**

Controls the Channel A x20 attenuator. 'ON' switches in the attenuator and 'OFF' switches it out.

TABLE 4.14c

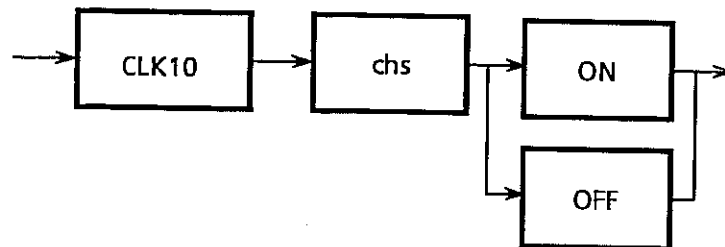
Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

**Ref. B9 - Channel A Filter Control**



Controls the Channel A low-pass filter. 'ON' switches in the filter and 'OFF' switches it out.

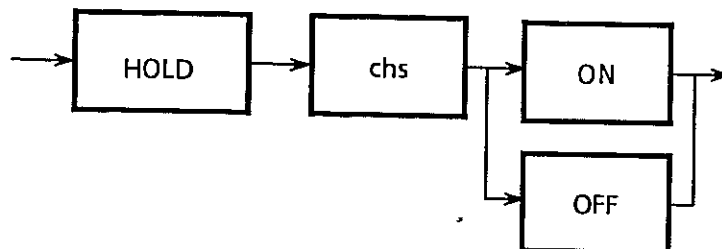
**Ref. B10 - Reference Selection Control**



Controls the selection of either the CLK10 reference or the counter reference. 'ON' selects CLK10, 'OFF' selects the counter reference.

Measurement Control

**Ref. B11 - Hold**

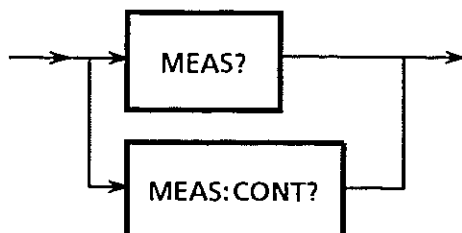


Selects the HOLD mode, suspending repetitive measurements. The reading is held until another is triggered (see \*TRG and MEAS?).

TABLE 4.14d

## Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

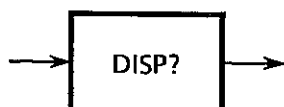
## Ref. B12 - Measurement



The upper path of this command causes the instrument to abandon any current reading, start a new cycle and place the calculated result into the Output Queue. The lower path is similar, but as soon as the result is read out of the Output Queue a new measurement is taken and placed into the Output Queue.

Results are delimited by the comma (data separator) with the string length infinitely long, i.e. no terminator is sent. Sending any device command will terminate this action and set the Query Error (as required by IEEE 488.2) bit in the Standard Event Register.

## Ref. B13 - Displayed Measurement



This command places the current result into the Output Queue. If this command is repeated without another measurement taking place, or the counter is reset, then a zero will be placed into the Output Queue.

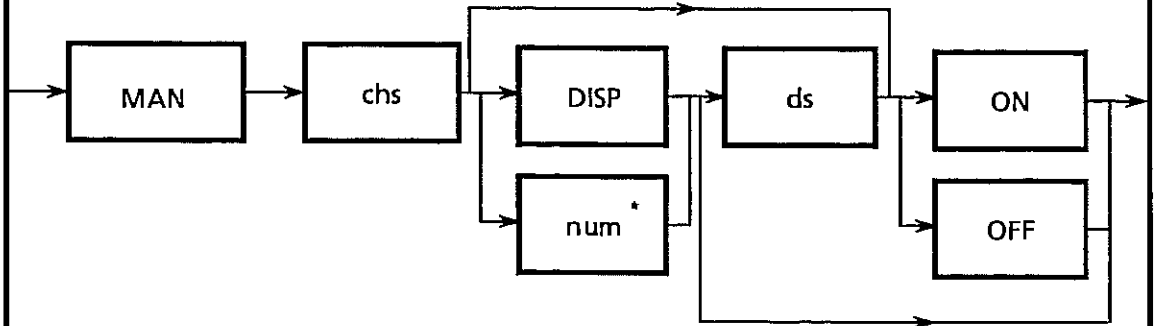
## NOTE:

This command is used in conjunction with \*TRG, or GET in the HOLD mode. If the HOLD mode is off, then the result of the \*TRG or GET command will be lost.

