17.0 UNIVERSAL ASYNCHRONOUS RECEIVER TRANSMITTER (UART)

Note: This data sheet summarizes the features of this group of PIC24F devices. It is not intended to be a comprehensive reference source. For more information, refer to the *"PIC24F Family Reference Manual"*, **Section 21. "UART"** (DS39708). The information in this data sheet supersedes the information in the FRM.

The Universal Asynchronous Receiver Transmitter (UART) module is one of the serial I/O modules available in the PIC24F device family. The UART is a full-duplex, asynchronous system that can communicate with peripheral devices, such as personal computers, LIN/J2602, RS-232 and RS-485 interfaces. The module also supports a hardware flow control option with the UxCTS and UxRTS pins, and also includes an IrDA® encoder and decoder.

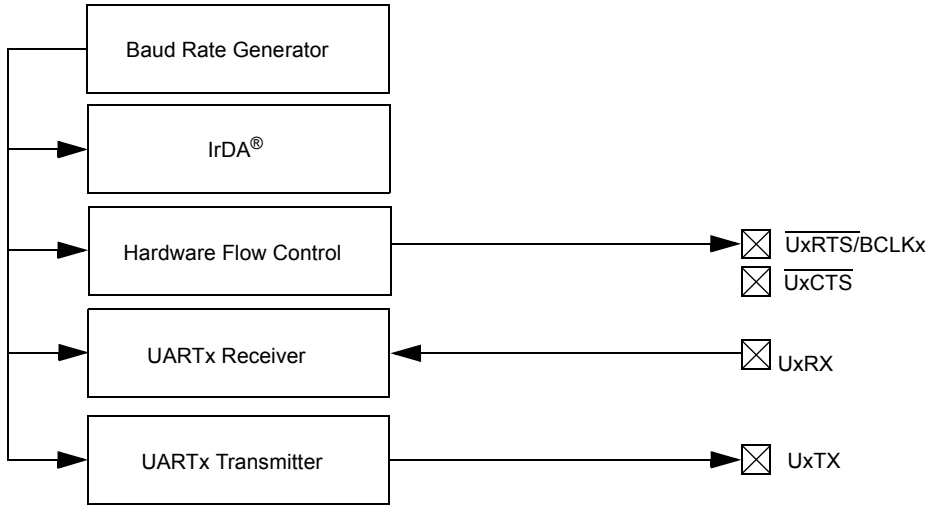
The primary features of the UART module are:

- Full-Duplex, 8 or 9-Bit data transmission through the UxTX and UxRX pins
- Even, Odd or No Parity options (for 8-bit data)
- One or two Stop bits
- Hardware Flow Control option with the UxCTS and UxRTS pins
- Fully Integrated Baud Rate Generator with 16-Bit Prescaler
- Baud Rates Ranging from 15 bps to 1 Mbps at 16 MIPS
- 4-Deep, First-In-First-Out (FIFO) Transmit Data Buffer
- 4-Deep FIFO Receive Data Buffer
- Parity, Framing and Buffer Overrun Error Detection
- Support for 9-bit mode with Address Detect (9^{th} bit = 1)
- Transmit and Receive Interrupts
- Loopback mode for Diagnostic Support
- Support for Sync and Break Characters
- Supports Automatic Baud Rate Detection
- IrDA® Encoder and Decoder Logic
- 16x Baud Clock Output for IrDA Support

A simplified block diagram of the UART is shown in Figure 17-1. The UART module consists of these key important hardware elements:

- Baud Rate Generator
- Asynchronous Transmitter
- Asynchronous Receiver

FIGURE 17-1: UART SIMPLIFIED BLOCK DIAGRAM



Note: The UART inputs and outputs must all be assigned to available RPn/RPIn pins before use. See **Section 10.4 "Peripheral Pin Select (PPS)"** for more information.

