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Designed for science teachers, students, and hobbyists, this book teaches the fundamental concepts of computer interfacing. Anyone with a basic understanding of electricity and of the BASIC programming language can quickly learn to measure and control experiments and instrumentation with microcomputers.

This comprehensive book offers a practical, hands-on approach to computer interfacing. By constructing simple, low-cost electronic interface circuits, beginners will gain an understanding of digital and analog electronics and of the Z80 microprocessor. Readers will also learn how to build input and output ports, convert analog signals to digital input, and generate the control signals used for advanced interfacing.

Computer Interfacing Techniques in Science includes 30 experiments to help readers apply the interfacing techniques discussed in each chapter. Designed for use with any Timex/Sinclair computer, these experiments help develop programming and circuit building skills while illustrating important concepts in the physical sciences. Each experiment includes step-by-step directions, a list of necessary components, and easy-to-follow schematics and diagrams. These experiments show how microcomputers can be readily adapted for practical uses in the school, university, home, or laboratory.

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computer interfacing techniques in science

with experiments for
Sinclair and Timex / Sinclair computers

Paul E. Field John A. Davies

computer interfacing

techniques in science

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Paul E. Field □ □ □ John A. Davies

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contents

Preface ix

1 BITS AND PIECES 1

Measurement and Control—Programming and Personal Computers—Interfacing with Timex/Sinclair Computers—Number System Preliminaries—Numbers and Codes

2 DIGITAL ELECTRONICS 9

Digital Signals—Integrated Circuits—Buffers and Inverters—Gates—Gating and Decoding—Latches and Registers—Counters—Timers—Three-State Buffers—Hardware and Tools—Breadboarding

Experiments

Truth Tables of Common Integrated Circuit Chips—Truth Table of 74LS20 Four-Input NAND Gate—Debounced Pulser—Digital Counter Circuits—Gating a Counter—Decoding

3 MICROCOMPUTER FUNDAMENTALS 43

The Microcomputer Buses—Microprocessor Architecture—Machine and Assembly Language

Experiments

The BASIC USR Function and Machine Code Storage—Machine Language Arithmetic and Logic Operations—Machine Language Rotate Operations—Indirect Load Machine Language Instructions—Absolute Branch Instructions—Relative Branch Instructions

4 INPUT AND OUTPUT PORTS 73

Device Select Pulses—Input Ports—Output Ports—The T/S Interface Circuit

Experiments

Pulse Stretching and Bus Activity—Device Select Pulses—Device Select Pulses for Digital Control—Input Ports—Output Ports—Programmable Input/Output Ports

5 DIGITAL CONVERSIONS 99

Parallel-Serial Conversions—Serial Timing and Frequency Conversions—Digital-to-Analog Conversion—Stepper Motor Control

Experiments

Position Detection and Display—Detection of Rotational Speed—Rotational Position Detection: Shaft Encoding—Stepper Motor Control—Real-Time Digital Clock—Asynchronous Serial Communication

6 ANALOG CONVERSIONS 146

Analog-to-Digital Converters—Signal Conditioning—Transducers—Transistors—Transistors in Digital Circuits—Operational Amplifiers

Experiments

Analog to Digital Display of RC Charging Waveform—Interfacing a Light-Sensitive Resistor—Elastic Beam Measurements Using Strain Gauges—To Convert Voltage Applied to a Motor to a Decimal Value—Temperature Recording and Display—Temperature Control

7 CONTROL SIGNALS 190

APPENDICES 197

A. Z-80 Decimal Assembler—B. Component List—C. Suppliers—D. Glossary

Index 219

List of Figures

- 1.1 The Automated Instrument
- 2.1 Inverter Diagram and Truth Table
- 2.2 Diagram of an AND Gate
- 2.3 Switches in Series
- 2.4 Diagram of an OR Gate
- 2.5 Switches in Parallel
- 2.6 NAND (NOT AND) Gate and NOR (NOT OR) Gate
- 2.7 EXCLUSIVE OR Gate
- 2.8 Gating Input for Control
- 2.9 74LS154 Schematic
- 2.10 Data Latch Pin-outs and Truth Tables
- 2.11 Data Latch Timing Diagrams
- 2.12 Decimal Counter Timing Diagram
- 2.13 Pin-outs of '90 and '93 Counters
- 2.14 74121 and 556 Pin-outs
- 2.15 Three-State Buffer Pin-outs
- 2.16 Layout of Breadboard
- 2.17 Wire Connections and Crossings
- 2.18 Experiment 2.1 Schematic
- 2.19 Experiment 2.2 Schematic
- 2.20 Experiment 2.3 Schematic