TABLE 4.14e

Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

Ref. B14 - Manual/Auto Acquisition (2151 only)



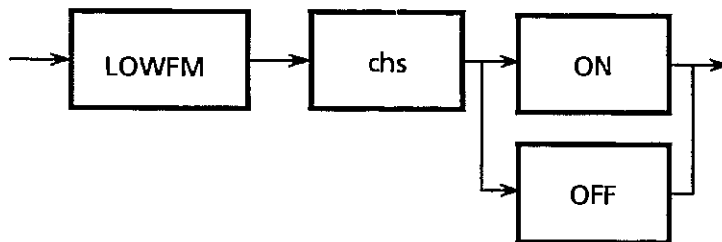
Controls the manual acquisition mode. Two parameters can be specified, these are the value to be entered in the Manual Store and switching Manual Mode ON or OFF. At least one parameter must be entered or a command error is generated.

NOTE:

Selecting MAN ON will automatically disable TRACK ON or LOWFM ON commands. When MAN OFF is selected TRACK and LOWFM revert to their previous state.

\* num value : 495 MHz to 26.505 GHz

Ref. B15 - Low FM Acquisition Mode (2151 only)

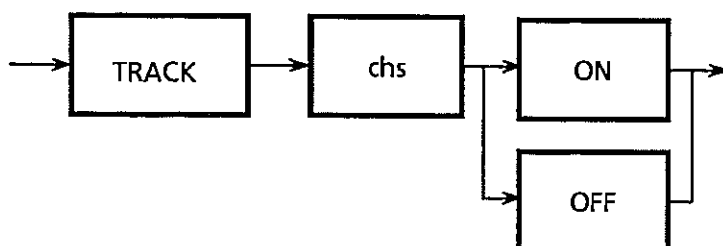


This selects LOWFM when in the automatic acquisition mode. Selecting LOWFM ON while in manual acquisition mode generates an execution error. TRACK ON is disabled if this mode is selected, selecting LOWFM OFF does not reset TRACK to ON.

TABLE 4.14f

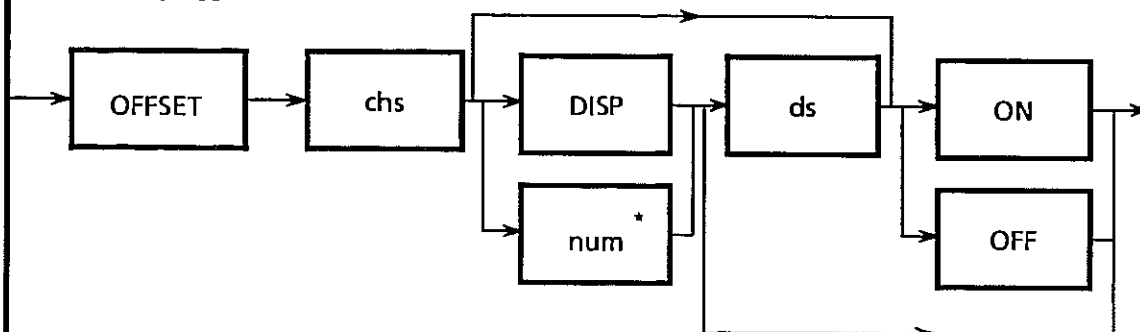
## Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