17.1 UART Baud Rate Generator (BRG)

The UART module includes a dedicated, 16-bit Baud Rate Generator. The UxBRG register controls the period of a free-running, 16-bit timer. Equation 17-1 shows the formula for computation of the baud rate with BRGH = 0.

EQUATION 17-1: UART BAUD RATE WITH BRGH = 0(1,2)

$$\text{Baud Rate} = \frac{FCY}{16 \bullet (UxBRG + 1)}$$

$$UxBRG = \frac{FCY}{16 \bullet \text{Baud Rate}} - 1$$

Note 1: FCY denotes the instruction cycle clock frequency (FOSC/2).

2: Based on FCY = FOSC/2; Doze mode and PLL are disabled.

Example 17-1 shows the calculation of the baud rate error for the following conditions:

- FCY = 4 MHz
- Desired Baud Rate = 9600

The maximum baud rate (BRGH = 0) possible is FCY/16 (for UxBRG = 0) and the minimum baud rate possible is FCY/(16 * 65536).

Equation 17-2 shows the formula for computation of the baud rate with BRGH = 1.

EQUATION 17-2: UART BAUD RATE WITH BRGH = 1(1,2)

$$\text{Baud Rate} = \frac{FCY}{4 \bullet (UxBRG + 1)}$$

$$UxBRG = \frac{FCY}{4 \bullet \text{Baud Rate}} - 1$$

Note 1: FCY denotes the instruction cycle clock frequency.

2: Based on FCY = FOSC/2; Doze mode and PLL are disabled.

The maximum baud rate (BRGH = 1) possible is FCY/4 (for UxBRG = 0) and the minimum baud rate possible is FCY/(4 * 65536).

Writing a new value to the UxBRG register causes the BRG timer to be reset (cleared). This ensures the BRG does not wait for a timer overflow before generating the new baud rate.

EXAMPLE 17-1: BAUD RATE ERROR CALCULATION (BRGH = 0)(1)

Desired Baud Rate = FCY/(16 (BRGx + 1))

Solving for BRGx Value:

BRGx = ((FCY/Desired Baud Rate)/16) – 1
BRGx = ((4000000/9600)/16) – 1
BRGx = 25

Calculated Baud Rate = 4000000/(16 (25 + 1))
= 9615

Error = (Calculated Baud Rate – Desired Baud Rate) / Desired Baud Rate
= (9615 – 9600)/9600

Note: Based on FCY = FOSC/2; Doze mode and PLL are disabled.

17.2 Transmitting in 8-Bit Data Mode

1. Set up the UART:
   a) Write appropriate values for data, parity and Stop bits.
   b) Write appropriate baud rate value to the UxBRG register.
   c) Set up transmit and receive interrupt enable and priority bits.
2. Enable the UART.
3. Set the UTXEN bit (causes a transmit interrupt two cycles after being set).
4. Write a data byte to the lower byte of UxTXREG word. The value will be immediately transferred to the Transmit Shift Register (TSR) and the serial bit stream will start shifting out with the next rising edge of the baud clock.
5. Alternately, the data byte may be transferred while UTXEN = 0 and then the user may set UTXEN. This will cause the serial bit stream to begin immediately because the baud clock will start from a cleared state.
6. A transmit interrupt will be generated as per interrupt control bit, UTXISELx.

17.3 Transmitting in 9-Bit Data Mode

1. Set up the UART (as described in **Section 17.2 "Transmitting in 8-Bit Data Mode"**).
2. Enable the UART.
3. Set the UTXEN bit (causes a transmit interrupt).
4. Write UxTXREG as a 16-bit value only.
5. A word write to UxTXREG triggers the transfer of the 9-bit data to the TSR. The serial bit stream will start shifting out with the first rising edge of the baud clock.
6. A transmit interrupt will be generated as per the setting of control bit, UTXISELx.

17.4 Break and Sync Transmit Sequence

The following sequence will send a message frame header, made up of a Break, followed by an auto-baud Sync byte.