- 2.21 Experiment 2.4 Schematic
- 2.22 AND from NAND Invert
- 2.23 Experiment 2.5 Schematic
- 2.24 Experiment 2.6 Schematic
- 3.1 Components of a Microcomputer
- 3.2 Interface Edge Connectors of TS Models
- 3.3 Control Logic
- 3.4 Z80 Architecture
- 4.1 One-Channel Decoder
- 4.2 Device Select Pulses
- 4.3 General Input Port
- 4.4 General Output Port
- 4.5 Output Timing Diagram
- 4.6 I/O Interface Circuit
- 4.7 Experiment 4.1 Schematic
- 4.8 DSP "OUT C3"
- 4.9 Absolute Decoding of Channel 3
- 4.10 Experiment 4.3 Schematic
- 4.11 Experiment 4.4 Schematic
- 4.12 Experiment 4.5 Schematic
- 4.13 LED Test Circuit
- 4.14 Experiment 4.6 Schematic
- 5.1 Serial Transmission of ASCII
- 5.2 UART Block Diagram
- 5.3 AD558 Pin Configuration
- 5.4 Stepper PM Rotor
- 5.5 Disassembled Tin Can Stepper
- 5.6 Stepper Motor Driver Interface
- 5.7 Experiment 5.1 Schematic
- 5.8 Diagram of a Detector
- 5.9 Square Wave Diagram
- 5.10 Experiment 5.2 Schematic
- 5.11 Analog Results
- 5.12 Disc Patterns for Eight Directions
- 5.13 Experiment 5.3 Schematic
- 5.14 Experiment 5.4 Schematic
- 5.15 Experiment 5.5 Schematic
- 5.16 Experiment 5.6 Schematic
- 6.1 Successive Approximation Diagram
- 6.2 Schematic of the ADC0804
- 6.3 NPN Transistor Circuit
- 6.4 Sine Wave
- 6.5 Transistor NOR Gate
- 6.6 Three-Input AND Gate
- 6.7 Linear Amplifier

- 6.8 Inverting Op Amp
- 6.9 Voltage Follower Op Amp
- 6.10 Differential Input Op Amp
- 6.11 Experiment 6.1A Schematic
- 6.12 Experiment 6.1B Schematic
- 6.13 Experiment 6.2 Schematic
- 6.14 Experiment 6.3 Schematic
- 6.15 Elastic Beam Apparatus
- 6.16 Experiment 6.4 Schematic
- 6.17 Experiment 6.5 Schematic
- 6.18 Experiment 6.6 Schematic

preface

Computer interfacing is the means for connecting a computer to sensors and actuators. It is the "bridge" that spans the gap between computer science and electronic technology. The principles of computer interfacing are relatively simple and can be learned by anyone who has the patience and is willing to invest the time and care to read and perform some simple step-by-step experiments. This is not to imply that there are not very sophisticated and elaborate activities that can be accomplished once the techniques are mastered. Rather, our point is that the technology has been so well developed that you do not have to be a specialist to apply it.

The plan of this book is to introduce you to the concepts of computer interfacing, assuming you have no prior experience in digital electronics. Although you may be able to learn some by just reading, we are convinced that mastery of the techniques will only come by doing "hands on" experiments in programming and circuit building. To this end we have written this book to be used with a computer. In particular we have chosen the Timex/Sinclair computers because they are very inexpensive yet very sophisticated microcomputers. These include the ZX81, TS1000, TS1500, Spectrum, and TS2068 models. If you are willing to make the effort to learn the subject of computer interfacing, we strongly recommend that you make the modest investment in a personal computer to go along with your study.

There is a saying that the only way to learn computer programming is to write computer programs. It is equally true that the only way to learn computer interfacing is to build interfaces. You do not have to be a computer scientist to become a programmer nor do you have to be an electrical engineer to become an interfacer. With the fantastic growth in personal computing over the past few years and the promise of even greater growth in the immediate years to come, the majority of users will be content simply to operate their computers with programs and devices developed by others. But there are those who will discover that there is an even greater adventure in creating and discovering ways to use personal computers that goes beyond "plugging and chugging." This book is for them. It is the outgrowth of the authors' experience in teaching this subject to high school and university students and teachers, industrial and government technicians, engineers, and scientists. It is the authors' hope that this book will be useful not only to individual students, scientists, engineers, and hobbyists, but also to teachers in high school and beyond so that they can introduce these techniques to their students.

In Chapter 1, we survey those aspects of scientific experimentation that pertain to computer automation for measurement and control. We also discuss some fundamental concepts dealing with numbers and codes that will be helpful in understanding the principles developed in the rest of the book. Chapters 2 through 7 cover the various aspects of computer interfacing in a logical sequence starting with digital electronics (Chapter 2) and ending with a description of the control signals used for advanced interfacing (Chapter 7). Chapters 2 through 6 consist of discussions of the principles of the topic under consideration and a series of six experiments which serve to illustrate

the important concepts discussed. A survey of the logical structure of the Z80 microprocessor and machine code programming is presented in Chapter 3. The principles of input and output ports presented in Chapter 4 is built on the material developed in the preceding two chapters. Chapter 5 and 6 apply the principles of input/output ports. Chapter 5 deals with digital input and output and analog output while in Chapter 6 we consider the requirements of signal conditioning for obtaining digital input from analog signals. As noted above, we conclude in Chapter 7 with some principles of the more advanced techniques used in automation.

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□ 1 □

bits and pieces

One purpose of computer interfacing is automation, for example, using a computer to assist in making measurements and controlling devices. The measurement can be as simple as determining if a device is on or off, and the control can be as simple as turning a device on or off. Of course, both the measurement and control can be as sophisticated as the imagination and resources of the interfacier allow. One thing that becomes obvious as you learn the techniques of interfacing is that there are many useful and clever things that can be done using very simple and inexpensive techniques. A device can be as simple as a light bulb or as complicated as a robot or an industrial plant.

The two essential elements of computers are software (programs encoded with bits) and hardware (the pieces of equipment). *Hardware* consists of the electronic circuitry and electromechanical devices that make up the computer. It includes the integrated circuits, keyboards, video displays, disks and tape recorders, printers, and all other such peripheral devices. *Software* is the collective name given to the programs which make the hardware elements function in a coordinated way to achieve the purposes of the user.

MEASUREMENT AND CONTROL

To the items in the list of peripheral devices we could also add scientific instruments. It is of considerable importance to any individual in today's high technology world, whether high school science or vocation student, or research scientist, to appreciate the potential for automation of scientific instrumentation and what is involved. There are two concepts that are useful to serve as our point of departure. We shall start with a dictionary definition of each taken from Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (G. & C. Merriam Co., 1980) and elaborate from there. The first is the definition of *experiment*.