## Ref. B16 - Track Acquisition Mode (2151 only)



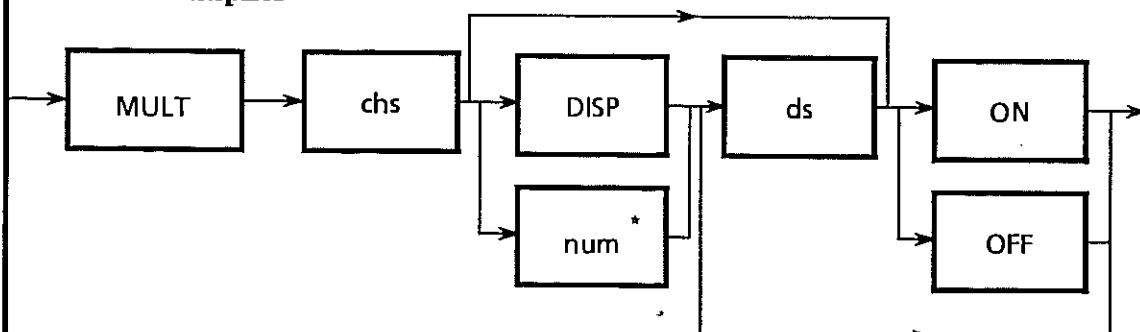
This selects TRACK when in the automatic acquisition mode. Selecting LOWFM ON while in manual acquisition mode generates an execution error. LOWFM ON is disabled if this mode is selected, selecting TRACK OFF does not reset LOWFM to ON.

## Ref. B17 - Offset



This controls the offset mathematics function. Two parameters can be specified, these are the value to be entered in the offset store (of which there are two sources), and turning the function ON or OFF. If no parameters are specified, then a command error is generated.

## Ref. B18 - Multiplier



This controls the multiplier mathematics function. Two parameters can be specified, these are the value to be entered in the multiplier store (of which there are two sources), and turning the function ON or OFF. If no parameters are specified, then a command error is generated.

\* num value :  $\pm 999.9999999999 \text{ e}^{12}$

TABLE 4.14g

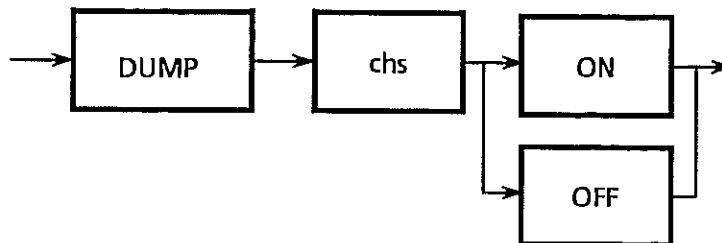
Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

Ref. B19 - Sample Rate



This sets the maximum sample rate. If zero is entered then the counter will run at its maximum possible speed compatible with the current set-up.

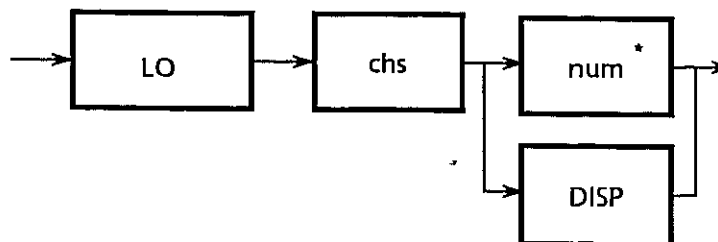
Ref. B20 - Dump Mode (See also NOTE 1)



This selects Dump Mode. The following modes must be set before dump mode is activated:

- (1) FRQA, FRQB at six digits resolution, or FRQC at 1 kHz resolution.
- (2) MULT, OFFSET and SMOOTH OFF.
- (3) LOWFM OFF.

Ref. B21 - Local Oscillator Setting (2151 only)



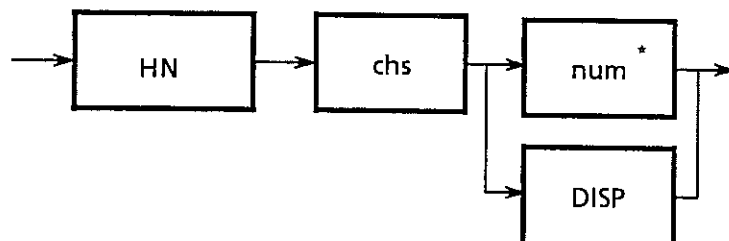
This sets the value of the Local Oscillator to be used when SF 41 is active.