1. Configure the UART for the desired mode.
2. Set UTXEN and UTXBRK to set up the Break character.
3. Load the UxTXREG with a dummy character to initiate transmission (value is ignored).
4. Write '55h' to UxTXREG; this loads the Sync character into the transmit FIFO.
5. After the Break has been sent, the UTXBRK bit is reset by hardware. The Sync character now transmits.

17.5 Receiving in 8-Bit or 9-Bit Data Mode

1. Set up the UART (as described in **Section 17.2 "Transmitting in 8-Bit Data Mode"**).
2. Enable the UART.
3. A receive interrupt will be generated when one or more data characters have been received as per interrupt control bit, URXISELx.
4. Read the OERR bit to determine if an overrun error has occurred. The OERR bit must be reset in software.
5. Read UxRXREG.

The act of reading the UxRXREG character will move the next character to the top of the receive FIFO, including a new set of PERR and FERR values.

17.6 Operation of $\overline{\text{UxCTS}}$ and $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$ Control Pins

UARTx Clear to Send ($\overline{\text{UxCTS}}$) and Request to Send ($\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$) are the two hardware controlled pins that are associated with the UART module. These two pins allow the UART to operate in Simplex and Flow Control mode. They are implemented to control the transmission and reception between the Data Terminal Equipment (DTE). The UEN<1:0> bits in the UxMODE register configure these pins.

17.7 Infrared Support

The UART module provides two types of infrared UART support: one is the IrDA clock output to support an external IrDA encoder and decoder device (legacy module support), and the other is the full implementation of the IrDA encoder and decoder. Note that because the IrDA modes require a 16x baud clock, they will only work when the BRGH bit (UxMODE<3>) is '0'.

17.7.1 IrDA CLOCK OUTPUT FOR EXTERNAL IrDA SUPPORT

To support external IrDA encoder and decoder devices, the BCLKx pin (same as the $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$ pin) can be configured to generate the 16x baud clock. With UEN<1:0> = 11, the BCLKx pin will output the 16x baud clock if the UART module is enabled. It can be used to support the IrDA codec chip.

17.7.2 BUILT-IN IrDA ENCODER AND DECODER

The UART has full implementation of the IrDA encoder and decoder as part of the UART module. The built-in IrDA encoder and decoder functionality is enabled using the IREN bit (UxMODE<12>). When enabled (IREN = 1), the receive pin (UxRX) acts as the input from the infrared receiver. The transmit pin (UxTX) acts as the output to the infrared transmitter.

REGISTER 17-1: UxMODE: UARTx MODE REGISTER

R/W-0	U-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	U-0	R/W-0	R/W-0
UARTEN(1)	—	USIDL	IREN(2)	RTSMD	—	UEN1	UEN0
bit 15							bit 8

R/W-0, HC	R/W-0	R/W-0, HC	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0
WAKE	LPBACK	ABAUD	RXINV	BRGH	PDSEL1	PDSEL0	STSEL
bit 7							bit 0

Legend:	HC = Hardware Clearable bit		
R = Readable bit	W = Writable bit	U = Unimplemented bit, read as '0'	
-n = Value at POR	'1' = Bit is set	'0' = Bit is cleared	x = Bit is unknown

bit 15 **UARTEN:** UARTx Enable bit(1)
- 1 = UARTx is enabled; all UARTx pins are controlled by UARTx as defined by UEN<1:0>
- 0 = UARTx is disabled; all UARTx pins are controlled by port latches; UARTx power consumption is minimal

bit 14 **Unimplemented:** Read as '0'

bit 13 **USIDL:** Stop in Idle Mode bit
- 1 = Discontinue module operation when device enters Idle mode
- 0 = Continue module operation in Idle mode

bit 12 **IREN:** IrDA® Encoder and Decoder Enable bit(2)
- 1 = IrDA encoder and decoder are enabled
- 0 = IrDA encoder and decoder are disabled

bit 11 **RTSMD:** Mode Selection for $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$ Pin bit
- 1 = $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$ pin is in Simplex mode
- 0 = $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$ pin is in Flow Control mode