An experiment is an operation carried out under controlled conditions in order to discover an unknown effect or law, to test or establish an hypothesis, or to illustrate a known law.

Most experiments involve the operation of measurement. What is emphasized in this definition is that those measurements must be made under controlled conditions. In practically every experiment, measurement of some property of interest is of value only if other experimental properties (parameters) are held constant. In many experiments, the property to be measured is of particular interest as some (one) other experimental property or parameter is systematically varied. The property of interest is the *dependent variable*, the property which is systematically varied is the *independent variable*, and those properties which are not varied are *experimental constants*. Usually the data obtained from the experiment are illustrated by a graph. The values of the dependent variable are plotted on the vertical axis versus the corresponding values of the independent variable on the horizontal axis. The results that are sought are often some property of this graph, such as its shape, slope (steepness), or intercept. During the course of the experiment, not only the dependent variable but also the independent variable and constant parameters must be measured to ensure that they are well behaved. The experiment must be designed to control all of the experimental conditions. In general, we can consider a scientific instrument as an automated experiment involving the measurement and control of the required experimental parameters.

The second definition we should consider is of the term *data processing*.

Data processing: the converting of raw data to machine readable form and its subsequent processing (as storing, updating, combining, rearranging, or printing out) by a computer.

We can see from this definition that instrument automation is one aspect of data processing. Without taking exception to this definition, it is more convenient from our point of view to divide instrument automation into the two areas of (1) computer interfacing and (2) data processing. Here we consider computer interfacing as both the conversion of raw data into machine readable form for data acquisition, as well as the conversion of machine data for instrument control. Note that we reserve the "subsequent processing" given in the definition to be the main emphasis of the term data processing. The distinction between the conversion of raw data and its subsequent processing thus becomes predominately a distinction between hardware and software. Figure 1.1 illustrates the relationship of the terms we have discussed.

PROGRAMMING AND PERSONAL COMPUTERS

We assume that you have some familiarity with personal computers. You should at least be familiar with the more elementary BASIC programming commands, such as: PRINT, INPUT, LET, GOTO, FOR...NEXT, IF...THEN. If you have not had any experience in writing simple BASIC programs, you can learn all you need to know from the User Manual that comes with the computer. If you have had some experience, you know how the computer needs to be programmed in order to perform some desired task. In BASIC, the program consists of a numbered list of lines with a BASIC command written on each line. This program is stored in the computer's memory, and when RUN is ENTERed from the keyboard, the computer executes the

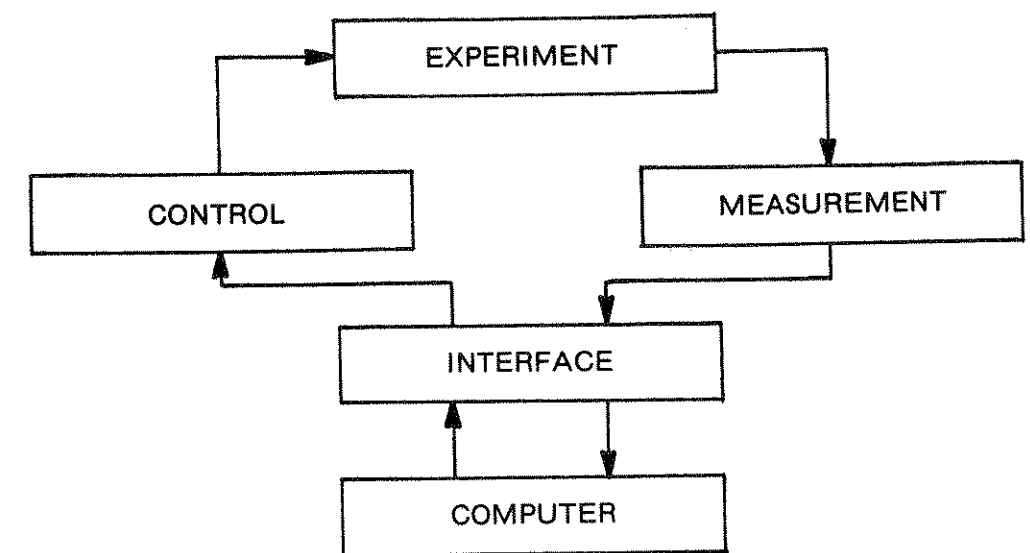


Figure 1.1 The Automated Instrument.

program by starting with the lowest line numbered command and executing commands in succession of increasing line numbers unless commanded to GOTO some other line number out of sequence.

The memory that your BASIC program is stored in is commonly called RAM (meaning *Random Access Memory*) but should properly be called Write And Read Memory (WARM). (WARM is an acronym suggested by the authors.) It is called *volatile memory* because it is lost when power is removed from the computer. When the computer loses power then the memory becomes COOL (Cleaned Out Of Logic)! Personal computers have varying amounts of memory usually measured in kilobytes, 1KB = 1024 memory locations. In addition to WARM, personal computers also have an additional 8 KB, 16 KB, or 24 KB of nonvolatile *Read Only Memory* (ROM), which holds the computer's operating system. The operating system is also a program. It is the program that handles all of the business of interacting with the keyboard and the video as well as executing your BASIC program when you enter RUN. The type of operating system used in the simpler personal computers is called a BASIC Interpreter. It is written in *machine language*, the set of instruction codes that the microprocessor in the computer can execute. Each seemingly elementary BASIC command consists of many instructions in machine language.