\* num value : 292 MHz to 355 MHz

TABLE 4.14h

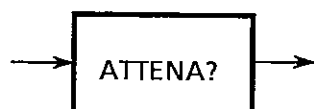
## Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

## Ref. B22 - Harmonic Number Setting (2151 only)



This sets the value of the Harmonic Number to be used when SF 41 is active.

\* num value : -59 to +59

Query CommandsChannel A Attenuator

Places a numerical value in the Output Queue according to the state of the channel A attenuator:

1. '1' indicates attenuator ON
2. '0' indicates attenuator OFF

NR1 format

Channel A Low Pass Filter

Places a numerical value in the Output Queue according to the state of the channel A low pass filter:

1. '1' indicates filter ON
2. '0' indicates filter OFF

TABLE 4.14i

Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

NR1 format

Special functions



Places a string of 10, NR1 format, digits separated by commas (,) into the Output Queue. See Table 4.17 for response format.

Ref. B23 - Manual Store (2151 only)



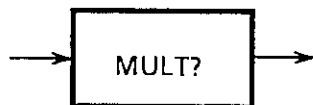
Places the contents of the manual store into the Output Queue. NR3 format.

Ref. B24 - Offset Store



Places the contents of the offset store into the Output Queue. NR3 format.

Ref. B25 - Multiplier Store



Places the contents of the multiplier store into the Output Queue. NR3 format.

Ref. B26 - Sample Store



Places the contents of the sample store into the Output Queue. NR3 format.

TABLE 4.14j

Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

Ref. B27 - Standard in Use



Places a numerical value in the Output Queue according to the standard in use:

- (1) '1' represents internal standard,
- (2) '0' represents external standard.

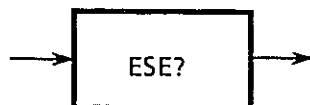
This is in NR1 format.

Ref. B28 - Device Event Status Register



Places the contents of the Device Defined Event Register into the Output Queue. NR1 format.

Ref. B29 - Device Event Status Enable Register



Places the contents of the Device Defined Event Status Enable Register into the Output Queue. NR1 format.

Ref. B30 - Gate



Places a numerical value in the Output Queue according to the status of the gate signal:

- (1) '1' indicates gate open,
- (2) '0' indicates gate closed.

This is in NR1 format.

TABLE 4.14k

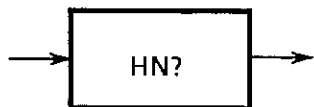
Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

Ref. B31 - Local Oscillator Store (2151 only)



Places the contents of the local oscillator store, used by SF 41, in the Output Queue. NR1 format.

Ref. B32 - Harmonic Number Store (2151 only)



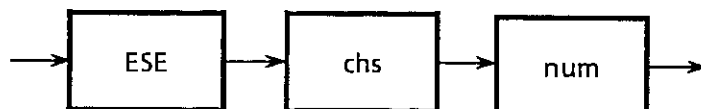
Places the contents of the harmonic number store, used by SF 41, in the Output Queue. NR1 format.

Special Function

Places the content of the special function number store in the Output Queue.

