



3.3V, 1.25Gbps PECL High-Sensitivity Limiting Post Amplifier with TTL Loss-of-Signal

SY88903AL Evaluation Board

General Description

The SY88903AL high-sensitivity, limiting post amplifier is designed for use in fiber-optic receivers. The device connects to typical transimpedance amplifiers (TIAs). The linear signal output from TIAs can contain significant amounts of noise and may vary in amplitude over time. The SY88903AL quantizes these signals and outputs PECL-level waveforms.

The SY88903AL operates from a single +3.3V power supply, over an industrial temperature range of -40°C to $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$. With its wide bandwidth and high gain signals and with data rates up to 1.25Gbps, and as small as 5mV_{pp} , it can be amplified to drive devices with PECL inputs.

The SY88903AL generates a high-gain, loss-of-signal (LOS), open-collector, TTL output. The LOS function has a high gain input stage for increased sensitivity. A programmable loss-of-signal level set pin (LOS_{LVL}) sets the sensitivity of the input amplitude detection. LOS asserts high if the input amplitude falls below the threshold set by LOS_{LVL} and de-asserts low otherwise. The enable bar input ($/\text{EN}$) de-asserts the true output signal without removing the input signal. The LOS output can be fed back to the enable bar ($/\text{EN}$) input to maintain output stability under a loss-of-signal condition. Typically, 3.4dB LOS hysteresis is provided to prevent chattering.

This manual provides information on the SY88903AL evaluation board. It should be used in conjunction with the SY88903AL data sheet, which contains full specifications of the SY88903AL.

The SY88903AL evaluation board enables fast and thorough evaluation of the SY88903AL. The board is an easy-to-use, single supply design. It's designed to be driven by a high-speed, pattern generator and provides onboard 50Ω terminations for the generator's outputs. The input termination network also provides the required input bias of $V_{\text{CC}}-1.3\text{V}$ for the SY88903AL.

The SY88903AL evaluation board is intended to terminate to a 50Ω scope and provides for simple user adjustability of the LOS threshold through the adjustment of an on-board potentiometer.

All data sheets and support documentation can be found on Micrel's web site at: www.micrel.com.

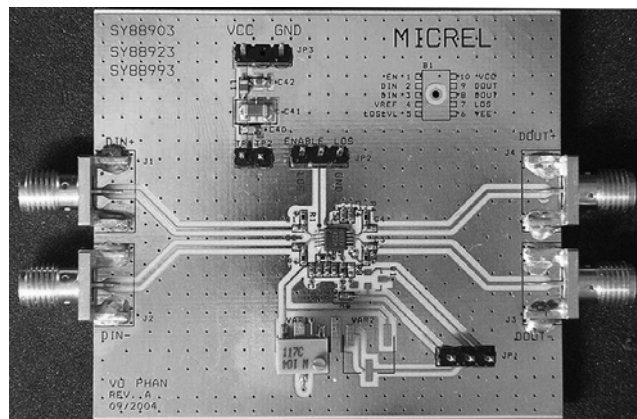
Features

- Single 3.3V supply
- DC-to-1.25Gbps operation
- Low-noise PECL data outputs
- High-gain LOS
Chatter-free open-collector TTL loss-of-signal (LOS) output with internal $4.75\text{k}\Omega$ pull-up resistor
- TTL $/\text{EN}$ input
- Programmable LOS level set (LOS_{LVL})
- Available in a tiny 10-pin MSOP
- AC-coupled I/O with SMA connectors
- 50Ω input network termination

Related Documentation

- SY88903AL, 3.3V, 1.25Gbps PECL High-Sensitivity Limiting Post Amplifier w/ TTL LOS Data Sheet

Evaluation Board



Measurement Setup

Equipment used for measurements:

1. Agilent 83752A Synthesized Sweeper
2. Agilent 70004A Display
3. Agilent 70843B Error Performance Analyzer
4. Agilent 86100A Wide-Bandwidth Oscilloscope

5. Two (2) MCL BW S15W2 40dB Attenuators
6. Agilent E3620A DC Power Supply
7. Tektronix DMM157 Multimeter
8. Matched High-Speed Cables w/SMA Connectors

Note:

