

SERIAL COMMUNICATION MANUAL

March 2003



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CHAPTER 1

SERIAL COMMUNICATION INTRODUCTION



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Serial Communication Introduction









Industrial Personal Computer

Instruments (Slave)

"Digital communication" means the complex of the operations through which the connection between electronic equipments, such as instruments, plc or industrial terminals, and a personal computer (then called PC) is carried out.

The PC (which works as a Master) interrogates the connected equipments (Slaves) and asks for

the requested information, such as the input measured value, the alarm state etc.

To implement this functionality it is necessary to check the following conditions:

PC (Master) and devices (Slaves) must be provided with the same Hardware interface, as there are many standard versions available with different electrical features (i.e. among the most used: RS232, RS485, RS422 and Current Loop).

Should the Master and the Slaves have different HW interfaces, it is necessary to connect a suitable converter (such as Gefran CLB94), which also optoisolates the communication line.

PC (Master) and devices (Slaves) have to use the same communication protocol (that is: "they have to speak the same language"). The protocol used by GEFRAN is a "proprietary" one, which means that it has been developed by GEFRAN itself to optimize the serial communication with its own instruments. Its name is CENCAL. MODBUS protocol, an approved standard, is available on more advanced models.



HW Interface

GEFRAN uses the following serial communication standards:

- RS232
- RS 485
- 4-wire RS 485
- Current Loop (not provided in the new instruments)

Important Note:

Our instruments provide a 4-wire multi-point connection (4-wire RS485), as they can also support the RS422 standard, which differs from the 4-wire RS485 connection being only a transmission/receiving connection between two single units (a Master and a Slave) and not providing the condition of the line third status (open collector).

Only the RS485 connection (either 2 or 4 wires) allows to have more than a Slave.

From now on, the RS485 connection will define a 2-wire connection, while the 4-wire RS485 connection will define a 4-wire one.

Standard RS232 Serial Line

It is an EIA standard which defines the serial interface electro/functional features for the connection between two systems/equipments.

The information is transmitted through a voltage signal referred to a ground wire (the value of each bit is decodified by the receiver on the base of the measured voltage value).

This solution allows a PC direct connection with an instrument equipped with RS232 serial interface within short distances. Available transmission speeds are: 1200, 2400, 4800, 9600 and 19200 bauds.

Its limits concern max. speed, which does not exceed 20 Kb/sec, and max. distance between the equipments, which cannot be higher than 15 meters, due to the low immunity from electromagnetic disturbances. One only Slave unit can be connected. The unique advantage concerns the cheap price.

Standard RS485 and 4-wire RS485 Serial Communication

Voltage is the feature of the signal which "carries" the information, but, unlike RS232, where voltage is measured with respect to a ground wire, here it is measured in a "differential" way between two wires: one "carries" the signal and the other one "carries" the disabled signal. In this way a higher immunity from disturbances is reached and wider distances can be covered. For

these two standards it is necessary to use PCs and instruments equipped with a proper RS485 or 4-wire RS485 interface, that is to use two CLB94 modules (4-wire only) or ADAM (2- and 4-wires), which convert, from one side (PC) the RS232 into a RS485 or a 4-wire RS485 towards the instrument side. Selectable transmission speeds are: 1200, 2400, 4800, 9600 and 19200 bauds.



The EIA RS485 standard features provided for half-duplex protocol can be considered valid:

- max. 10 Mbps data rate within 12 meters
- distances up to 1.2 Km with 100 Kb/sec speed
- max. 32 instruments connected on a single line
- line terminals with two 220 Ohm resistances at the edges
- differential transmission with low electromagnetic emission

"Passive" Current Loop Serial Connection

Current is the feature of the received signal which "carries" the information. This solution requires, for the connection with a supervision PC, a RS232/Passive Current Loop converter (i.e.: Gefran CLB94 module). The converter, which has to be placed within 2...3 meters from a PC and supplies the necessary current both in receiving and in transmission (for this reason the connection is called "passive"), can support up to 10 Slave units within a 100 meter distance. Standard bauderate is 1200 bauds.

Calculation of the **max. number of network-connectible instruments,** according to the electrical connection selected using a **CLB/94** converter.

CLB/94 Output	CLB/94 V Outout	CLB/94 I max	CLB/94 Max.	Gefran Instrument	Single Instrument	Max. N° of Instruments
			Impedence	RX+/RX- Input Impedence	1	
4-wire RS485	10V	30mA	-	12Kohm	0.83mA	36
Parallel Current Loop	24V	240mA	-	1Kohm	24mA	10
Serial Current Loop	24V	20mA	1200ohm	90ohm	-	13

Voltage, current, impedence values listed in this table are to be used to evaluate other possibile serial converters to be used in the future, or which are already part of the network.

More Complex Configurations

If a higher number of instruments has to be connected, or if the distance to be covered is wider, the aim can be achieved in three different ways:

- a) Serial Current Loop (**CLB**): it is necessary to replace the 10th instrument with a CLB94 and connect the additional instruments from this point on.
- b) Parallel Current Loop (**CLB**): up to three cascade-connected CLB94s (the first one for the RS232/Current loop conversion and the other two in Current Loop), to cover an overall distance of 300 meters.



c) Up to 32 instruments can be connected via RS485 or 4-wire RS485 by using an **ADAM 4520** converter.

Should you have to connect more than 32 instruments, you can use an **ADAM 4510 repeater**, which extends the network to 32 more instruments, increasing the distance of 1200 meters.

Furthermore, different units equipped with different communication interfaces can also be connected in a single multidrop structure (that is, a structure made up by several objects serial-connected),

using the appropriate CLB conversion modules.

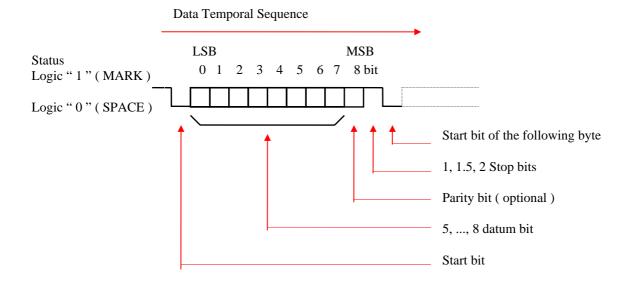


Asynchronous Protocol

The asynchronous transmission does not require the simultaneous transmission of a reference signal necessary to the receiver for the sampling of the signal itself. An asynchronous transmission system finds in the format itself a synchronization element (example: the always present Start bit).

Here is the format of an asynchronous transmission.

The structure of a byte with 5, 6, 7, 8 datum bit, with or without parity bit is represented in the following diagram.