Status

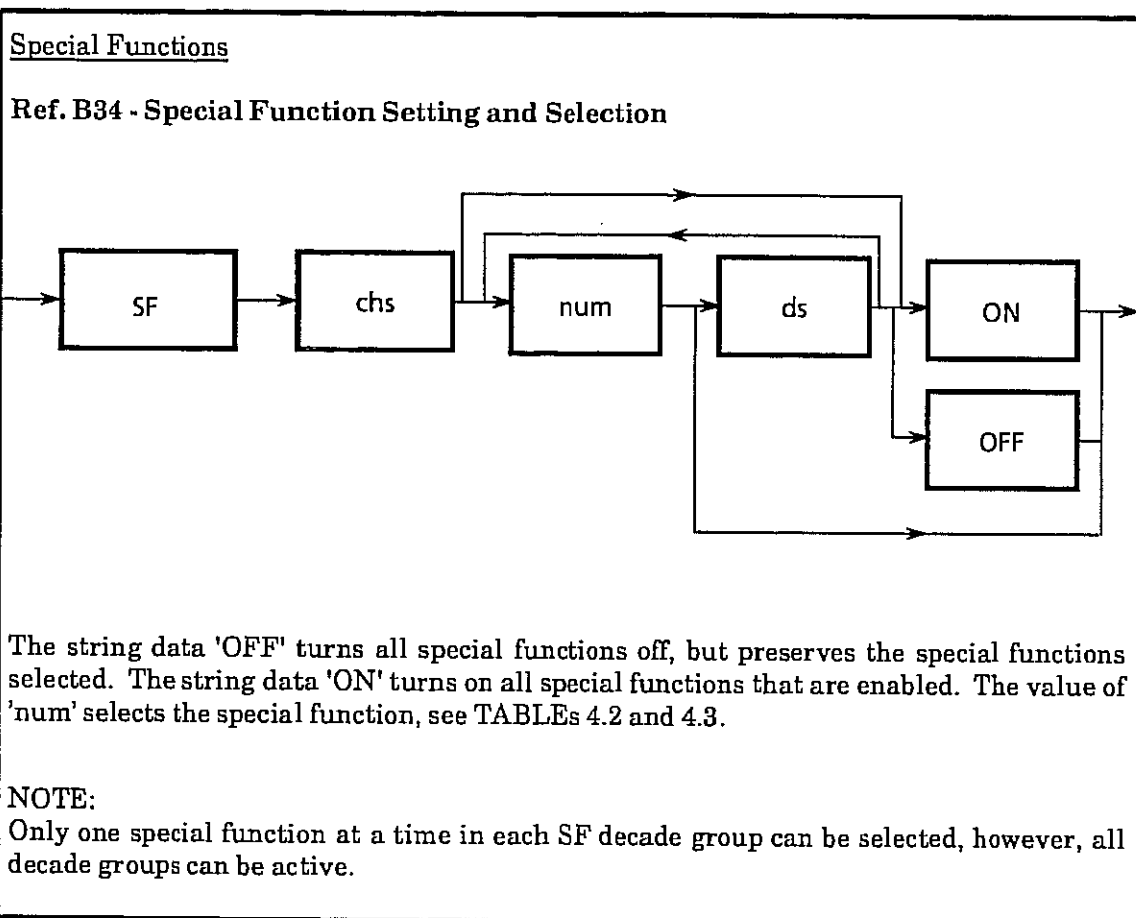
Ref. B33 - Device Event Status Enable Register



Sets the Device Defined Event Status Register.

TABLE 4.14I

## Device Dependent Commands (Continued)

**NOTE 1:**

Ref. B20 - Dump Mode:

Dump Mode still requires a query command to output measurements. The query command 'MEAS?' is used for single measurements. 'MEAS:CONT?' is used for a continuous stream of results at maximum speed. See also Ref. B12.

TABLE 4.15

## Permitted Terminators

| 1  | 2              | 3                          |
|----|----------------|----------------------------|
| LF | LF<br>END true | Last Character<br>END true |

NOTE: LF = Line Feed  
 END = 'Last Byte', identifies in Word Serial  
 'Byte Available' command.

TABLE 4.16

## Numerical Input Format

| Byte No. | Interpretation           | Permitted ASCII Characters |
|----------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1        | Sign of Mantissa         | + or -                     |
| 2        | Most Significant Digit   | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 3        | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 4        | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 5        | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 6        | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 7        | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 8        | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 9        | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 10       | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 11       | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 12       | Digit                    | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 13       | Least Significant Digit  | 0 to 9 or .                |
| 14       | Character has no meaning | White Space                |
| 15       | Exponent Indicator       | E                          |
| 16       | Character has no meaning | White Space                |
| 17       | Sign of Exponent         | + or -                     |
| 18       | More Significant Digit   | 0 to 9                     |
| 19       | Digit                    | 0 to 9                     |
| 20       | Digit                    | 0 to 9                     |
| 21       | Digit                    | 0 to 9                     |
| 22       | Least Significant Digit  | 0 to 9                     |

## NOTE 1:

At least one exponent digit must be used if 'E' (byte 15) is present.