Items 1 through 3 constitute the BERT stack

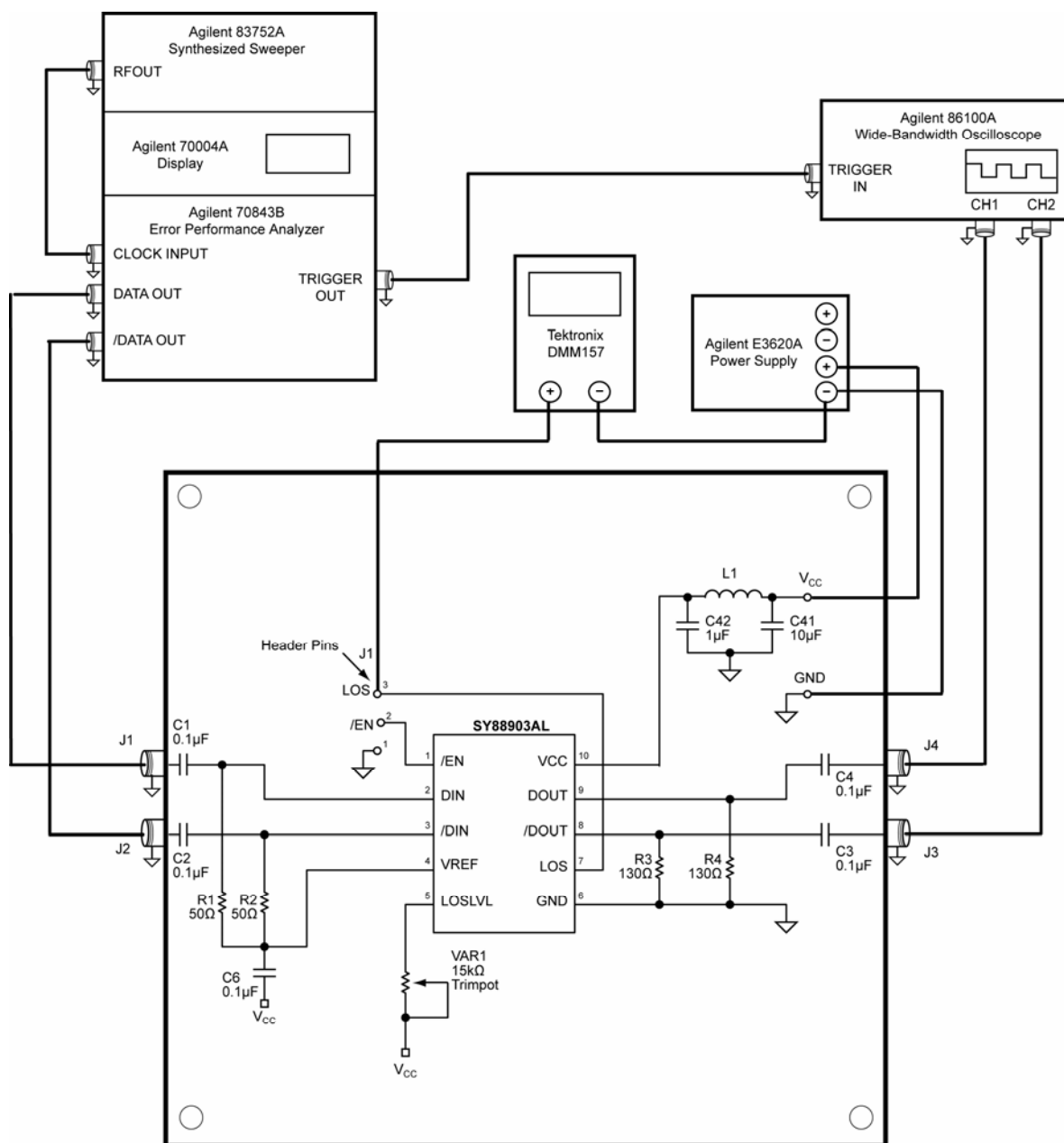


Figure 1. Setup for Measurement

Setup for Measurements

This section explains how to connect and setup the SY88903AL evaluation board, per Figure 1. Always ensure that proper ESD precautionary measures are taken before handling sensitive electronic equipment, including the SY88903AL evaluation board.

1. Set E3620A output to 3.3V and then turn off E3620A. Connect E3620A's positive lead to V_{CC} post, negative lead to GND post.
2. Configure Agilent BERT stack:
 - a. Set the 83752A Synthesized Sweeper to 1.25GHz.
 - b. From the 70004A's Pattern menu, choose the PRBS $2^{23}-1$ pattern.
 - c. From the 70004A's Trigger menu:
 - i. Choose clock as trigger output
 - ii. Choose CLK/8 for divider
 - d. From the 70004A's Data menu:
 - i. External Termination = DC termination 0V
 - ii. Attenuation = 40dB
 - iii. Amplitude = 5mV_{PP}
 - iv. Hi-Level = 0V
 - v. Tracking = ON
 - vi. Polarity = NORMAL
 - vii. Data Output = ON
 - viii. Crossing = 0
3. Connect 70843V's trigger output to 86100A's trigger input.
4. Use J1 to short /EN to GND on SY88903AL evaluation board.
5. Connect DIN and /DIN on SY88903AL evaluation board to 70843V's data outputs through 40dB attenuators
 - a. Connect 40dB attenuators directly to the board rather than the 70843V's data outputs to allow a larger and cleaner signal to pass through the connecting SMA cables.
6. Connect DOUT and /DOUT on SY88903AL evaluation board to 86100A's inputs.
7. Set DMM157 to display voltage. Connect positive lead to LOS header on J1 and connect negative lead to GND.
8. Turn on E3620A. Typical power supply current should be ~45mA, including the SY88903AL's current and current through the on-board 130Ω output pull-down resistors at 3.3V supply voltage. Excessive current usually means the power supply leads have been connected backwards. Be careful of this!
9. To configure 86100A oscilloscope:
 - a. Verify a trigger signal is present by checking that the Trigger Source button is lit.
 - i. Depress this button to choose external source if necessary.
 - ii. Adjust trigger level if necessary.
 - b. Press Eye/Mask Mode on front panel.
 - c. Choose NRZ Eye Measurements from on-screen display.
 - d. Choose RMS Jitter, Rise Time, Fall Time and Eye Amplitude measurements from on-screen selection list.

Measurements

The SY88903AL evaluation board assumes the use of a 50Ω scope to terminate the SY88903AL. The following sections detail various metrics that the SY88903AL evaluation board can measure:

1. Eye pattern generation including jitter and rise/fall times:
 - a. Set 70004's Data amplitude to 5mV_{PP}.
 - b. Press Autoscale on oscilloscope. The eye pattern should automatically display on the scope. If not, verify the steps listed in the "Setup for Measurements" section are completed. Sometimes the waveform needs to be manually adjusted to fit the display. Use the Time Scale and Voltage Scale knobs on the front panel of the scope to adjust this.
 - c. Observe measurements on scope's display. The rise and fall times should be less than 260ps, amplitude around 800mV (1600mV_{pp}) and jitter around 10ps_{RMS}.
 - i. Note that the output amplitude varies with the input amplitude until the SY88903AL enters limiting mode at around 12.5mV_{pp} input. The SY88903AL has a typical gain of 42dB. Hence, 5mV_{pp} input will give only 630mV_{pp} output, whereas 20mV_{pp} input will give 1600mV_{pp} output.

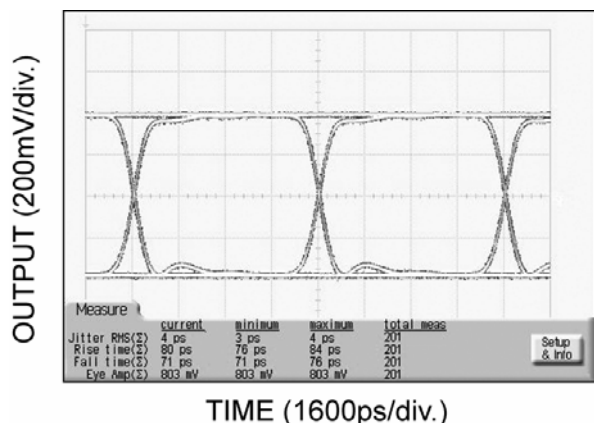


Figure 2. Typical SY88903AL Eye Pattern

2. Mask testing:
 - a. Press Eye/Mask Mode on front panel of scope.
 - b. Choose Mask Testing from on-screen display.
 - c. Choose Open Mask from on-screen selection list.
 - i. Select and open the appropriate Mask
 - d. Choose Start Mask Testing from on-screen selection list. Waveform should automatically display with appropriate mask regions and testing will start. If not, verify the steps listed in the "Setup for Measurements" section are completed.
3. BER testing:
 - a. Feedback the SY88903AL evaluation board's DOUT output to the 70843V's BERT Data input.
 - b. Feedback the 70843V's Clock output to the 70843V's BERT Clock input.
 - c. Set 70004's Data amplitude to 5mV_{PP}.
 - d. From the 70004A's Gating menu:
 - i. Choose a gate condition. The options are: gate by time, errors or bits. Choose bits, but this is of no relevance because there should be no errors, and the test will run forever until manually interrupted if gate by errors is chosen.
 - ii. Choose single gating period
 - iii. Choose run gating
 - iv. 70004A will reset error count and synchronize SY88903AL's transmitted bit stream to 70843V's generated bit stream. If synchronization does not occur, it is sometimes due to cable length. Try using different length cables to achieve synchronization. If this is unavailable, another trick is to adjust the 83752A's frequency to a slightly higher or lower value.
 - v. At end of gating period, there should be no errors.

4. LOS hysteresis:

- a. The SY88903AL evaluation board provides a potentiometer to allow for easy adjustment of LOS_{LVL} without the need for an extra power supply. LOS_{LVL} taps off the potentiometer whose ends are connected from V_{CC} to V_{REF} . V_{REF} is a reference voltage of approximately $V_{CC}-1.3V$. Hence, LOS_{LVL} can be set to any voltage from V_{CC} to $V_{CC}-1.2V$, as specified in the SY88903AL data sheet. The potentiometer creates a voltage divider. Thus,

$$LOS_{LVL} = V_{CC} (V) - \left[\frac{1.3V \times R (k\Omega)}{R (k\Omega) + 2.8k\Omega} \right]$$

Where R is the resistance of the potentiometer VAR1, the proceeding steps show how to find the LOS hysteresis for a 5mV_{pp} LOS-assert voltage without measuring R:

- Set 70004's Data amplitude to 5mV_{pp}.
- Verify DMM157 displays that LOS is HIGH.
- If not, turn potentiometer VAR1 until LOS is HIGH.
- Slowly increase 70004A's Data amplitude until LOS becomes LOW. Note the voltage at which LOS becomes LOW. This is the LOS de-assert voltage.
- Now slowly lower the 70004A's Data amplitude until LOS becomes HIGH again. This should be the starting voltage of 5mV_{pp}. This is the LOS De-assert voltage.
- Hysteresis (dB) = 20log (LOS assert voltage/LOS Assert voltage). This should be > 2dB.

Evaluation Board Layout

The SY88903AL evaluation board enables fast and thorough evaluation of the SY88903AL 1.25Gbps PECL High-Sensitivity Limiting Post Amplifier with TTL Loss-of-Signal. The board is an easy-to-use, 4-layer high-speed coplanar design that uses Rogers 4003 dielectric material to achieve high bandwidth. The layer stack is shown in Table 1.

Layer	Definition
L1	Signal/GND
L2	GND
L3	VCC
L4	GND

Table 1. Layer Stack

Bill of Materials

Item	Part Number	Manufacturer	Description	Qty.
C1, C2, C3, C4, C21, C23, C25	VJ0402Y104KXXAT	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	0.1μF Surface Mount Capacitor, Size 0402	7
C20, C22, C24	VJ0402Y222KXXAT	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	220pF Surface Mount Capacitor, Size 0402	3
C41	293D106X0025CT	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	10μF Surface Mount Capacitor, Size C	1
C42	293D105X0025CT	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	1μF Surface Mount Capacitor, Size C	1
L1	BLM21A102F	Murata ⁽²⁾	Ferrite Bead, Size 0603	1
J1, VCC	TSW-103-07-S-S	Samtec ⁽³⁾	0.1mil Center through hole terminal strip	
R1, R2	CRCW040249R9F	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	49.9Ω Surface Mount Resistor, Size 0402	2
VAR1	3269W-1-153G	Bourns ⁽⁴⁾	15kΩ Trimmer	1
R3, R4	CRCW04021300F	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	130Ω Surface Mount Resistor, Size 0402	2
R5	CRCW04023001F	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	3kΩ Surface Mount Resistor, Size 0402	1
R7	CRCW04025001F	Vishay ⁽¹⁾	5kΩ Surface Mount Resistor, Size 0402	1
J1-J4	142-0701-851	Johnson Components ⁽¹⁾	End Launch SMA	4
U1	SY88903AL	Micrel⁽⁵⁾	3.3V 1.25Gbps PECL Low-Power Limiting Post Amplifier w/ TTL LOS	1

Notes:

1. Vishay: www.vishay.com.
2. Murata: www.murata.com.
3. Samtec: www.samtec.com.
4. Bourns: www.bourns.com.
5. Johnson Components: www.johnsoncomponents.com.
6. Micrel, Inc.: www.micrel.com.

HBW Support

Hotline: 408-955-1690

Email Support: HBWHelp@micrel.com

Application Hints and Notes

For application notes on high-speed termination on PECL and LVPECL products, clock synthesizer products, SONET jitter measurement, and other High Bandwidth products, go to Micrel's website at: <http://www.micrel.com/>. Once in Micrel's website, follow the steps below:

1. Click on "Product Info".
2. In the Applications Information Box, choose "Application Hints and Application Notes."

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