bit 10 **Unimplemented:** Read as '0'

bit 9-8 **UEN<1:0>:** UARTx Enable bits
- 11 = UxTX, UxRX and BCLKx pins are enabled and used; $\overline{\text{UxCTS}}$ pin is controlled by port latches
- 10 = UxTX, UxRX, $\overline{\text{UxCTS}}$ and $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$ pins are enabled and used
- 01 = UxTX, UxRX and $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$ pins are enabled and used; $\overline{\text{UxCTS}}$ pin is controlled by port latches
- 00 = UxTX and UxRX pins are enabled and used; $\overline{\text{UxCTS}}$ and $\overline{\text{UxRTS}}$/BCLKx pins are controlled by port latches

bit 7 **WAKE:** Wake-up on Start Bit Detect During Sleep Mode Enable bit
- 1 = UARTx will continue to sample the UxRX pin; interrupt is generated on the falling edge, bit is cleared in hardware on the following rising edge
- 0 = No wake-up is enabled

bit 6 **LPBACK:** UARTx Loopback Mode Select bit
- 1 = Enable Loopback mode
- 0 = Loopback mode is disabled

bit 5 **ABAUD:** Auto-Baud Enable bit
- 1 = Enable baud rate measurement on the next character – requires reception of a Sync field (55h); cleared in hardware upon completion
- 0 = Baud rate measurement is disabled or completed

Note 1: If UARTEN = 1, the peripheral inputs and outputs must be configured to an available RPn/RPIn pin. See **Section 10.4 "Peripheral Pin Select (PPS)"** for more information.

2: This feature is only available for the 16x BRG mode (BRGH = 0).

REGISTER 17-1: UxMODE: UARTx MODE REGISTER (CONTINUED)

bit 4 **RXINV:** Receive Polarity Inversion bit
1 = UxRX Idle state is '0'
0 = UxRX Idle state is '1'

bit 3 **BRGH:** High Baud Rate Enable bit
1 = High-Speed mode (4 BRG clock cycles per bit)
0 = Standard-Speed mode (16 BRG clock cycles per bit)

bit 2-1 **PDSEL<1:0>:** Parity and Data Selection bits
11 = 9-bit data, no parity
10 = 8-bit data, odd parity
01 = 8-bit data, even parity
00 = 8-bit data, no parity

bit 0 **STSEL:** Stop Bit Selection bit
1 = Two Stop bits
0 = One Stop bit

Note 1: If UARTEN = 1, the peripheral inputs and outputs must be configured to an available RPn/RPIn pin. See **Section 10.4 "Peripheral Pin Select (PPS)"** for more information.

2: This feature is only available for the 16x BRG mode (BRGH = 0).

REGISTER 17-2: UxSTA: UARTx STATUS AND CONTROL REGISTER

R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	U-0	R/W-0 HC	R/W-0	R-0, HSC	R-1, HSC
UTXISEL1	UTXINV(1)	UTXISEL0	—	UTXBRK	UTXEN(2)	UTXBF	TRMT
bit 15							bit 8

R/W-0	R/W-0	R/W-0	R-1, HSC	R-0, HSC	R-0, HSC	R/C-0, HS	R-0, HSC
URXISEL1	URXISEL0	ADDEN	RIDLE	PERR	FERR	OERR	URXDA
bit 7							bit 0

Legend:	C = Clearable bit	HSC = Hardware Settable/Clearable bit	
R = Readable bit	W = Writable bit	U = Unimplemented bit, read as '0'	
-n = Value at POR	'1' = Bit is set	'0' = Bit is cleared	x = Bit is unknown
HS = Hardware Settable bit	HC = Hardware Clearable bit		

bit 15,13 **UTXISEL<1:0>:** Transmission Interrupt Mode Selection bits
- 11 = Reserved; do not use
- 10 = Interrupt when a character is transferred to the Transmit Shift Register (TSR) and as a result, the transmit buffer becomes empty
- 01 = Interrupt when the last character is shifted out of the Transmit Shift Register; all transmit operations are completed
- 00 = Interrupt when a character is transferred to the Transmit Shift Register (this implies there is at least one character open in the transmit buffer)

bit 14 **UTXINV:** IrDA® Encoder Transmit Polarity Inversion bit(1)