## NOTE 2:

The numerical input format conforms to IEEE 488.2 and is based on NR1, NR2 and NR3 formats. Any number input that deviates from these formats will generate a command error. If the number is out of range for a particular command header, then an execution error is reported. For some commands the resolution of the mantissa is limited.

TABLE 4.17

**Special Function Request (SF?) Response Format**

|                   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |   |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------|---|
| SF Groups >       | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | ON/OFF |   |
| Response Format > | n  | ,  | n  | ,  | n  | ,  | n  | ,  | n  | ,      | n |

'n' is a single digit representing the function selected in a particular group.

TABLE 4.18

**Alphabetic List of Required Command Codes**

| Code  | Function                          | Code  | Function                     |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| *CLS  | Clear status                      | *OPC? | Operation Complete Query     |
| *ESE  | Standard Event Status Event       | *RST  | Reset                        |
| *ESE? | Standard Event Status Event Query | *SRE  | Service Request Enable       |
| *ESR? | Standard Event Status Query       | *SRE? | Service Request Enable Query |
| *IDN? | Identification Query              | *STB  | Status Byte Query            |
| *OPC  | Operation Complete                | *TST? | Self Test Query              |
|       |                                   | *WAI  | Wait to continue             |

TABLE 4.19

## Alphabetic List of Optional Command Codes

|    | Code    | Function                           | Code    | Function                         |    |
|----|---------|------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|----|
| o  | ATTENA  | Selects INPUT A attenuator         | LO?     | Local oscillator store           | *o |
| s  | ATTENA? | INPUT A Attenuator query           |         |                                  |    |
| o  | CHECK   | Selects 10 MHz check               |         | query                            |    |
| o  | CLK10   | Selects CLK10 standard             | LOWFM   | Controls Low FM                  | *o |
| s  | DISP?   | Displays value in output queue     | MAN     | Controls manual select           | *o |
| o  | DUMP    | Controls DUMP mode                 | MAN?    | Manual store query               | *o |
| s  | ESE     | Device Event Status Enable         | MEAS?   | New reading cycle                | o  |
| s  | ESE?    | Device Event Status Register query | MEAS:   | Continuous stream of readings    | o  |
| s  | ESR?    | Device Event Register Query        | MULT    | Controls Multiplier              | o  |
| o  | FILTA   | Selects INPUT A filter             | MULT?   | MULT store query                 | s  |
| s  | FILTA?  | INPUT A Pass Filter query          | OFFSET  | Controls Offset                  | o  |
| o  | FRQA    | Selects INPUT A                    | OFFSET? | Offset store query               | s  |
| o  | FRQB    | Selects INPUT B                    | RABA    | Selects RATIO A/B                | o  |
| o* | FRQC    | Selects INPUT C                    | RACA    | Selects RATIO C/A                | *o |
| s  | GATE?   | Gating status query                | RACB    | Selects RATIO C/B                | *o |
| s* | HN      | Harmonic number setting            | SAMPLE  | Controls measurement sample rate | s  |
| s* | HN?     | Harmonic number store query        | SAMPLE? | Sample store query               | s  |
| o  | HOLD    | Selects HOLD mode                  | SF      | Controls Special Functions       | o  |
| s* | LO      | Local oscillator setting           | SF?     | Special Functions query          | s  |
|    |         |                                    | STD?    | Standard in-use query            | s  |
|    |         |                                    | TRACK   | Controls Track Trigger command   | *o |

## NOTE:

- o denotes an overlapped command.  
s denotes a sequential command.  
\* denotes command applies only to 2151.

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