Communication Problems?

Here are some easy indications for a correct functioning quick check of RS232, RS485, 4-wire RS485, Current Loop communication lines.

A multimeter is required to check connections and voltage and resistance values.

On the contrary, an oscilloscope is necessary to make more specific inspections, such as the detection of wave-forms.

RS232

The line is made up of three conductors, a GND reference and two Rx and Tx.

The signal names are assigned and they refer either to the PC or to the instruments. The Rx signal

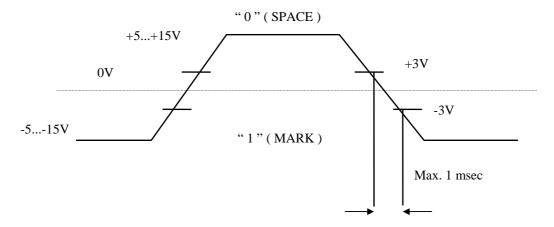
receives and the Tx signal transmits data.

This statement justifies the connection between two units, where the Tx signal of a device is connected to the Rx signal of the other one.



Main checks for a correct working:

- a. Check the electrical connection and individuate the Tx, Rx, GND signals
- b. If the line is not active, the "1" (MARK) logic state is present. It corresponds to a -5...-15V negative voltage and can be measured with a tester
- c. By an active communication line, the wave-form presents logic state variations at "0" (SPACE), corresponding to a 5...15V voltage value
- d. The conformity of the wave with the following model can be monitored with a standard oscilloscope:

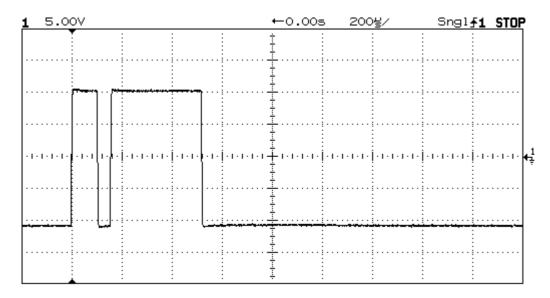


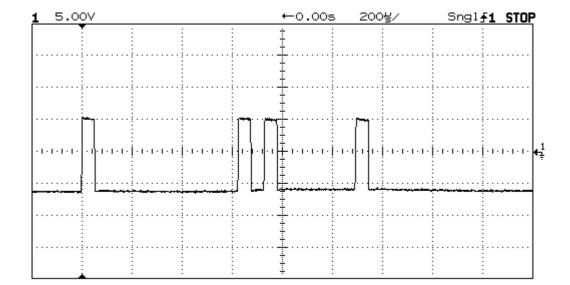
e. The input resistance measured between Rx and GND has to be lower than 3...7 KOhm

10



Signal measured between RX+ and RX- by a 600 instrument. (Probe earth on RX-) No communication on the line = -12V Analyzed message = \$02 = 00000010B







RS485

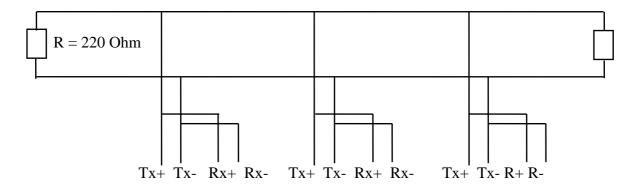
The line is made up of two conductors and of an additional ground reference optional one. The signal is differential.

This type of connection is apart from the task which has the device connected to the line. It has to be noticed that the 2-wire RS485 connection can be obtained by a 4-wire interface, connecting Rx+ with Tx+ and Rx- with Tx-.

The line polarization is necessary to avoid an indeterminated status when this is in high impedance. The polarization type has to impose a MARK status.

In this case the Master unit transmits a message and all Slaves receive it. At the end, if a Slave has

to answer, it works like a Master and sends its own message. A peculiar feature of this connection is represented by the fact that all devices connected to the line receive everything passing on it.



The RS485 standard provides a max. of 32 units connected in parallel.

Each connected unit causes the Tx port high impedance, which means that no electrical status is imposed to the line itself. When an element has to transmit, it activates its own transmission line through a RTS signal (transmission request). The element which transmits receives the transmitted data, too.

Remarks:

The 2-wire RS485 connection with PC/AT cards is the following one:



The 2-wire RS485 connection through an ADAM converter is the following one:

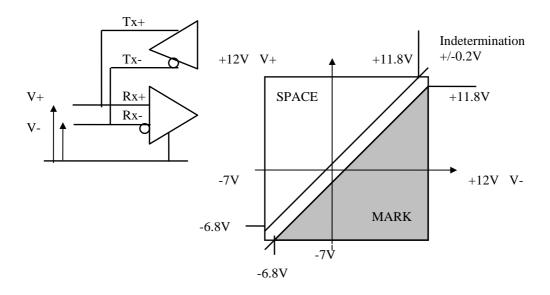
PC/AT (Master)	<u>ADAM</u>			Gefran Instruments		
	IN(RS232)	OUT(RS485)				
RX ←	TX	DATA +	•		A	
TX ←	RX	DATA -	•		В	
GND ———	GND					



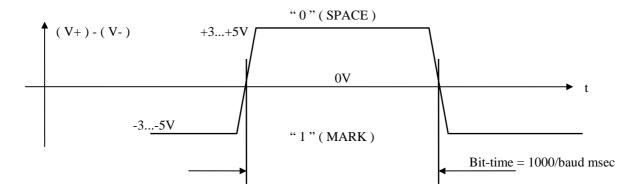
Main checks for a correct working:

(Tx and Rx refer to Gefran instruments connections)

- a. Check the electrical connection and find Tx+/Tx-, Rx+/Rx- signals
- b. If the line is not active and if it is polarized, the "1" (MARK) logic state is present. It corresponds to a -3...-5V negative voltage (V+) (V-) (which is in the -0.2...-19V allowed interval) and can be measured with a tester
- c. By an active communication line, the wave-form presents logic state variations at "0" (SPACE), corresponding to positive voltage value (V+) (V-)



d. The conformity of the wave with the following model can be monitored with a standard oscilloscope:



e. The line resistance measured between + and – has to be higher than 60 Ohm; without terminals it has to be higher than 12 KOhm/n. connected devices



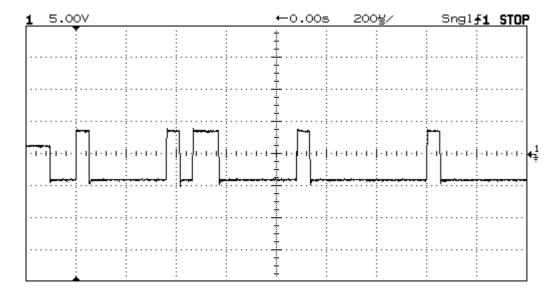
Connection: PC->ADAM->600

Modbus Protocol:

Signal measured between A and B by a 600 instrument. (Probe earth on B)

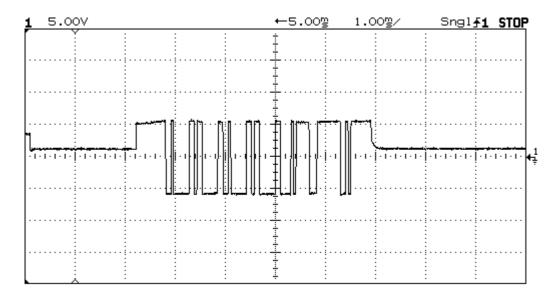
No communication on the line = 1V

Analyzed message = \$02-\$03-\$00 = 00000010B 00000011B 00000000B



Signal measured between A and B by a 600 instrument. (Probe earth on B) Selected instrument = 1V

Analyzed message = $902-903_902... = 00000010\ 00000011\ 00000010B$





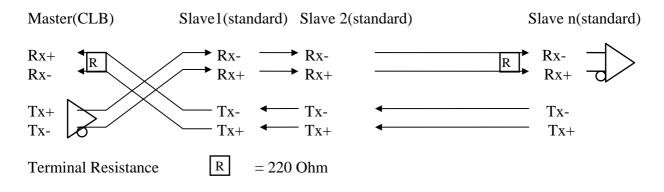
4-wire RS485

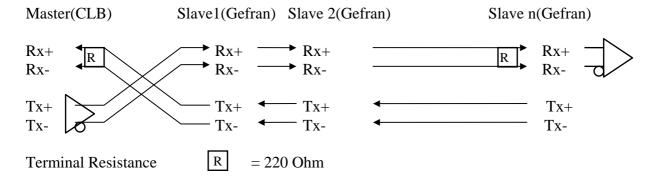
The line is made up of four conductors, of an additional ground reference optional one, of two differential signals Rx+/Rx- and Tx+/Tx-.

The signal names are assigned and they refer either to the PC or to the instruments. The Rx signal receives and the Tx signal transmits data.

This statement justifies the connection between the units, where the Master (PC) Tx signal is connected to the Slave (instruments) Rx signal and viceversa.

It has to be noticed that the RS422 connection concerns a transmission/receiving connection between two units only (a Master and a Slave); only the 4-wire RS485 connection allows to have more than one Slave.





Remarks:

The 4-wire RS485 connection with PC/AT cards is the following one:

PC/AT (Master)	Standard Instruments	Gefran Instruments
RXD+ ◆	Tx+	Tx-
RXD- ◆	Tx-	Tx+
TXD+ →	Rx+	Rx-
TXD-	Rx-	Rx+

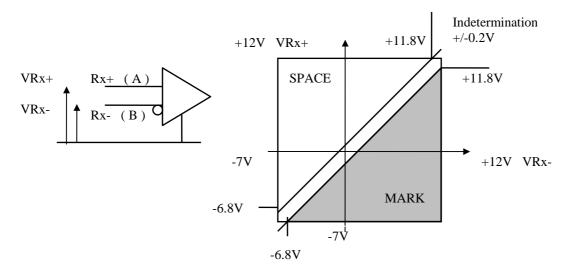
Main checks for a correct working:

(Tx and Rx refer to connections with Gefran instruments)

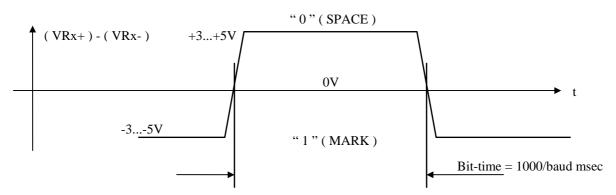
- a. Check the electrical connection and individuate the Tx+/Tx-, Rx+/Rx- signals
- b. If the line is not active, the " 1" (MARK) logic state is present. It corresponds to a -3...-5V negative voltage (VRx+-VRx-) (which is in the admissible interval -0.2...-19V) and can be measured with a tester



c. By an active communication line, the wave-form presents logic state variations at "0" (SPACE), corresponding to a positive voltage value (VRx+-VRx-)



d. The conformità of the wave with the following model can be monitored with a standard oscilloscope:



e. The input resistance of each receiver measured between Rx+ and Rx- has to be higher than 12 KOhm; without terminal resistance it has to be higher than 12 KOhm/n. connected equipments

Connection: PC->CLB94->600

Cencal Protocol:

CLB94 jumper configuration:

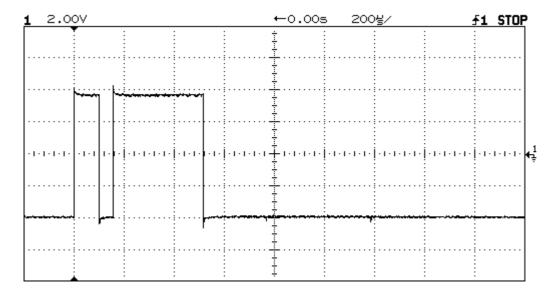
Component side:



In the Cencal protocol, this polarization is used for signalling a possibile disabled line and it is the inverse of the stop bit level of trasnmitted data.

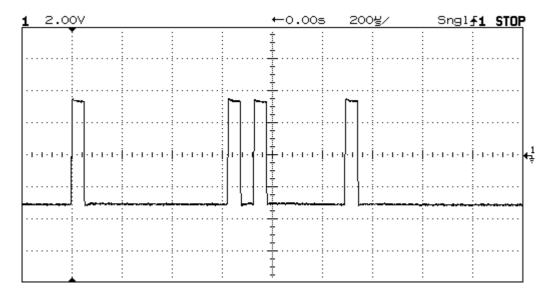


Signal measured between RX+ and RX- by a 600 instrument. (Probe earth on RX-) No communication on the line = -4V Analyzed message = \$02 = 00000010B



Signal measured between TX+ and TX- by a 600 instrument. (Probe earth on TX-) Instrument selected = -3V

Analyzed message = \$FFFE = 11111111 11111110B



Modbus Protocol:

CLB94 jumper configuration:

Component side:

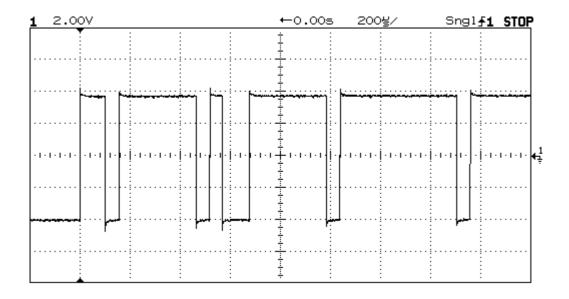
S15 S16 S14

→ box bottom



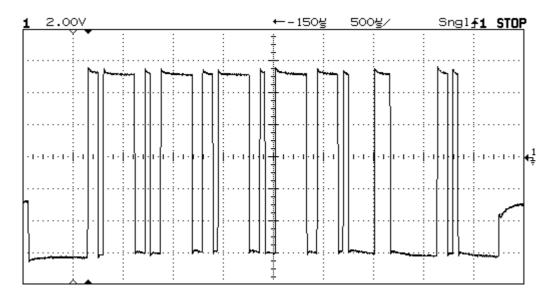
In the Modbus protocol, in case of disabled line (**RTS** signal disabled), polarity has to follow data stop bit. An opposite polarity would cause a change of state at the end of a datum, which would generate an undesired start bit, sending an additional character on the line.

Signal measured between RX+ and RX- by a 600 instrument. (Probe earth on RX-) No communication on the line = -4V Analyzed message = \$02-\$03-\$00 = 00000010B 00000011B 00000000B



Signal measured between TX+ and TX- by a 600 instrument. (Probe earth on TX-) Instrument selected = -3V

Analyzed message = $902-903_902... = 00000010\ 00000011\ 00000010B$





Current Loop

The line is made up of four conductors and of two Rx+/Rx-e Tx+/Tx-signals.

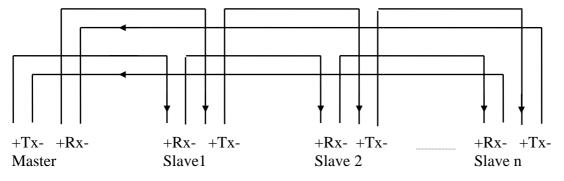
The signal names are assigned and they refer either to the PC or to the instruments. The Rx signal

receives and the Tx signal transmits data.

This statement justifies the connection between the units, where the Master (PC) Tx signal is connected to the Slave (instruments) Rx signal.

Gefran instruments are equipped with current passive serial interface, the connection can be in series or parallel. The last one is suggested, in order to keep the continuity and works even if a Slave has been excluded:

Connection in series:

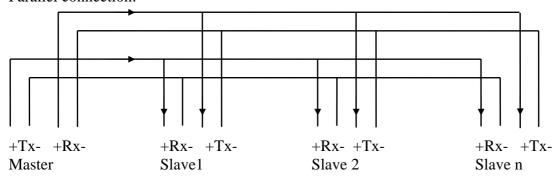


The Master active in transmission is an on-off current generator:

- "1" (MARK) logic status, 20mA current
- "0" (SPACE) logic status, 0mA current

The Master active in receiving has a 20mA current generator; the on-off modulation is made by the selected Slave; non-selected Slaves keep "1" (MARK) logic state and allow current circulation.

Parallel connection:



The Master active in transmission is an on-off voltage generator:

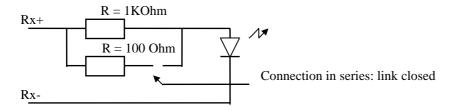
- "1" (MARK) logic status, 20V voltage, (20mA * n.slave) current
- "0" (SLAVE) logic status, 0V voltage, 0mA current

The Master active in receiving has a 20mA current generator; on-off modulation is made by the selected Slave; non-selected Slaves are in a high impedance state.



Current Loop Interface in Gefran Instruments

Two selectable resistances for series/parallel connection option are provided on the instruments, at the isolated passive input:



The transmission requires an isolated static switch:



The Rx receiving line is isolated from the Tx transmission one.

 $Ge fran\ proposes\ the\ CLB94\ converter\ for\ RS232/Current\ Loop\ matching.$

Its main features are:

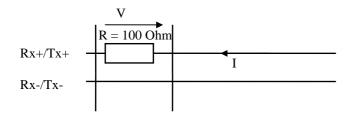
- electrical isolation between the RS232 line and the current line
- a 20V generator protection (in transmission) against short-circuits (max. 300mA) to supply a max. of 10 instruments connected in parallel
- a 20mA current generator (in transmission) on 600 Ohm max. load for connections in series
- a 20mA current generator (in receiving) on a 1.6 KOhm max. load

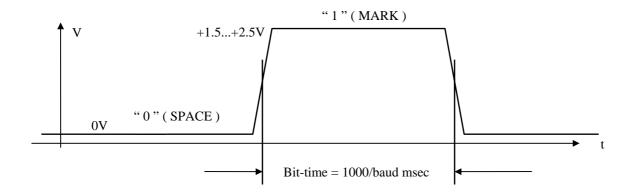
Main checks for a correct working:

- a. Check the electrical connection and find Tx, Rx signals
- b. If the line is not active, the "1" (MARK) logic state is present, corresponding with current. It can be measured with a tester to be connected in series on the line
 - Connection in series: current is 20mA in the Master transmission line
 - Connection in parallel: current is 20mA* n.Slave in the Master transmission line
 - In the Master receiving line, current is 20mA
- c. By an active communication line, the wave-form presents logic state variations at "0" (SPACE), corresponding to a null current



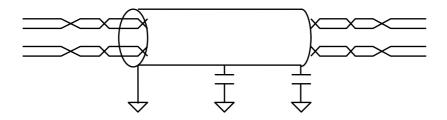
d. The conformity of the wave-form with the following model can be monitored with a standard oscilloscope, by measuring current through a shunt resistance to be put in series on the line connection terminals:





Connection

The connection can be made with a twisted pair cable, preferably screened



Connect the shield to the ground with clamps/bands, by one side only and, where possible, constrain it to the ground reference by means of capacities.

Do not insert serial connection cables in raceways where cables with high and pulse currents are present, such as, for example, motors with inverter drive.

Inside the electrical panel, where possible, use metal raceways and intersect power lines in an orthogonal way.

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A-Z Glossary

baud – speed measure unit of a serial transmission. It corresponds to the number of bits transmitted in one second.

bit – base element of a binary numeric system (binary digit). It assumes value "0" or "1" **byte** – set of 8 bits (8 binary digits). A byte assumes binary values between 0 and 255 **capacity** – physical element which mainly accumulates electric charge. If a direct voltage is applied at its poles, it works like an open circuit, if, on the contrary, an alternate high frequency voltage is applied, it works as a shortcircuit.

data rate – data transmission speed.

digital – it is associated to a physical event or quantity, which can be described by a finite number of states (i.e.: digital input, digital signal).

full duplex – transmission system which allows a device to transmit and receive data contemporaneously.

gnd - or ground, it identifies the reference potential of voltage measures in an electrical circuit. **half duplex -** transmission system which allows a device to transmit and receive data transmission alternately.

impedance – ratio between voltage and current measurable at the poles of an electric network, composed by a real part and by a fictitious one.

logic status – element to describe digital quantities.

master – device which controls another one (Slave).

parallel (**connection**) – in a parallel connection the information reaches all connected devices contemporaneously.

parity – a serial transmission feature to control data integrity. It can be even or odd; from this depends the status of a bit added to the others to bring the number of bit = "1" to the declared parity value.

polarization – it gives a definite electrical status to a line when this is not given by elements connected to the line itself.

resistance (**electric**) – real/effective part of an impedance; element which dissipates active power when current is in phase with voltage applied across. It is measured in Ohms. **series** (**connection**) – in a connection in series the information reaches the devices in a sequential way, it enters a device and comes out to enter the following one.

shunt – element to convert a current measure into a voltage one.

slave – device connected to another one (Master). "Slave" is controlled by Master.

terminal – element which imposes a definite impedance value to a transmission line. **voltage** (**electric**) – quantity measurable as potential difference between two points of an electric network. It is measured in Volts.

wave-form – graphic representation (amplitude-time) of a physical quantity time flow. **word** – set of two bytes (16 bit). A word assumes binary values within 0 and 65535



Electrical Connections (PC, converters, instruments)

All available connections between a supervisory PC and Gefran instruments via RS232, RS485 and 4-wire RS485 are listed in the following pages.

The protocol used in the communication is independent on the electrical connection, apart from the RS485 connection, where Cencal protocol cannot be used.

Important Remark: when you use a CLB94 converter, you have to set the internal configuration jumpers according to input and output connections of the CLB itself. These settings are listed in the CLB94 manual.

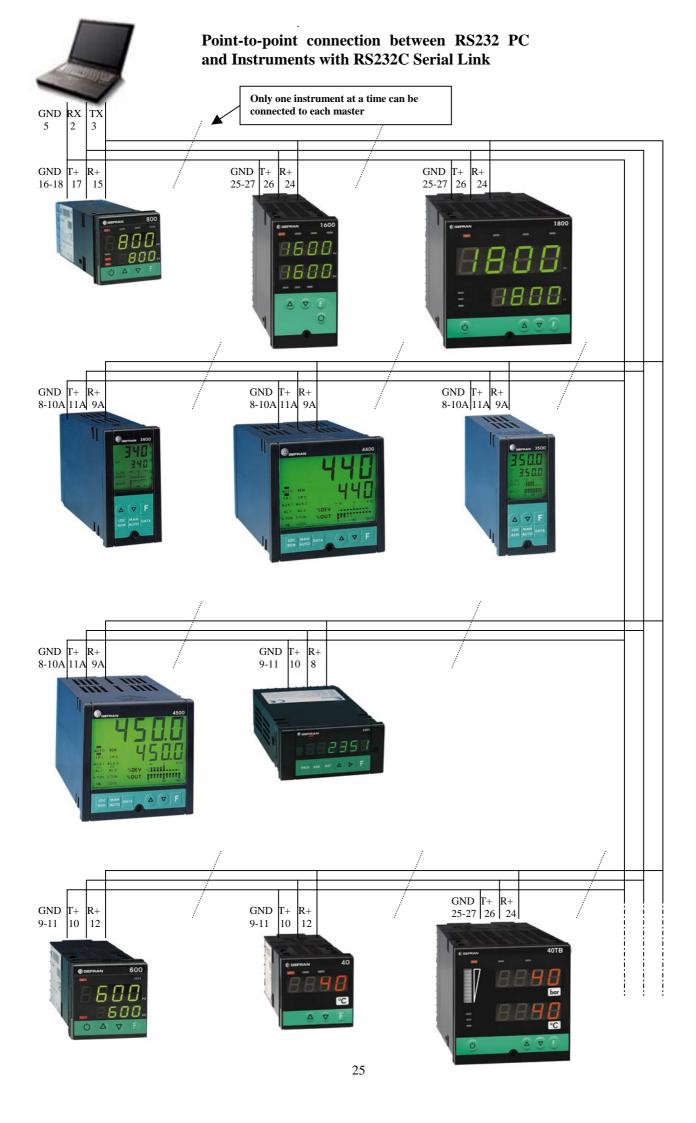
If you use an ADAM converter, you have to select both the baudrate and the output connection (RS485 or RS422) simply by setting an internal dip-switch, which indication is given on the box of the converter itself.

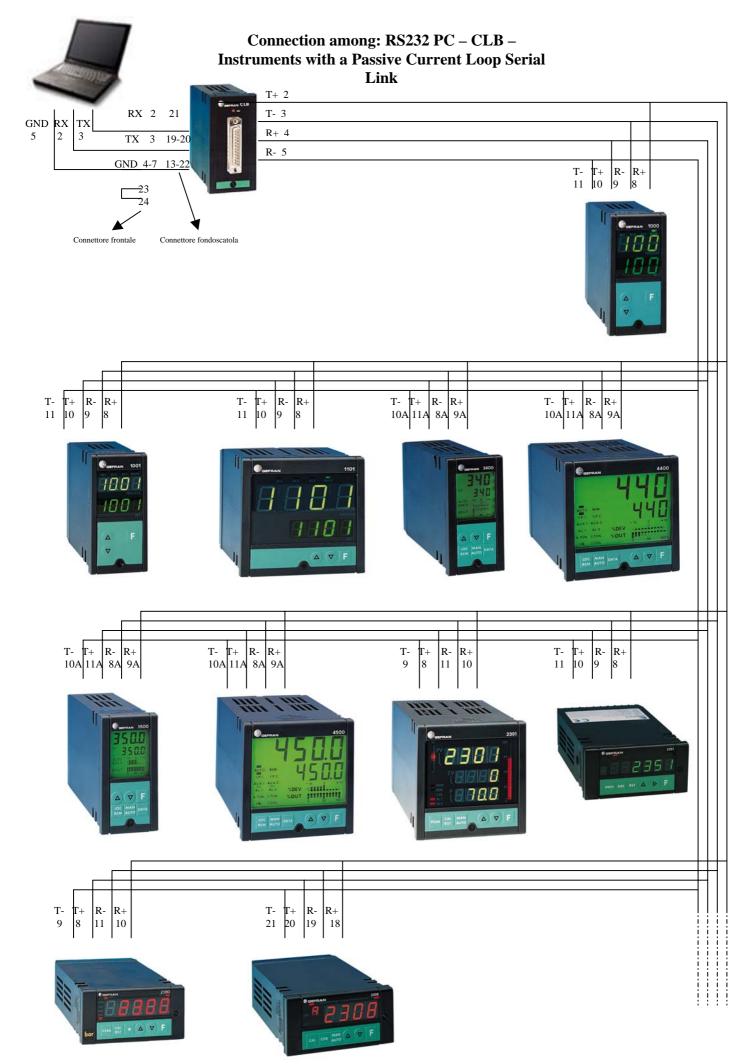
ADAM converter RS422 output interfaces with the 4-wire RS485 interface of Gefran instruments, as indicated in the relating configuration described below.

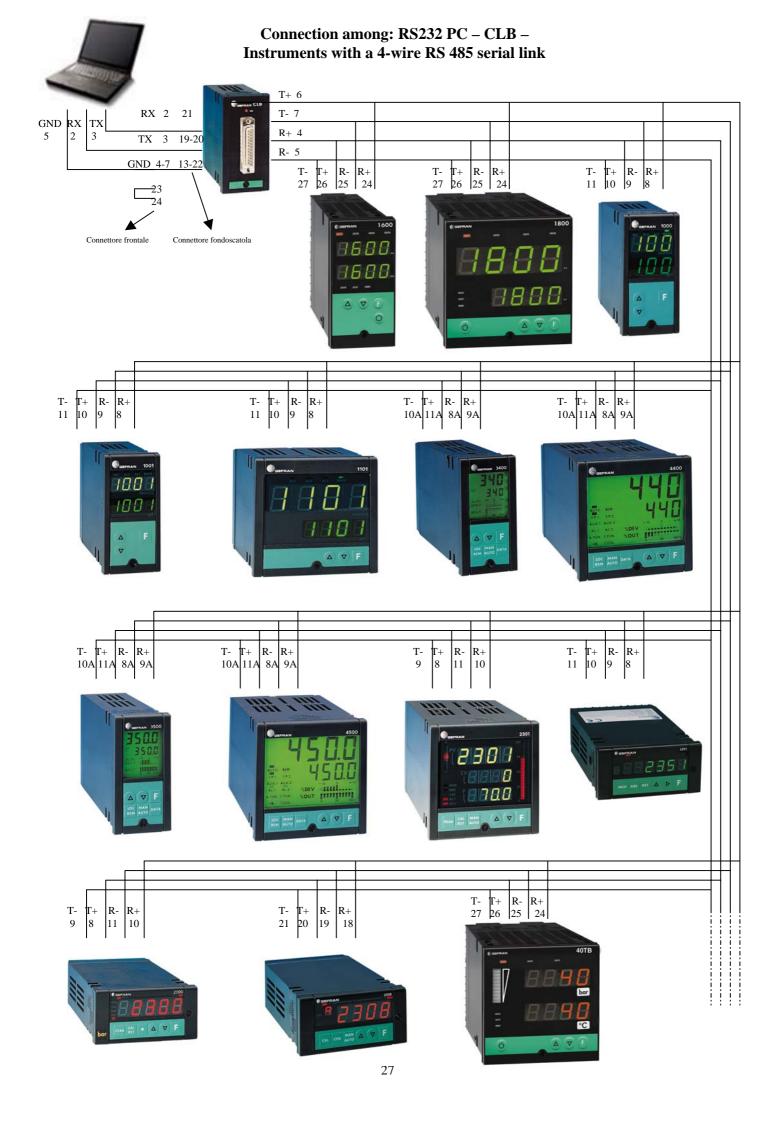


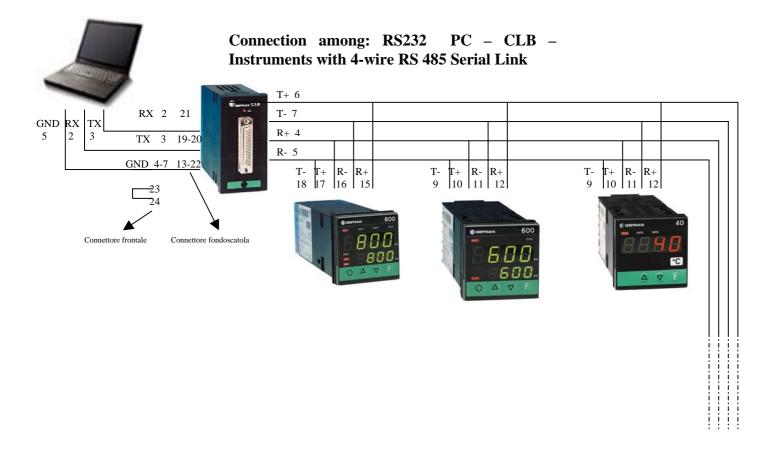
Gefran	Default Serial	RS232	RS485	4-wire	Modbus	Cencal	Connector
Instruments	Configuration		(A-B)	RS485	Protocol	Protocol	for
	(protocol-baud-						Winstrum
	parity-code)						Cable
600/601	Modbus-19200-	X	X	X	X	X	X
	none- 1						
4-40T	Modbus-19200-	X	X	X	X	X	X
	none- 1						
40TB	Cencal-1200- 1	X	X	X	X	X	X
GEFLEX	Modbus-19200-	X	X		X		
	none- 1						
800	Cencal-1200- 1	X	X	X	X	X	X
1600	Cencal-1200- 1	X	X	X	X	X	X
1800	Cencal-1200- 1	X	X	X	X	X	X
2301	Cencal-1200- 1		X	X	X	X	
2300	Cencal-1200- 1		X	X	X	X	
2308	Cencal-1200- 1		X	X	X	X	
1000	Cencal-1200- 1			X		X	X
1001	Cencal-1200- 1			X		X	X
1101	Cencal-1200- 1			X		X	X
3500	Cencal-1200- 1	X	X	X	X	X	
4500	Cencal-1200- 1	X	X	X	X	X	
3400	Cencal-1200- 1	X		X		X	
4400	Cencal-1200- 1	X		X		X	
2351	Cencal-1200- 1	X		X		X	

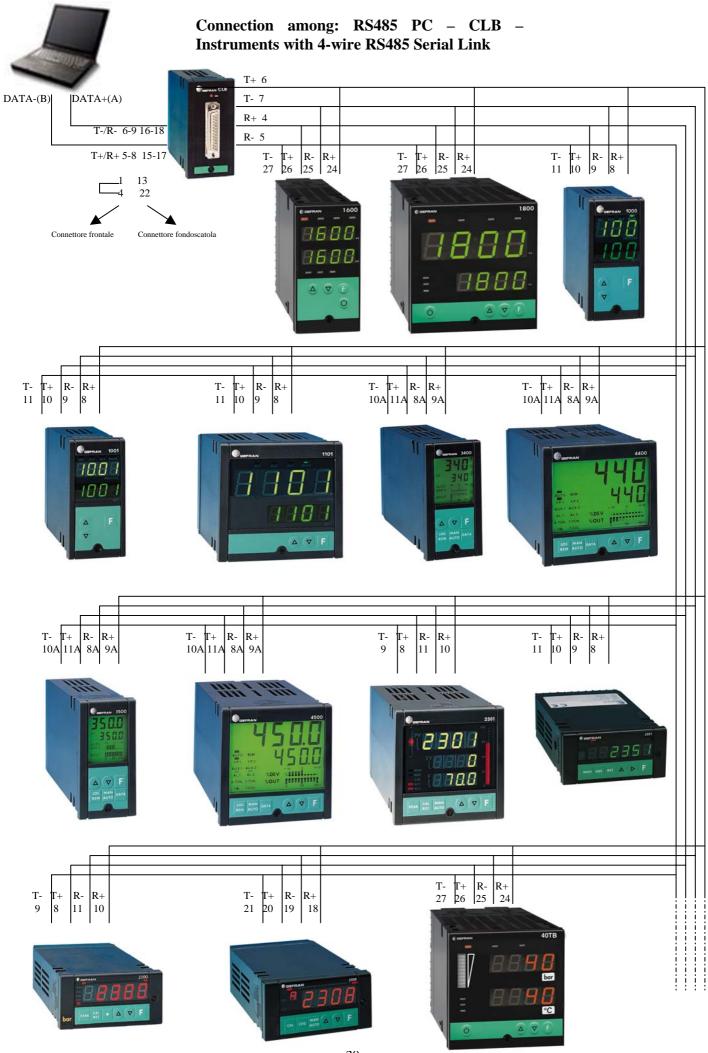
N.B.: For 600 and 4-40T instruments ordered without serial interface, default configuration becomes: **Cencal-19200-code 1**.

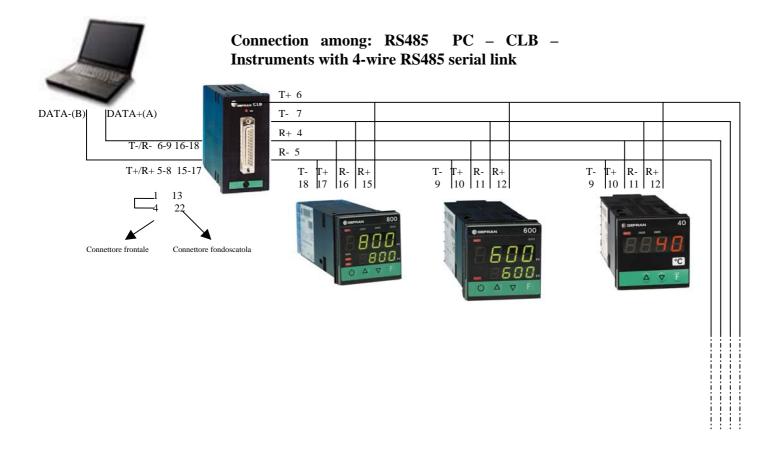


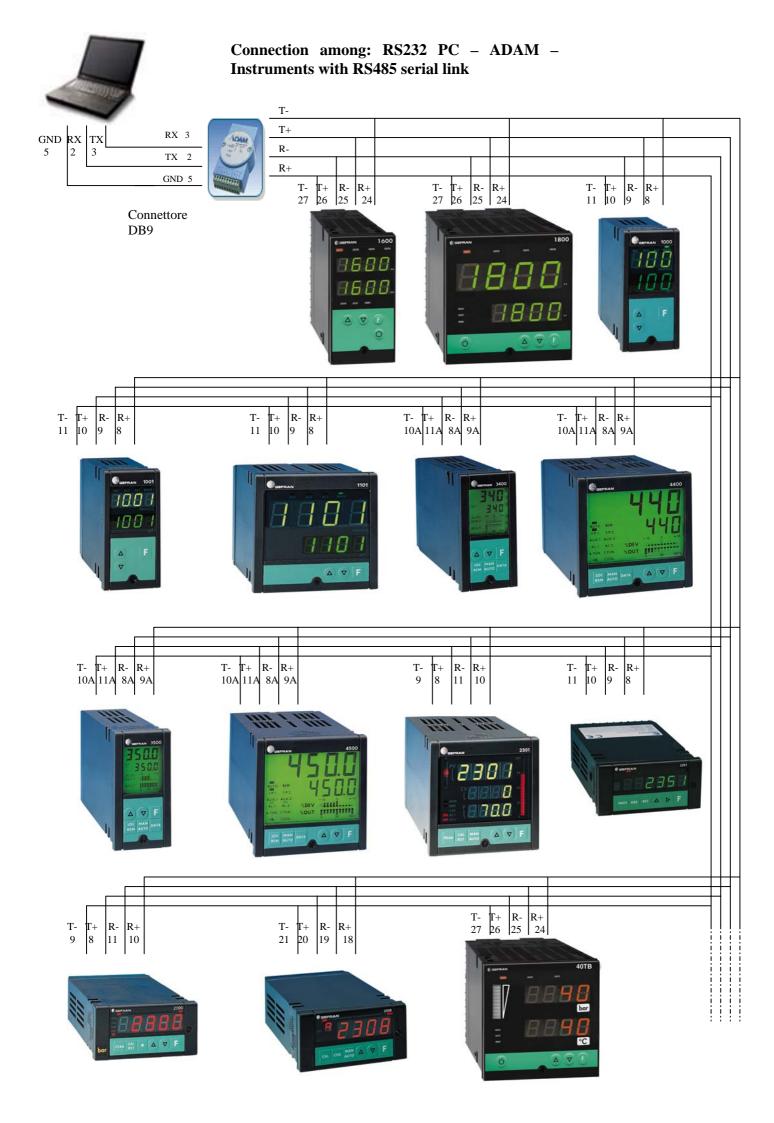




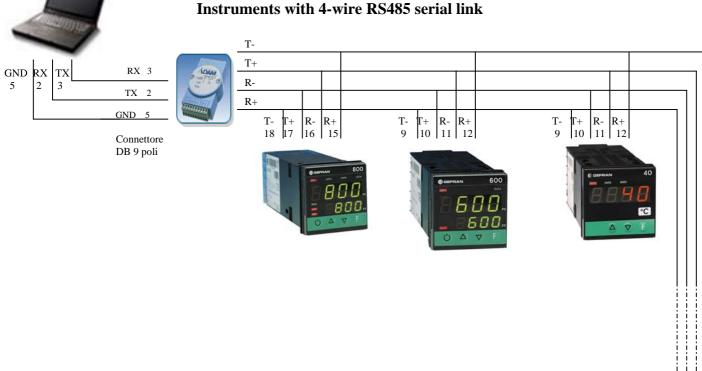








Connection among: RS232 PC - ADAM -Instruments with 4-wire RS485 serial link





CHAPTER 2

CENCAL PROTOCOL



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CENCAL Protocol

This protocol requires a connection architecture of multidrop units and it is of Master/Slave type: it includes some different Slave units (SLV) and a Master one only (MST). Each SLV is connected with the MST on the same communication "network" and can receive each message sent by the MST, even if it is not expressely addressed to it.

Thus, as far as the communication is concerning, the connected units are not equivalent. In fact the MST has a higher responsability as it has to choose which SLV unit to contact and which control to enter: it is always up to the MST to start a communication session and always with a single SLV each time.

Furthermore, the protocol is full duplex, which allows reception and transmission simultaneously.

For instance: "02" control: sequential address byte writing (see paragraph: "Communication Session"), the Master sends a byte string to the Slave and the Slave returns the Master the received byte echo. This can happen in parallel, with no transmission segment operation concerning the transmission of each byte and the reception of its echo. In this way the communication has a better performance

Data Type and Codification

The base unit for instrument data is the byte (8 bit). Used data are:

- binary data; they are arranged in byte, but they have to be considered as a single bit.
- negative and positive integral data; they take from one to four byte; negative numbers are represented 2-complement.

In the Master/Slave communication, transferred data size is the following one:

- 1 start bit
- 8 datum bit
- 1 parity bit ("ODD" parity used)
- 1 stop bit



Communication Session: Cencal Protocol Different Phases

A communication session includes the whole message exchange between the Master and the

Slave, from the communication initializing phase to the real data transmission.

A session is composed by the following phases:

- 1) **Initializing:** During this phase the Master sends the initializing character (point) in line: 0x55 (hexadecimal), with even parity. This is the only character sent in line with even parity. Slave units, when receiving this character, are in listening status and any eventual previous non-concluded communication session is interrupted.
- 2) Slave Selection: The Master sends on the network the ID code of the Slave unit with which the communication session has to be opened. Each Slave is identified univocally by a code settable in the 0/9999 range (2-bytes number). The addressed Slave sends back to the Master 1-complement of the same code. "0xAAAA" code is universal, that is: all Slaves recognize it as their own (thus it has to be used only when a Master and one only Slave are present, apart from the specific code).
- 3) Control: The Master sends a byte with the control code which identifies the operation to be made (read, write, etc.). The Slave sends back 1-complement of the received code.
- 4) Number of Bytes to be Transferred: The Master sends, with two sequential operations, two bytes with the byte number to be transferred. The Slave answers sending the direct echo of the received single bytes back. Some controls might miss this phase.
- 5) Address of the First Byte to be Transferred: The addresses take two bytes memory (see "Memory Maps" paragraph) and the Master sends the address byte to byte, starting from MSB most significant byte, in two sequential operations, waiting, between one and the other, that the Slave sends back the received byte (echo). Some controls might miss this phase.
- **6) Data Transaction:** When writing, the Master sends data byte by byte, waiting for the echo of the same byte before sending a new one. When reading (from Slave to Master) bytes are sent one after the other as the Master does not send the echo of the received byte.



Available Controls

These controls are available on all GEFRAN instruments.

Reading: "00" code.

Read data with sequential addresses from a Slave unit.

Phases N. 4 and 5 are also requested.

Last Reading Repetition: "01" code.

The Slave sends data requested with the last "00" command back.

Phases N. 4 and 5 are not requested.

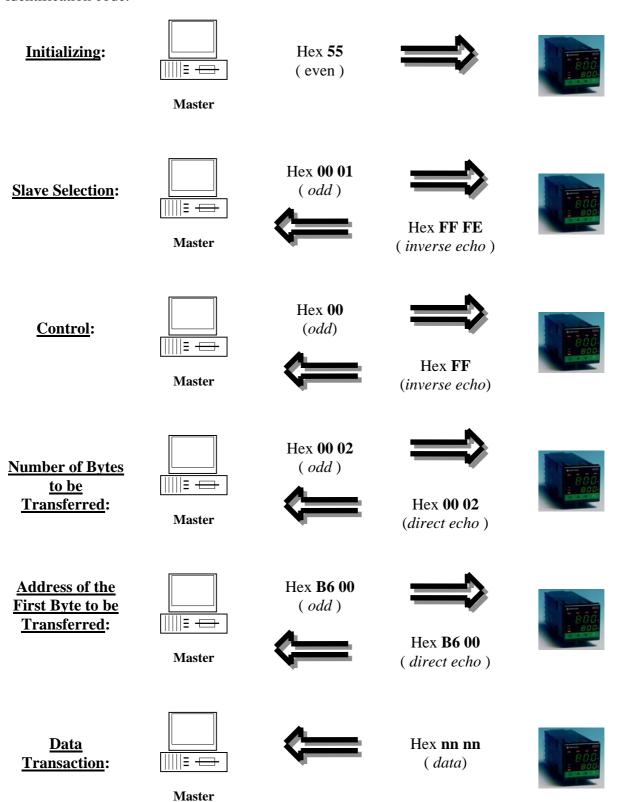
Writing: "02" code.

Writes data with sequential addresses on a Slave unit/address.



Reading Example

Protocol to read 2 bytes at Hex B600 address (800 controller setpoint); the instrument has 0001 identification code.





Memory Maps

Legend:

Addr.: hexadecimal address.

Size: data dimension and type:

1: 1 byte; Byte data.2: 2 byte; Word data.

Item: variable mnemonic name. The item name corresponds to the user's manual instrument name, apart from any eventual "." point, which is not accepted by the supervision program syntax.

Description: comment to explain data meaning, with reference to the instruments manual.

R/W: access modality to read/write enabled variables. "Cencal" protocol allows the writing of all map variables. It is suggested not to write some variables, such as, for instance, the calibration ones, as the instrument would not work properly. Another category of these only "R" variables is the set up one, which has to be made from the instrument keypad, considering the instrument itself and the devices connected to it (sensors, actuators, etc.). An example could be the parameters related to the type of probe.

Range: numeric interval of data acceptance. In some cases refers to other variables content.

Dp: (Decimal point), data decimal points number. In some cases refers to other variables content.

Def.: (Default) standard pre-defined setting.

Meas. Unit: Measure Unit

S.p.: scale points cp: converter points

min: minutes sec: seconds