IREN = 0:
- 1 = UxTX is Idle '0'
- 0 = UxTX is Idle '1'

IREN = 1:
- 1 = UxTX is Idle '1'
- 0 = UxTX is Idle '0'

bit 12 **Unimplemented:** Read as '0'

bit 11 **UTXBRK:** Transmit Break bit
- 1 = Send Sync Break on next transmission – Start bit, followed by twelve '0' bits, followed by Stop bit; cleared by hardware upon completion
- 0 = Sync Break transmission is disabled or completed

bit 10 **UTXEN:** Transmit Enable bit(2)
- 1 = Transmit is enabled, UxTX pin controlled by UARTx
- 0 = Transmit is disabled, any pending transmission is aborted and the buffer is reset; UxTX pin is controlled by port.

bit 9 **UTXBF:** Transmit Buffer Full Status bit (read-only)
- 1 = Transmit buffer is full
- 0 = Transmit buffer is not full, at least one more character can be written

bit 8 **TRMT:** Transmit Shift Register Empty bit (read-only)
- 1 = Transmit Shift Register is empty and transmit buffer is empty (the last transmission has completed)
- 0 = Transmit Shift Register is not empty, a transmission is in progress or queued

Note 1: Value of bit only affects the transmit properties of the module when the IrDA® encoder is enabled (IREN = 1).

2: If UARTEN = 1, the peripheral inputs and outputs must be configured to an available RPn/RPIn pin. See **Section 10.4 "Peripheral Pin Select (PPS)"** for more information.

REGISTER 17-2: UxSTA: UARTx STATUS AND CONTROL REGISTER (CONTINUED)

bit 7-6 **URXISEL<1:0>:** Receive Interrupt Mode Selection bits
- 11 = Interrupt is set on an RSR transfer, making the receive buffer full (i.e., has 4 data characters)
- 10 = Interrupt is set on an RSR transfer, making the receive buffer 3/4 full (i.e., has 3 data characters)
- 0x = Interrupt is set when any character is received and transferred from the RSR to the receive buffer; receive buffer has one or more characters

bit 5 **ADDEN:** Address Character Detect bit (bit 8 of received data = 1)
- 1 = Address Detect mode is enabled

If 9-bit mode is not selected, this does not take effect.
- 0 = Address Detect mode is disabled

bit 4 **RIDLE:** Receiver Idle bit (read-only)
- 1 = Receiver is Idle
- 0 = Receiver is active

bit 3 **PERR:** Parity Error Status bit (read-only)
- 1 = Parity error has been detected for the current character (character at the top of the receive FIFO)
- 0 = Parity error has not been detected

bit 2 **FERR:** Framing Error Status bit (read-only)
- 1 = Framing error has been detected for the current character (character at the top of the receive FIFO)
- 0 = Framing error has not been detected

bit 1 **OERR:** Receive Buffer Overrun Error Status bit (clear/read-only)
- 1 = Receive buffer has overflowed
- 0 = Receive buffer has not overflowed (clearing a previously set OERR bit (1 → 0 transition); will reset the receiver buffer and the RSR to the empty state

bit 0 **URXDA:** Receive Buffer Data Available bit (read-only)
- 1 = Receive buffer has data, at least one more character can be read
- 0 = Receive buffer is empty

Note 1: Value of bit only affects the transmit properties of the module when the IrDA® encoder is enabled (IREN = 1).

2: If UARTEN = 1, the peripheral inputs and outputs must be configured to an available RPn/RPIn pin. See **Section 10.4 "Peripheral Pin Select (PPS)"** for more information.

NOTES: