

FM25L512

512Kb FRAM Serial 3V Memory



Features

512K bit Ferroelectric Nonvolatile RAM

- Organized as 65,536 x 8 bits
- Unlimited Read/Write Cycles
- 10 Year Data Retention
- NoDelay™ Writes
- Advanced High-Reliability Ferroelectric Process

Very Fast Serial Peripheral Interface - SPI

- Up to 20 MHz Frequency
- Direct Hardware Replacement for EEPROM
- SPI Mode 0 & 3 (CPOL, CPHA=0,0 & 1,1)

Write Protection Scheme

- Hardware Protection
- Software Protection

Low Power Consumption

- Low Voltage Operation 3.0V – 3.6V
- 20 μ A Standby Current

Industry Standard Configurations

- Industrial Temperature -40°C to +85°C
- 8-pin “Green”/RoHS TDFN Package
- Footprint Compatible with SOIC-8 (see pg 12)

Description

The FM25L512 is a 512-kilobit nonvolatile memory employing an advanced ferroelectric process. A ferroelectric random access memory or FRAM is nonvolatile and performs reads and writes like a RAM. It provides reliable data retention for 10 years while eliminating the complexities, overhead, and system level reliability problems caused by EEPROM and other nonvolatile memories.

Unlike serial EEPROMs, the FM25L512 performs write operations at bus speed. No write delays are incurred. The next bus cycle may commence immediately without the need for data polling. The next bus cycle may start immediately. In addition, the product offers virtually unlimited write endurance. Also, FRAM exhibits much lower power consumption than EEPROM.

These capabilities make the FM25L512 ideal for nonvolatile memory applications requiring frequent or rapid writes or low power operation. Examples range from data collection, where the number of write cycles may be critical, to demanding industrial controls where the long write time of EEPROM can cause data loss.

The FM25L512 provides substantial benefits to users of serial EEPROM as a hardware drop-in replacement. The FM25L512 uses the high-speed SPI bus, which enhances the high-speed write capability of FRAM technology. Device specifications are guaranteed over an industrial temperature range of -40°C to +85°C.

Pin Configuration

Top View

/CS	1	8	VDD
SO	2	7	/HOLD
/WP	3	6	SCK
VSS	4	5	SI

Pin Name	Function
/CS	Chip Select
/WP	Write Protect
/HOLD	Hold
SCK	Serial Clock
SI	Serial Data Input
SO	Serial Data Output
VDD	Supply Voltage (3.0 to 3.6V)
VSS	Ground

Ordering Information

FM25L512-DG	8-pin “Green”/RoHS TDFN
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This is a product that has fixed target specifications but are subject to change pending characterization results.

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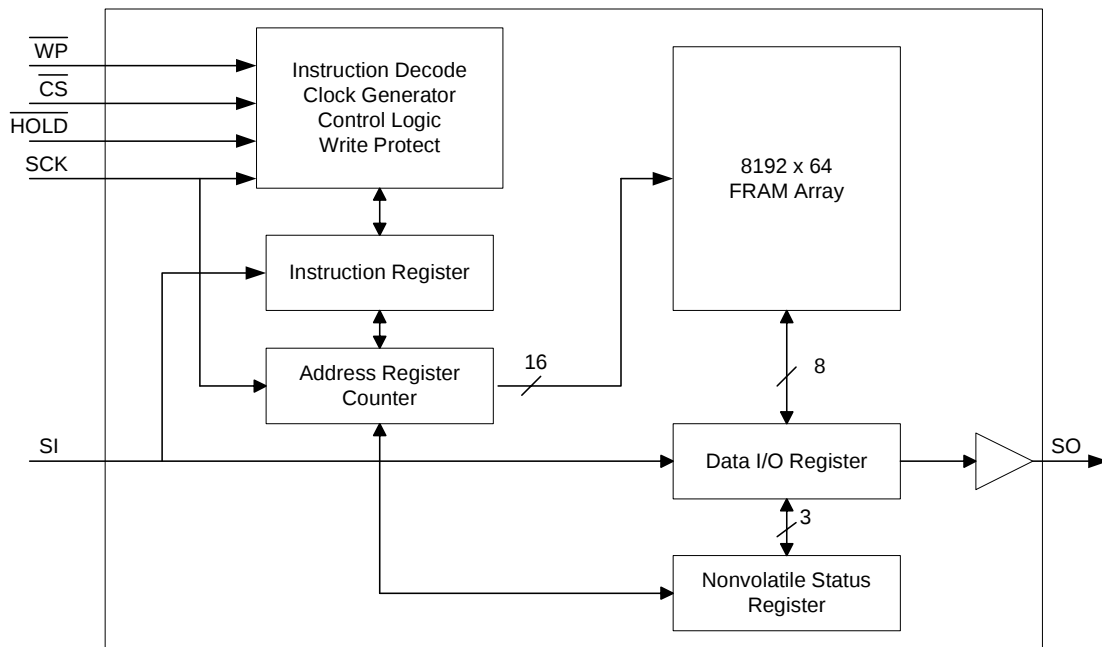


Figure 1. Block Diagram

Pin Descriptions

Pin Name	I/O	Description
/CS	Input	Chip Select: This active low input activates the device. When high, the device enters low-power standby mode, ignores other inputs, and all outputs are tri-stated. When low, the device internally activates the SCK signal. A falling edge on /CS must occur prior to every op-code.
SCK	Input	Serial Clock: All I/O activity is synchronized to the serial clock. Inputs are latched on the rising edge and outputs occur on the falling edge. Since the device is static, the clock frequency may be any value between 0 and 20 MHz and may be interrupted at any time.
/HOLD	Input	Hold: The /HOLD pin is used when the host CPU must interrupt a memory operation for another task. When /HOLD is low, the current operation is suspended. The device ignores any transition on SCK or /CS. All transitions on /HOLD must occur while SCK is low.
/WP	Input	Write Protect: This active low pin prevents write operations to the Status Register only. A complete explanation of write protection is provided on pages 6 and 7.
SI	Input	Serial Input: All data is input to the device on this pin. The pin is sampled on the rising edge of SCK and is ignored at other times. It should always be driven to a valid logic level to meet I _{DD} specifications. * SI may be connected to SO for a single pin data interface.
SO	Output	Serial Output: This is the data output pin. It is driven during a read and remains tri-stated at all other times including when /HOLD is low. Data transitions are driven on the falling edge of the serial clock. * SO may be connected to SI for a single pin data interface.
VDD	Supply	Power Supply (3.0V to 3.6V)
VSS	Supply	Ground

Overview

The FM25L512 is a serial FRAM memory. The memory array is logically organized as 65,536 x 8 and is accessed using an industry standard Serial Peripheral Interface or SPI bus. Functional operation of the FRAM is similar to serial EEPROMs. The major differences between the FM25L512 and a serial EEPROM with the same pinout are the FRAM's superior write performance, unlimited endurance, and lower power consumption.

Memory Architecture

When accessing the FM25L512, the user addresses 64K locations of 8 data bits each. These data bits are shifted serially. The addresses are accessed using the SPI protocol, which includes a chip select (to permit multiple devices on the bus), an op-code, and a two-byte address. The complete address of 16-bits specifies each byte address uniquely.

Most functions of the FM25L512 either are controlled by the SPI interface or are handled automatically by on-board circuitry. The access time for memory operation is essentially zero, beyond the time needed for the serial protocol. That is, the memory is read or written at the speed of the SPI bus. Unlike an EEPROM, it is not necessary to poll the device for a ready condition since writes occur at bus speed. So, by the time a new bus transaction can be shifted into the device, a write operation will be complete. This is explained in more detail in the interface section.

Users expect several obvious system benefits from the FM25L512 due to its fast write cycle and high endurance as compared to EEPROM. In addition there are less obvious benefits as well. For example in a high noise environment, the fast-write operation is less susceptible to corruption than an EEPROM since it is completed quickly. By contrast, an EEPROM requiring milliseconds to write is vulnerable to noise during much of the cycle.

Note that the FM25L512 contains no power management circuits other than a simple internal power-on reset. It is the user's responsibility to ensure that V_{DD} is within datasheet tolerances to prevent incorrect operation.

Serial Peripheral Interface – SPI Bus

The FM25L512 employs a Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) bus. It is specified to operate at speeds up to 20MHz. This high-speed serial bus provides high performance serial communication to a host

microcontroller. Many common microcontrollers have hardware SPI ports allowing a direct interface. It is quite simple to emulate the port using ordinary port pins for microcontrollers that do not. The FM25L512 operates in SPI Mode 0 and 3.

The SPI interface uses a total of four pins: clock, data-in, data-out, and chip select. A typical system configuration uses one or more FM25L512 devices with a microcontroller that has a dedicated SPI port, as Figure 2 illustrates. Note that the clock, data-in, and data-out pins are common among all devices. The Chip Select and Hold pins must be driven separately for each FM25L512 device.

For a microcontroller that has no dedicated SPI bus, a general purpose port may be used. To reduce hardware resources on the controller, it is possible to connect the two data pins together and tie off the Hold pin. Figure 3 shows a configuration that uses only three pins.

Protocol Overview

The SPI interface is a synchronous serial interface using clock and data pins. It is intended to support multiple devices on the bus. Each device is activated using a chip select. Once chip select is activated by the bus master, the FM25L512 will begin monitoring the clock and data lines. The relationship between the falling edge of $/CS$, the clock and data is dictated by the SPI mode. The device will make a determination of the SPI mode on the falling edge of each chip select. While there are four such modes, the FM25L512 supports only modes 0 and 3. Figure 4 shows the required signal relationships for modes 0 and 3. For both modes, data is clocked into the FM25L512 on the rising edge of SCK and data is expected on the first rising edge after $/CS$ goes active. If the clock starts from a high state, it will fall prior to the first data transfer in order to create the first rising edge.

The SPI protocol is controlled by op-codes. These op-codes specify the commands to the device. After $/CS$ is activated the first byte transferred from the bus master is the op-code. Following the op-code, any addresses and data are then transferred.

Certain op-codes are commands with no subsequent data transfer. The $/CS$ must go inactive after an operation is complete and before a new op-code can be issued. There is one valid op-code only per active chip select.

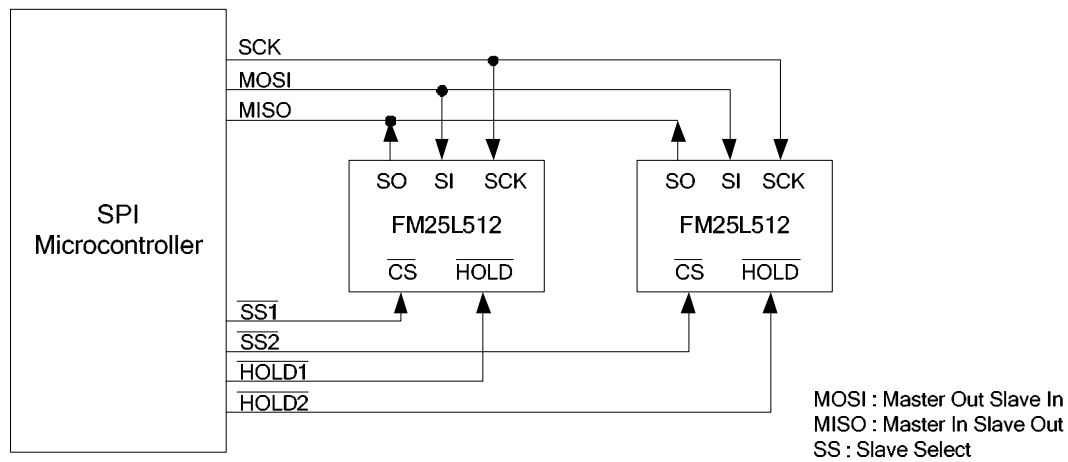


Figure 2. 1Mbit System Configuration with SPI port

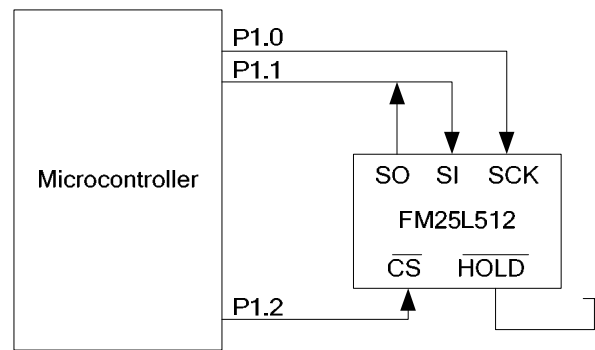
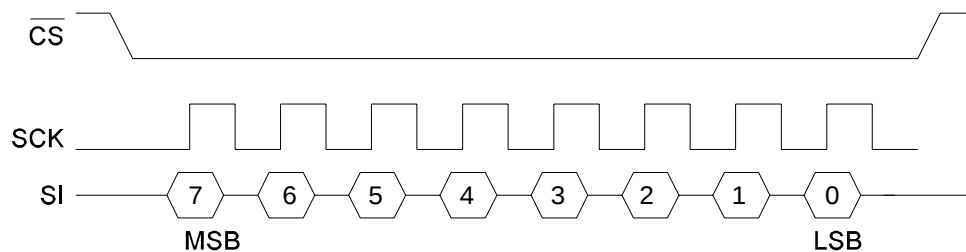


Figure 3. System Configuration without SPI port

SPI Mode 0: CPOL=0, CPHA=0



SPI Mode 3: CPOL=1, CPHA=1

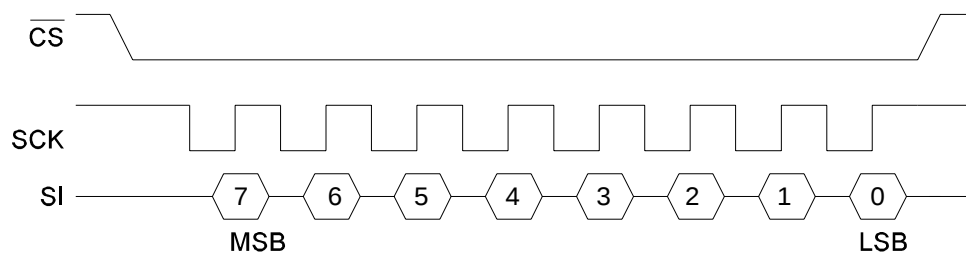


Figure 4. SPI Modes 0 & 3

Power Up to First Access

The FM25L512 is not accessible for a period of time (10 ms) after power up. Users must comply with the timing parameter t_{PU} , which is the minimum time from V_{DD} (min) to the first $/CS$ low.

Data Transfer

All data transfers to and from the FM25L512 occur in 8-bit groups. They are synchronized to the clock signal (SCK), and they transfer most significant bit (MSB) first. Serial inputs are registered on the rising edge of SCK. Outputs are driven from the falling edge of SCK.

Command Structure

There are six commands called op-codes that can be issued by the bus master to the FM25L512. They are listed in the table below. These op-codes control the functions performed by the memory. They can be divided into three categories. First, there are commands that have no subsequent operations. They perform a single function such as to enable a write operation. Second are commands followed by one byte, either in or out. They operate on the Status Register. The third group includes commands for memory transactions followed by address and one or more bytes of data.

Table 1. Op-code Commands

Name	Description	Op-code
WREN	Set Write Enable Latch	0000 0110b
WRDI	Write Disable	0000 0100b
RDSR	Read Status Register	0000 0101b
WRSR	Write Status Register	0000 0001b
READ	Read Memory Data	0000 0011b
WRITE	Write Memory Data	0000 0010b

WREN - Set Write Enable Latch

The FM25L512 will power up with writes disabled. The WREN command must be issued prior to any write operation. Sending the WREN op-code will allow the user to issue subsequent op-codes for write operations. These include writing the Status Register and writing the memory.

Sending the WREN op-code causes the internal Write Enable Latch to be set. A flag bit in the Status Register, called WEL, indicates the state of the latch. WEL=1 indicates that writes are permitted. Attempting to write the WEL bit in the Status Register has no effect on the state of this bit. The WEL bit will be automatically cleared on the rising edge of $/CS$ following a WRDI, a WRSR, or a WRITE operation. This prevents further writes to the Status Register or the FRAM array without another WREN command. Figure 5 below illustrates the WREN command bus configuration.

WRDI - Write Disable

The WRDI command disables all write activity by clearing the Write Enable Latch. The user can verify that writes are disabled by reading the WEL bit in the Status Register and verifying that WEL=0. Figure 6 illustrates the WRDI command bus configuration.

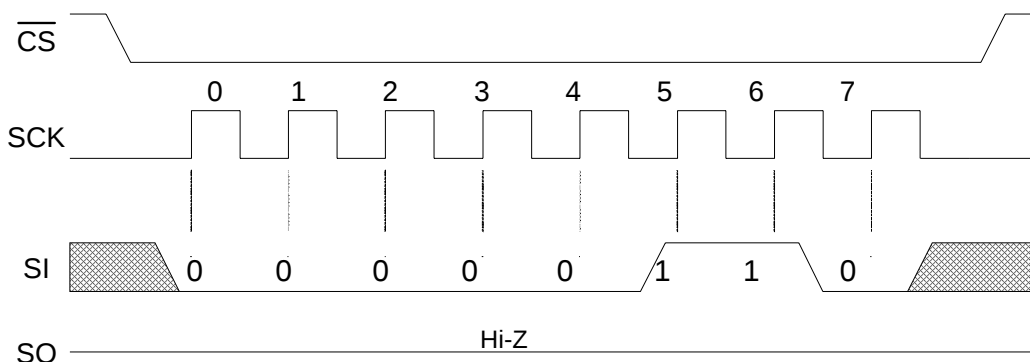


Figure 5. WREN Bus Configuration

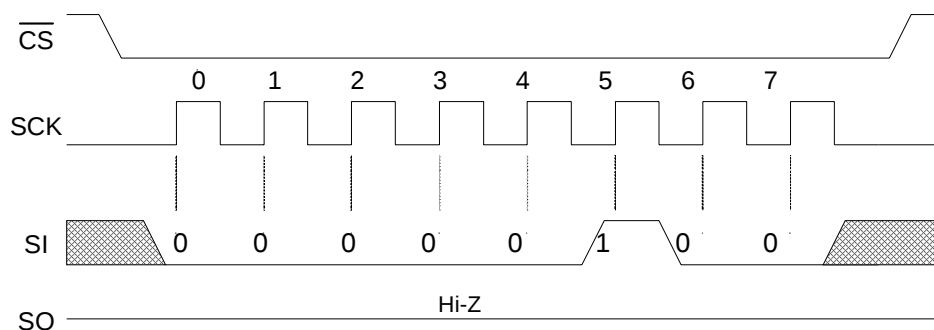


Figure 6. WRDI Bus Configuration

RDSR - Read Status Register

The RDSR command allows the bus master to verify the contents of the Status Register. Reading Status provides information about the current state of the write protection features. Following the RDSR op-code, the FM25L512 will return one byte with the contents of the Status Register. The Status Register is described in detail in a later section.

WRSR – Write Status Register

The WRSR command allows the user to select certain write protection features by writing a byte to the Status Register. Prior to issuing a WRSR command, the /WP pin must be high or inactive. Prior to sending the WRSR command, the user must send a WREN command to enable writes. Note that executing a WRSR command is a write operation and therefore clears the Write Enable Latch. The bus configuration of RDSR and WRSR are shown below.

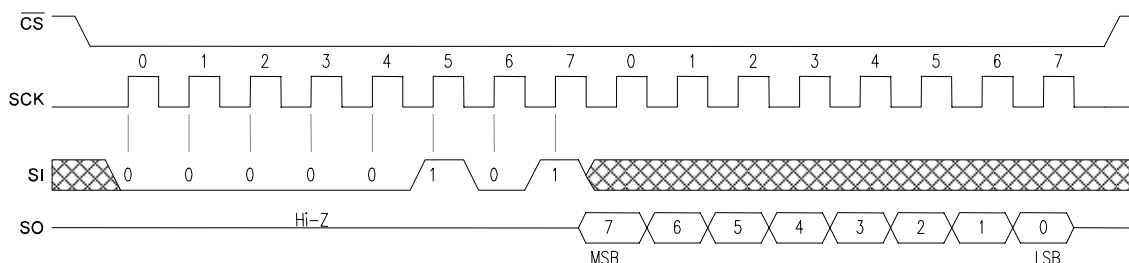


Figure 7. RDSR Bus Configuration

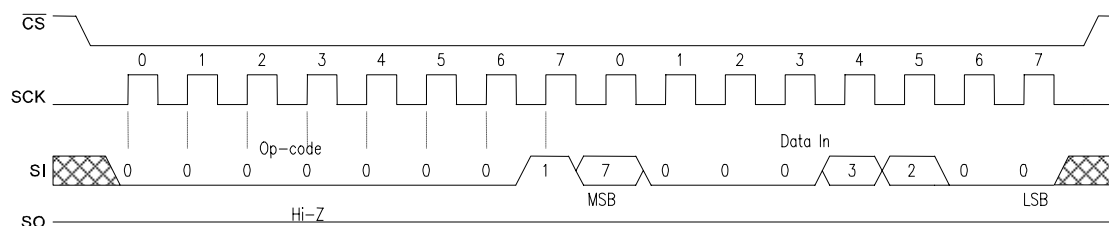


Figure 8. WRSR Bus Configuration

Status Register & Write Protection

The write protection features of the FM25L512 are multi-tiered. A WREN op-code must be issued prior to writing the memory (WRITE) or Status Register (WRSR). Protecting the Status Register can be accomplished via software using the WPEN bit or hardware using the /WP pin. Status Register write operations are blocked when /WP is low and WPEN=1. Memory write operations are protected by

the block protect (BP) bits in the Status Register. The state of the /WP pin has no effect on memory writes. As described above, writes to the Status Register are performed using the WRSR command and subject to the WPEN bit and /WP pin. The Status Register is organized as follows.

Table 2. Status Register

Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Name	WPEN	1	0	0	BP1	BP0	WEL	0

Bits 0, 4, 5 are fixed at 0 and bit 6 is fixed at 1, and none of these bits can be modified. Note that bit 0 (“Ready” in EEPROMs) is unnecessary as the FRAM writes in real-time and is never busy, so it reads out as a ‘0’. The BP1 and BP0 control software write protection features. They are nonvolatile (shaded yellow). The WEL flag indicates the state of the Write Enable Latch. Attempting to directly write the WEL bit in the Status Register has no effect on its state. This bit is internally set and cleared via the WREN and WRDI commands, respectively.

BP1 and BP0 are memory block write protection bits. They specify portions of memory that are write-protected as shown in the following table.

Table 3. Block Memory Write Protection

BP1	BP0	Protected Address Range
0	0	None
0	1	C000h to FFFFh (upper ¼)
1	0	8000h to FFFFh (upper ½)
1	1	0000h to FFFFh (all)

Table 4. Write Protection

WEL	WPEN	/WP	Protected Blocks	Unprotected Blocks	Status Register
0	X	X	Protected	Protected	Protected
1	0	X	Protected	Unprotected	Unprotected
1	1	0	Protected	Unprotected	Protected
1	1	1	Protected	Unprotected	Unprotected

Memory Operation

The SPI interface, which is capable of a relatively high clock frequency, highlights the fast write capability of the FRAM technology. Unlike SPI-bus EEPROMs, the FM25L512 can perform sequential writes at bus speed. No page register is needed and any number of sequential writes may be performed.

Write Operation

All writes to the memory array begin with a WREN op-code. The next op-code is the WRITE instruction. This op-code is followed by a two-byte address value, which specifies the 16-bit address of the first data byte of the write operation. Subsequent bytes are data and they are written sequentially. Addresses are incremented internally as long as the bus master continues to issue clocks. If the last address of FFFFh is reached, the counter will roll over to 0000h. Data is written MSB first. A write operation is shown in Figure 9.

The BP1 and BP0 bits and the Write Enable Latch are the only mechanisms that protect the memory from writes. The remaining write protection features protect inadvertent changes to the block protect bits.

The WPEN bit controls the effect of the hardware pin /WP. When WPEN=0, the /WP pin is ignored. When WPEN=1, the /WP pin controls write access to the Status Register. Thus the Status Register is write-protected only when WPEN=1 and the /WP pin is low.

This scheme provides a write protection mechanism, which can prevent software from writing the memory under any circumstances. This occurs if the BP1 and BP0 are set to 1, the WPEN bit is set to 1, and the /WP pin is low. This occurs because the block protect bits prevent writing memory and the /WP signal in hardware prevents altering the block protect bits (if WPEN is high). Therefore in this condition, hardware must be involved in allowing a write operation. The following table summarizes the write protection conditions.

Unlike EEPROMs, any number of bytes can be written sequentially and each byte is written to memory immediately after it is clocked in (after the 8th clock). The rising edge of /CS terminates a WRITE op-code operation. Asserting /WP active in the middle of a write operation will have no effect until the next falling edge of /CS.

Read Operation

After the falling edge of /CS, the bus master can issue a READ op-code. Following this instruction is a two-byte address value, 16-bits specifying the address of the first data byte of the read operation. After the op-code and address are complete, the SI line is ignored. The bus master issues 8 clocks, with one bit read out for each. Addresses are incremented internally as long as the bus master continues to issue clocks. If the last address of FFFFh is reached, the counter will roll over to 0000h. Data is read MSB first. The rising edge of /CS terminates a READ op-code operation. A read operation is shown in Figure 10.

Hold

The /HOLD pin can be used to interrupt a serial operation without aborting it. If the bus master pulls the /HOLD pin low while SCK is low, the current operation will pause. Taking the /HOLD pin high

while SCK is low will resume an operation. The transitions of /HOLD must occur while SCK is low, but the SCK and /CS pins can toggle during a hold state.

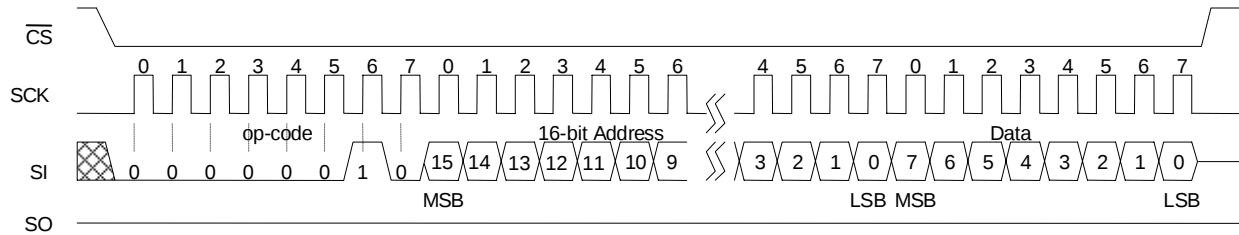


Figure 9. Memory Write

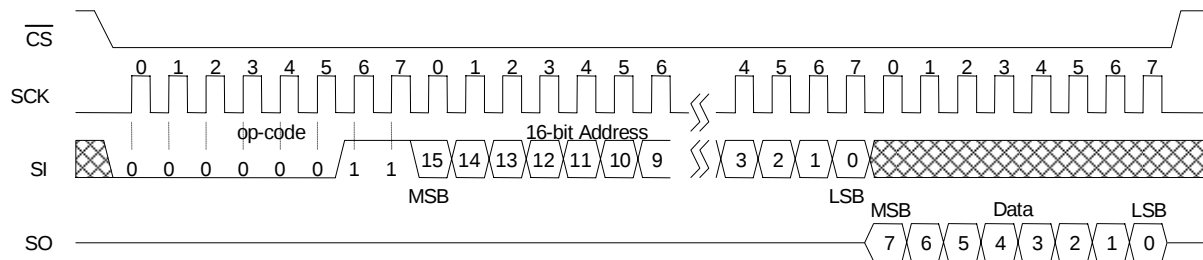


Figure 10. Memory Read

Electrical Specifications

Absolute Maximum Ratings

Symbol	Description	Ratings
V_{DD}	Power Supply Voltage with respect to V_{SS}	-1.0V to +5.0V
V_{IN}	Voltage on any pin with respect to V_{SS}	-1.0V to +5.0V and $V_{IN} < V_{DD} + 1.0V$
T_{STG}	Storage Temperature	-55°C to +125°C
T_{LEAD}	Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 seconds)	300° C

Stresses above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. This is a stress rating only, and the functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions above those listed in the operational section of this specification is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum ratings conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

DC Operating Conditions ($T_A = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$, $V_{DD} = 3.0\text{V}$ to 3.6V unless otherwise specified)

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Units	Notes
V_{DD}	Power Supply Voltage	3.0	-	3.6	V	
I_{DD}	Power Supply Current @ SCK = 1 MHz @ SCK = 20 MHz		- -	0.6 12	mA	1
I_{SB}	Standby Current		-	20	μA	2
I_{LI}	Input Leakage Current	-		± 1	μA	3
I_{LO}	Output Leakage Current	-		± 1	μA	3
V_{IH}	Input High Voltage	$0.7 V_{DD}$		$V_{DD} + 0.5$	V	
V_{IL}	Input Low Voltage	-0.3		$0.3 V_{DD}$	V	
V_{OH}	Output High Voltage @ $I_{OH} = -2\text{ mA}$	$V_{DD} - 0.8$		-	V	
V_{OL}	Output Low Voltage @ $I_{OL} = 2\text{ mA}$	-		0.4	V	
V_{HYS}	Input Hysteresis (/CS and SCK only)	$0.05 V_{DD}$		-	V	4

Notes

1. SCK toggling between $V_{DD} - 0.3\text{V}$ and V_{SS} , other inputs V_{SS} or $V_{DD} - 0.3\text{V}$.
2. SCK = SI = /CS = V_{DD} . All inputs V_{SS} or V_{DD} .
3. $V_{SS} \leq V_{IN} \leq V_{DD}$ and $V_{SS} \leq V_{OUT} \leq V_{DD}$.
4. This parameter is characterized but not 100% tested.

Data Retention ($V_{DD} = 3.0\text{V}$ to 3.6V)

Parameter	Min	Max	Units	Notes
Data Retention	10	-	Years	

AC Parameters ($T_A = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$, $V_{DD} = 3.0\text{V}$ to 3.6V unless otherwise specified)

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Units	Notes
f_{CK1}	SCK Clock Frequency	0	20	MHz	
t_{CH1}	Clock High Time	22		ns	1
t_{CL1}	Clock Low Time	22		ns	1
t_{CSU}	Chip Select Setup	10		ns	
t_{CSH}	Chip Select Hold	10		ns	
t_{OD}	Output Disable Time		20	ns	2
t_{ODV}	Output Data Valid Time		20		
t_{OH}	Output Hold Time	0		ns	
t_D	Deselect Time	60		ns	
t_R	Data In Rise Time		50	ns	1,3
t_F	Data In Fall Time		50	ns	1,3
t_{SU}	Data Setup Time	5		ns	
t_H	Data Hold Time	5		ns	
t_{HS}	/Hold Setup Time	10		ns	
t_{HH}	/Hold Hold Time	10		ns	
t_{HZ}	/Hold Low to Hi-Z		20	ns	2
t_{LZ}	/Hold High to Data Active		20	ns	2

Notes

1. $t_{CH} + t_{CL} = 1/f_{CK}$.
2. This parameter is characterized but not 100% tested.
3. Rise and fall times measured between 10% and 90% of waveform.

AC Test Conditions

Input Pulse Levels	10% and 90% of V_{DD}
Input rise and fall times	3 ns
Input and output timing levels	$0.5 V_{DD}$
Output Load Capacitance	30 pF

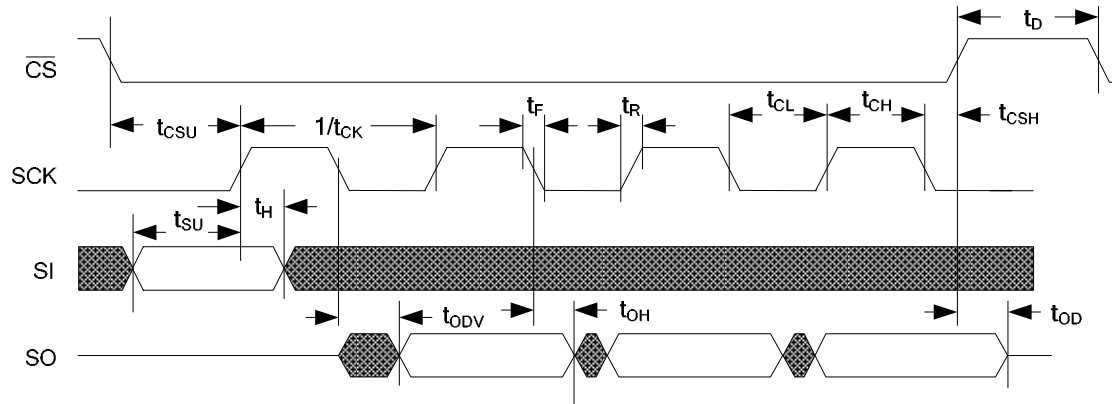
Capacitance ($T_A = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$, $f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$, $V_{DD} = 3.3\text{V}$)

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Units	Notes
C_O	Output Capacitance (SO)	-	8	pF	1
C_I	Input Capacitance	-	6	pF	1

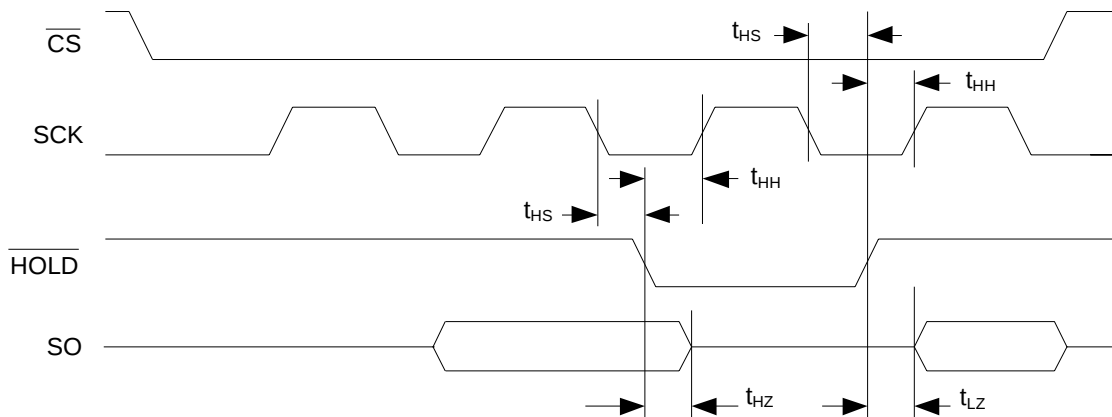
Notes

1. This parameter is characterized and not 100% tested.

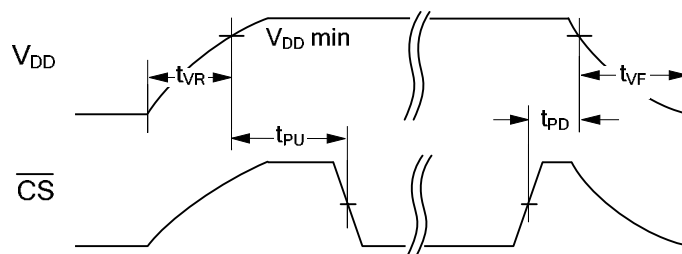
Serial Data Bus Timing



/Hold Timing



Power Cycle Timing

Power Cycle Timing ($T_{\text{A}} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$, $V_{\text{DD}} = 3.0\text{V}$ to 3.6V)

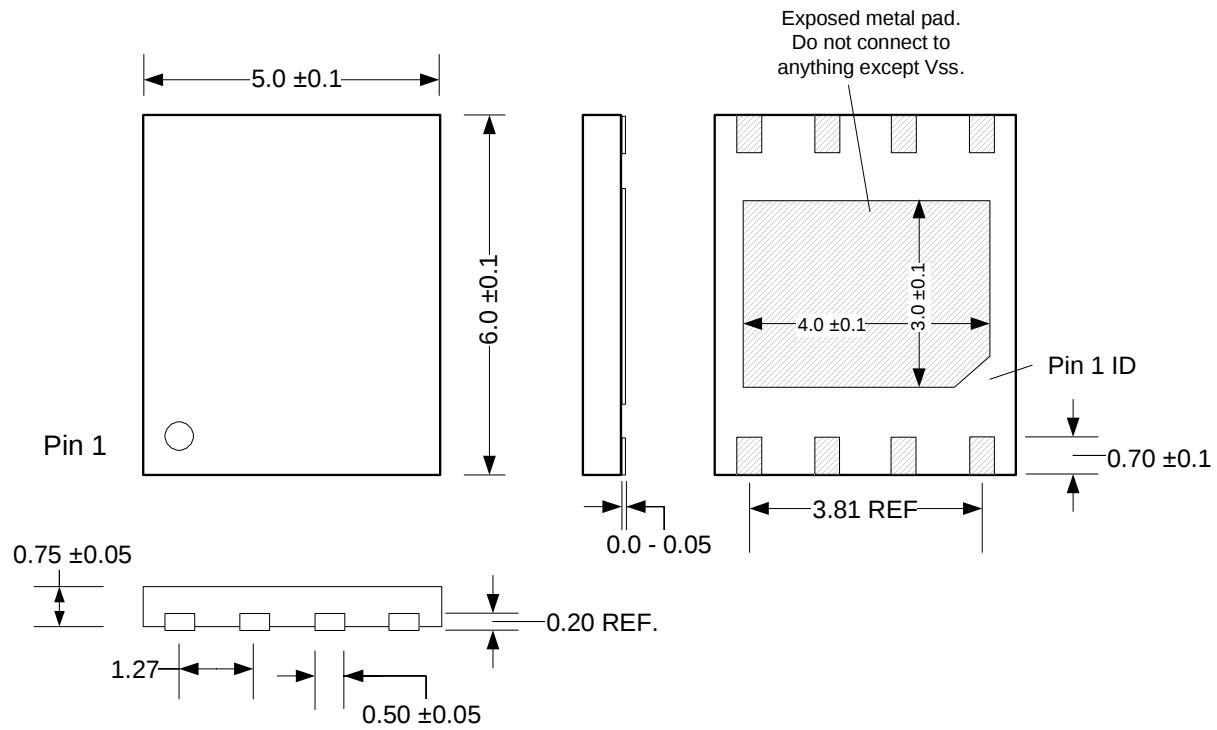
Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Units	Notes
t_{PU}	Power Up (V_{DD} min) to First Access ($\overline{\text{CS}}$ low)	10	-	ms	
t_{PD}	Last Access ($\overline{\text{CS}}$ high) to Power Down (V_{DD} min)	0	-	μs	
t_{VR}	V_{DD} Rise Time	50	-	$\mu\text{s}/\text{V}$	1,2
t_{VF}	V_{DD} Fall Time (applies only to V_{DD} levels below 2V)	1	-	ms/V	1,2

Notes

1. This parameter is characterized and not 100% tested.
2. Slope measured at any point on V_{DD} waveform.

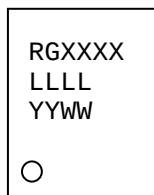
Mechanical Drawing

8-pin TDFN (5.0 mm x 6.0 mm body, 1.27 mm pad pitch)



Note: All dimensions in millimeters. This package is footprint compatible with the 8-pin SOIC, however care must be taken to ensure PCB traces and vias are not placed within the exposed metal pad area.

TDFN Package Marking Scheme for Body Size 5.0mm x 6.0mm



Legend:

R=Ramtron, G="green" TDFN package
XXXX=base part number
LLLL= lot code
YY=year, WW=work week

Example: “Green” TDFN package, FM25L512, Lot 0012, Year 2006, Work Week 24
RG5L51
0012
0624

Revision History

Revision	Date	Summary
1.0	8/21/06	Changed to Preliminary status. Changed to industrial temperature range. Changed I _{SB} . Changed tVR spec.
1.1	3/15/07	Modified package drawing and removed “preliminary” marking. Modified Serial Data Bus and HOLD Timing diagrams.
1.2	8/16/07	Clarified write protection section (pg. 6). Added comment about exposed metal pad to Mechanical Drawing page.