A personal computer is a microcomputer that includes a high level language operating system. It has only been in the last few years, as the prices of personal computers have so drastically decreased, that teaching courses in microcomputer interfacing could be done with personal computers. Until recently, schools could not afford enough personal computers to have a workable student/computer ratio for hands-on experience. Today, schools cannot afford not to have laboratories equipped to teach computer interfacing. Before this recent turn of events, interfacing was taught on small microcomputers having very limited memory and using only machine language.

With a personal computer such as the Timex/Sinclair, the interfacer has the best of both possible worlds. Simple machine language routines can be incorporated into BASIC programs with the USR command. They can be used for the very fast requirements of data acquisition, yet complicated mathematical and display operations can be performed on that data very easily using the high level language.

INTERFACING WITH TIMEX/SINCLAIR COMPUTERS

The experiments in this book have been designed to be performed with the Sinclair ZX81, Spectrum and Timex/Sinclair 1000, 1500, and 2000 computers. The Sinclair ZX81 was the first computer to sell for under \$100 in America. When it was first introduced it had 1 KB of WARM and an 8 KB ROM operating system. The Timex/Sinclair 1000 is identical to the Sinclair ZX81 except that it has 2 KB of WARM. Timex subsequently marketed the TS1500 in North America with 16 KB of WARM, and virtually the same 8 KB ROM operating system. These three models all use black-and-white televisions for display. Throughout this book we shall refer to them as the B&W models. The Sinclair Spectrum and the Timex/Sinclair 2068 have color display features and considerably larger operating systems. The Spectrum has 16 KB of WARM while the Timex/Sinclair 2068 has 48 KB of WARM. The TS2068 has a 24 KB ROM operating system providing a total memory allocation of 72 KB for the basic machine. We shall refer to the Spectrum and TS2000 models as the Color models.

As we shall learn in Chapter 4, there are no hardware differences between the B&W and Color models that will affect our experiments. We have already seen that one of the major differences in the five models is the amount of WARM memory. Therefore, the only software difference we need to be concerned about is where to store the machine code routines we will use with the experiments. The routines themselves will be identical in operation, however, because there are instances when the program needs to refer to its own location in memory, there will be some differences in the values of the code numbers stored in the machine language programs. Fortunately, we can use one technique for all three B&W models and a second technique for the two Color models. We shall wait until Experiment 3.1 (Chapter 3) to give the details of the two techniques. Suffice it to say at this point that our interfacing experiments can work with any one of the five Timex/Sinclair computers.

In addition to the computer, the two additional pieces of equipment we will need to perform our interfacing experiments are a "breadboard" on which to build the circuits

and an interface buffer to connect a circuit to the computer. The *breadboard* is a unit that permits easy wiring connections between circuit components. The type we shall use is a 6.5 inch long by 2.25 inch wide polymer board having 64 rows of five solderless wire insertion sockets arranged on either side of a center channel running lengthwise on the board. Adjacent rows are on 0.1 inch centers, and the distance between opposite rows across the channel measures 0.3 inch. Standard Dual In-line Packaged (DIP) integrated circuits (IC) can straddle the channel leaving four common wire insertion sockets available for wiring connections made to each pin of the integrated circuit. (More detailed description for wiring the socket is given in Chapter 2.) The breadboard fits neatly either to the side or on the topside of the computer behind the keyboard.

Interfacing experiments require some means of bringing the computer's signal and power lines out from its printed circuit board. The physical connection to the computer's lines is made through 46 contacts arranged in rows of 23 contact pads on the top and bottom sides along the right rear edge of the computer's printed circuit (PC) board. We will use a 2×23 contact open-ended edge-connector socket having contacts on 0.10 inch centers, which can be inserted onto the computer PC board pads to bring the lines from the computer.

NEVER CONNECT THE EDGE CONNECTOR TO THE COMPUTER WITH POWER ON!!!

The edge connector should have a keyway inserted on the third pair of contacts from its

we use a set of ten quantity symbols called numerals: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9; and that we represent each number value by listing from right to left the quantity of ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, etc. The right-most digit is the smallest or Least Significant Digit (LSD) and the left-most digit is the largest or Most Significant Digit (MSD). Each digit in the list is ten times bigger than its neighbor to the right. The decimal system is said to be base 10 number system.

When working with computers, there are times when it is necessary to use number systems other than base 10. In fact, there are four other bases that are handy. These are: base 2 having the numerals 0 and 1 only; base 8 with numerals 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7; base 16 with numerals 0, . . . , 9, A, B, C, D, E, F, where we have to introduce six new number symbols whose decimal values are A(10), B(11), C(12), D(13), E(14), and F(15); and finally, base 256. No one is about to suggest a list of 256 unique symbols, so we are content to use up to three-digit decimal representation for the numerals in this base. Unlike base 10, the four new bases are all integer powers of 2: namely, 2^{*3} , 2^{*4} , and 2^{*8} in increasing base order. The symbol $*$ is one way to denote a number raised to a power. It is used in Sinclair BASIC. For example, 2^{*3} means to multiply 2 by itself three times: $2 * 2 * 2 = 8$. The $*$ symbol is used in computer programming to indicate the multiplication sign.

The trick to dealing with the different number base systems is to apply the rules for representing a number value in a manner consistent with your experience in using the decimal system. A dozen will always be a dozen, that is, the number value you expect to find in a carton of eggs; but the representation of the value of a dozen will differ in each base: for these systems it becomes 1100 (base 2), 14 (base 8), C (base 16), 12 (base 256), and, naturally, 12 (base 10). The values, for example, of the digit positions in a three-digit number are:

BASE	MSD		LSD
10	100	10	1
2	4	2	1
8	64	8	1
16	256	16	1
256	65536	256	1

We can also rewrite this table in a more systematic way as:

BASE	MSD		LSD
10	10^{*2}	10^{*1}	10^{*0}
2	2^{*2}	2^{*1}	2^{*0}
8	8^{*2}	8^{*1}	8^{*0}
16	16^{*2}	16^{*1}	16^{*0}
256	256^{*2}	256^{*1}	256^{*0}

because any number raised to a power of 0 is 1. We see the value of the digit in a particular position is the base raised to an exponent denoting that position.

All of this new numbering is a consequence of the fact that microcomputers actually deal with 8 and 16 base 2 (binary) digit numbers. Another name for a binary digit is *bit*

represent the decimal numerals. Because there are ten numerals, we need four bits in the BCD code. In fact, BCD is identical to the hexadecimal number system except the BCD code does not use the highest six HEX codes (numerals A through F).

Another code uses seven bits to represent all the upper and lower case letters, numbers, symbols, and punctuation marks used in ordinary writing. This code is the American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII; pronounced As'-key). Actually, because seven bits allows 128 different code symbols, there are 32 nonprinting codes included in ASCII, such as backspace and carriage return found on a typewriter. ASCII is listed in Appendix A, Chart A.6.

One of the most important codes is the set of eight-bit numbers that forms the instruction code for the microprocessor in the computer. This code is the machine language of the computer. It controls the specific sequence of actions that the microprocessor performs that we consider an operation or instruction.

The concept of coding is very important to computer operation. Of course, a code must always be used in its proper context. It would make no sense to use a byte to represent two (packed) four-bit BCD numbers, say $74 = 01110100$, when the code expected is ASCII, where $01110100 = r$. That would be like speaking English to a German (nein? or nine?).

□ 2 □

digital electronics

DIGITAL SIGNALS

Digital signals are the signals by which microprocessors communicate with each part of the microcomputer system: the memory, the keyboard, and the display. Digital signals are also used for the purpose of data transfer or control between instruments, between computers, and with the outside world.

Just how are digital signals different from our normal everyday perception of how electronic (or any other) devices communicate with each other, and why is it important to understand exactly the nature of digital signals?

In trying to answer such a question, first let us take a look at how information can be transmitted. Take, for example, a temperature sensor, a common type being the mercury in glass thermometer. As the temperature rises, the mercury expands nearly linearly so that the mercury column rises up a graduated scale indicating the temperature. The thermometer is an instrument which communicates information to us, the temperature of our surroundings, visually by the length of the mercury column. Now consider another common type of temperature transducer such as an electric thermometer, which could use a thermocouple or thermistor as the temperature sensor. With such a measuring instrument it is not possible for us to visualize directly the temperature of the transducer because we cannot see the electric currents which are flowing in the circuits connected to the transducer. Instead, use is made of electronics to transform the electric signals to drive the needle across the scale on a meter. Now again, as the temperature increases, the needle moves gradually across the scale of the meter indicating ever-increasing values as the temperature rises.

The preceding discussion has described the communication of information by means of analog signals. That is, the response of the instrument is a smooth gradual variation of the output indicator—the length of the mercury column or the movement of a meter needle—as the input variable, temperature, changes.

Digital signals are quite different from the above examples, and we can draw on another everyday analogy by considering the action of the temperature or oil pressure indicators in an automobile. These are often small red lights on the instrument panel and should the temperature of the engine coolant become too great or should the oil level become too low the warning lights will turn on. The situation is one of discrete

information where at one instant of time the temperature of the coolant is apparently quite normal and at the next instant it is not. The information from the temperature transducer has been conveyed to us in the following manner:

WARNING LIGHT	COOLANT TEMPERATURE
Not lit	Normal
Lit	Too hot

This instrument warning light provides us with an example of communication of information by means of digital signals: either your coolant temperature is normal or it is not. It is a good example of the on/off technique.

We can now consider how electric signals are transferred from one instrument to another by electronic circuits. In the case of digital electronic signals we use only two states to describe the type of information that is to be transmitted. We could use the presence or absence of a voltage level in the circuit or we could use the flow of current or no flow of current as the indicator of our two digital states. The case of current flow extends easily from our warning light example in which the light will be lit when current flows, and the light will not be lit when current ceases to flow.

For our future use we will take the presence or absence of a voltage level in a circuit to indicate one or the other of the digital states and also define the voltage levels needed to specify these two states. The voltage level corresponding to the digital state of the light being lit will be taken as +5 V. The voltage level corresponding to the digital state of the light not being lit will be taken as 0 V, that is, at earth or ground potential.

Why are digital signals used as the means of communication between certain types of electronic equipment such as microcomputers? The answer to this question is tied up with an understanding of how electronic circuits function. It is relatively easy for electronic circuits to distinguish, with 100% reliability, between the two digital states corresponding to voltage levels of +5 V and 0 V, but it is not easy for electronic circuits to distinguish with 100% certainty between two analog voltage levels such as 3.685 V and 3.681 V. Consequently, digital microcomputers can give this sort of insurance. In summary, digital signals will be represented by two voltage levels, namely +5 V and 0 V. The reader should be aware that other voltage levels can be defined, but, for our purposes, the above representation is sufficient.

INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

The electronic circuits that are constructed to work with digital signals take on various functions as will be described in the later sections. Because these functions involve many duplicated circuits, the construction of such circuits lends itself to integrated fabrication. It is not the purpose of this text to provide an in-depth coverage on how integrated circuits are fabricated. Suffice it to say that integrated circuits (IC) often involve the fabrication, on a single chip of silicon, of a large number of similar circuits such as the common-emitter transistor amplifier and other electronic circuits and include coupling capacitors, bias resistors, and other components necessary to have

the circuit perform properly. These chips are packaged in Dual In-Line plastic (or ceramic) packages (DIL or DIP) with typically from 14 to 40 pins in two parallel rows. There are a few DIPs that have only eight pins but these are usually integrated analog circuits referred to as *linear ICs*.

Microprocessor chips often have tens of thousands of transistors on a single chip making up a very complex circuit. Even so, were you able to probe about inside the circuit while it was operating, the only two voltages you would observe would be +5 V and 0 V. In actual practice, the ideal voltages of +5 and 0 V for the two digital states are approximations only with one digital state corresponding to voltage levels above about 3.5 V and the other digital state corresponding to voltage levels below 1.5 V.

Some other terms are often used to describe the particular digital integrated circuits discussed in the preceding paragraphs. One term in particular is TTL, which stands for *Transistor-Transistor Logic* which reflects the fact that many of the digital integrated circuits use a pair of transistors as the basic active component. These circuits are standardized with series numbers denoted by the 7400 series of digital ICs. They are fast in operation with propagation times on the order of 10 nanoseconds (ten billionths of a second between input and output) for the simpler elements and use comparatively large amounts of current having a rating of 16 mA per output and 1.6 mA per input. Another series in the TTL family is the Low-power Schottky (LS) series denoted by the 74LS00 series of numbers. These ICs are about as fast as the regular 7400 series but have one-half the current drive for outputs and one

- 8 Counters
- 9 Monostables
- 10 Digital comparators
- 11 Arithmetic logic units
- 12 Memory registers

Within each class, there are many specific ICs, each having a unique series number and performing its function in a particular way. We shall see that each series number circuit meets three sets of specifications. The first is the so-called *pin-out diagram*, which is a schematic figure of the integrated circuit and shows the assignment of each pin to a specific function as input, output, or power. The second is a *truth table*, which gives the state of each output connection for all permutations of logic states at the input connections. (Remember that there are only two possible logic states for inputs and outputs.) The third set of specifications is *timing diagrams*. These provide information on the time relations between changes in the logic states of input and output connections for the integrated circuit. These specifications are available from the chip manufacturer's literature, such as the *Texas Instruments TTL Data Book for Design Engineers*.

We shall devote the rest of this chapter to a discussion of several of the classes of TTL LS circuits, which we will need to use and understand.

BUFFERS AND INVERTERS

A *buffer* means exactly what it says: a go-between, a softener of heavy blows, etc. In microcomputing, buffers are particular types of integrated circuits used to isolate your experimental circuits from the intricate electronic operations of the microcomputer you are connected to (interfaced). In this way mistakes you make in your circuit connections are unlikely to damage ("burn up" is the expression often used) your precious microcomputer. So if the interface has been designed correctly using buffer integrated circuits then you can experiment quite happily in the knowledge that you can't normally harm your micro, even if you do apply power the wrong way around to some of your integrated circuits, which we have all done at one time or another.

The buffer integrated circuit is essentially made up of a transistor amplifier. The transistor is a three-terminal device, which has an input lead called the *base* and output and power supply leads connected to the other terminals called the *collector* and *emitter*. The transistor action ensures electrical isolation of output signals from input signals and is also capable of amplifying an input signal in current strength so that a number of other transistor-type integrated circuits can be attached to it electrically without making unfair power demands on the original signal.

A second type of buffer to consider is the NOT buffer or more simply the *Inverter*. Like the noninverting buffer, the inverter only has one input and one output and a very brief truth table. It is shown in Figure 2.1 together with the truth table. Note the inversion circle on the output lead. This inversion circle will appear on many digital circuit diagrams. The triangular symbol is that for an electronic amplifier or



Figure 2.1 Inverter Diagram and Truth Table.

noninverting buffer; the inversion circle on the output indicates that when the amplifier has a logic 1 output the inverter itself will have a logic 0 output and vice versa. The inverter is fabricated in a Hex (six independent) Inverter integrated circuit type 74LS04.

In summary, buffers can then act as current amplifiers and also as voltage inverters (phase inverters), that is a digital voltage of +5-V input to a particular type of buffer will result in a 0-V output from the buffer, that is the opposite digital state. Such a buffer is called an inverter.

GATES

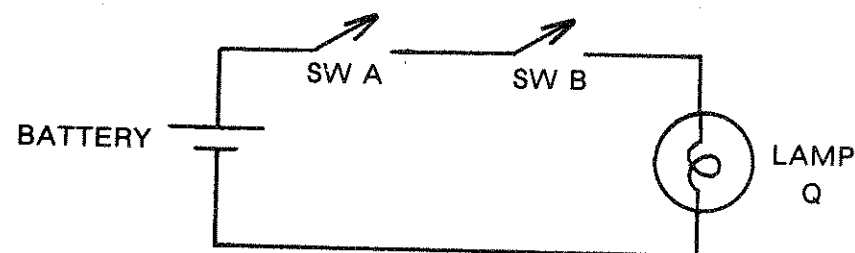


Figure 2.3 Switches in Series.

When different combinations of digital signals are applied to the inputs A and B, the output Q takes on only certain resultant digital states. To visualize this relationship, consider the simple circuit of switches in series shown in Figure 2.3, which represents an electrical analogy of the AND gate.

We will consider that an open switch is equivalent to the logic 0 state (no current flowing) and vice versa. For the resultant output of this circuit we have a small lamp Q, which can either be lit or not lit depending on whether voltage is applied to it or not (voltage will be applied to the lamp when current flows).

It should be clear that if switch A is open (0 state) and switch B is closed (the opposite 1 state) then no voltage will be applied to Q so it will remain unlit (logic 0 state). And again if switch A is closed (logic 1 state) and switch B is open (logic 0 state) then Q will still remain unlit. Only if switch A is closed AND switch B is closed will the combination result in lamp Q being lit. This can most easily be described using a truth table which tabulates the relationships between the inputs A and B and the output of the gate Q. The truth table is:

AND GATE			LOGIC STATEMENT
INPUTS	OUTPUT		
A	B	Q	
0	0	0	$A \times B = Q$
1	0	0	
0	1	0	
1	1	1 = Unique State	

The last line gives the truth of the AND statement, that is, the output state is true (logic 1 state) only if both the logic states of A AND B are true. The AND gate is fabricated in a quad (four independent) Two-Input And Gate integrated circuit type 74LS08, where you could use a voltmeter or logic probe to test the truth table of each gate.

Another example is the logic OR gate, shown in Figure 2.4. The action of this circuit is explained in the electrical circuit shown in Figure 2.5.

In this circuit the two switches are in parallel so that if either switch A OR switch B is



Figure 2.4 Diagram of an OR Gate.

in the logic 1 state (closed), then the lamp Q also will be in the logic 1 state (lit). Expressed in a truth table the relationships between the logic states would be:

OR GATE			LOGIC STATEMENT
INPUTS	OUTPUT		
A	B	Q	
0	0	0 = Unique State	$A + B = Q$
1	0	1	
0	1	1	
1	1	1	

Another useful gate is the EXCLUSIVE OR gate whose circuit symbol and truth table appear in Figure 2.7.

Examples of the applications of the above gates will be given in the next section. It should also be noted that the number of inputs to any gate is not restricted to two only, you can have three-input, four-input, and eight-input gates, but the unique state of each truth table remains the same.

GATING AND DECODING

When microcomputers are used to control or interact with circuits to which they are interfaced it becomes necessary to gate particular control signals together to activate other integrated circuits at specific moments throughout the running of the microcomputer program.

By *gating* we mean exactly the same as opening and closing a fence gate to allow or prevent the passage of a person. In the electronic gate the action will be to prevent data from passing from an input to an output or to allow the passage of such data. In other words our gate will act as a control over the passage of data or "Enable" the passage of data as indicated in Figure 2.8. Because the inputs to a gate are equivalent, the input



NAND (NOT AND) Gate

INPUTS		OUTPUT
A	B	Q
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0 = Unique State

Figure 2.6a NAND (NOT AND) Gate and NOR (NOT OR) Gate.



NOR (NOT OR) Gate

INPUTS		OUTPUT
A	B	Q
0	0	1 = Unique State
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	0

Figure 2.6b

that is called the data and that which is called the control is arbitrary and depends only on the user's point of view.

Often two different control signals will be logically combined by a gate and a unique output signal will only exist when the control signal applied to the one input enables the control signal applied to the other input. As has already been discussed, the microprocessor uses control signals to access memory locations, read the keyboard, output data to the video screen, and so on. Because the microcomputer can only handle one task at a time, the same control signals should not be allowed to activate two devices at once, hence it is necessary to gate certain control signals together to provide unique combinations of signals for use by the various circuits connected all the time to the microprocessor.

To give you an idea of how this works imagine that you have 16 different machines in your home which are to be controlled by the microcomputer. The microcomputer will decide when each machine should be turned on or off and how long each machine should stay on or off. Obviously we would not want the home heater running at the same time that the air conditioner is operating, so the microcomputer must be provided with a unique identification code (address) for each device.

This can be accomplished through a channel selector integrated circuit such as the four-channel to sixteen-channel 74LS1

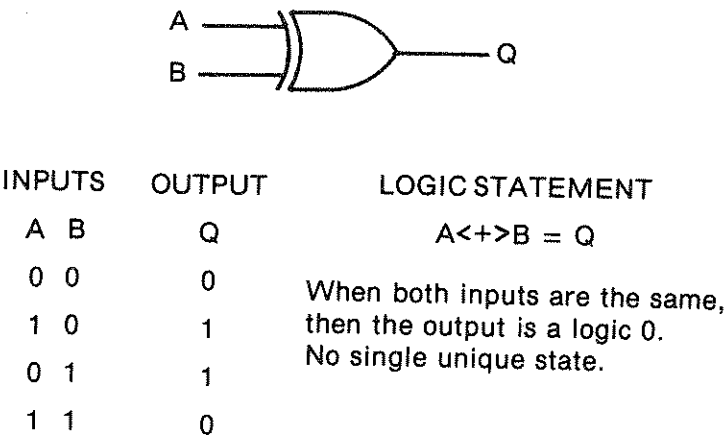


Figure 2.7 EXCLUSIVE OR Gate.

This is accomplished through the four address inputs A, B, C, and D to which different binary codes can be applied. By starting with all address inputs LOW (0 V), channel 0 will be selected as shown below.

INPUTS				CHANNEL															
D	C	B	A	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0

As the binary code applied to the address inputs is sequenced through 0000 to 1111, each channel in turn will be selected, and the output at that channel will go to the active logic 0 state. All other channels will be in their inactive logic 1 state. If either or both of the gate control inputs are in the logic 1 state then all 16 output channels will be in their inactive logic 1 states.

The 74LS154 functions as a decoder by substituting the set of four input signals for a set of 16 output signals (i.e., one set of symbols for another set of symbols). Of course, the new code is just a combination of 1 zero and 15 ones but it serves to select and activate one of 16 lines. If we wanted to transmit a sequence of data bits to any one of the 16 output channels we could feed that data to one of the gate inputs, G1 or G2. Then, assuming G1 was the data input line and G2 was enabled, when the address inputs held the channel number, every logic 0 data bit and logic 1 data bit would be output at the selected channel in sequence. This use of directing a stream of data to one of many channels is called *demultiplexing*.

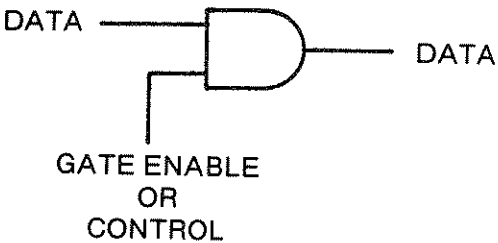


Figure 2.8 Gating Input for Control.

LATCHES AND REGISTERS

A *latch integrated circuit* “latches on” to a data signal and holds the logic state of the data at its output. A latch requires an enable control input, in addition to its data input, to signal the chip when to latch the data. This control input is either a clock or a gate input depending on how the specific latch circuit operates. The latch IC is important because it extends the lifetime of a data signal, which itself may be of very short duration. The output of a latch retains the state of a previous data input until a subsequent control pulse input causes it to reread the present logic state of the data input line. In this respect, a latch is a one-bit memory. Such latches are called *D-type*

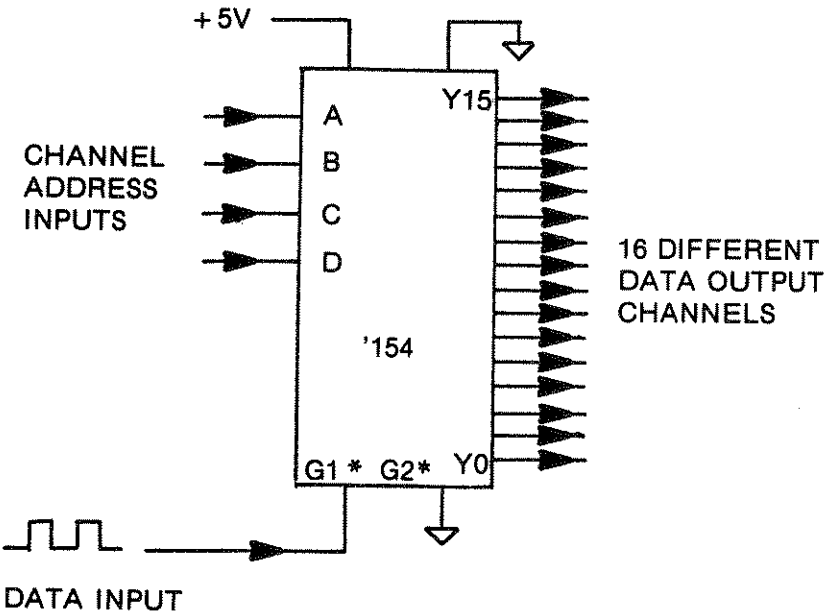
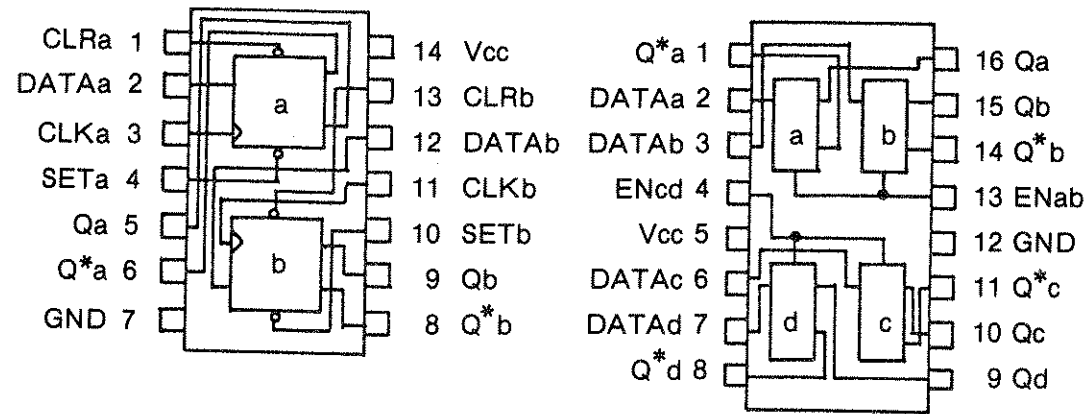


Figure 2.9 74S154 Schematic.

latches where the D originally referred to delay but more currently is used to mean data. D-type latches often are designed with two outputs, which are complementary and are labeled Q and Q*. Q* is always the inverse (negation or complement) of Q; that is, when Q is 0, Q* is 1 and vice versa. Many D-type latches also are designed with two additional control inputs labeled Preset and Clear. Logic 0 signals on either of these inputs take priority over the enable input and force the Q output to a logic 1 and logic 0 respectively.



'74
(each latch)

'75
(each latch)

-----INPUTS----- OUTPUTS

SET	CLR	CLK	DATA	Q	Q*
0	1	X	X	1	0
1	0	X	X	0	1
0	0	X	X	1?	1?
1	1	$\overline{\text{---}}$	1	1	0
1	1	$\overline{\text{---}}$	0	0	1
1	1	0	X	Q ₀	Q ₀ *

----INPUTS----- OUTPUTS

EN	DATA	Q	Q*
0	X	Q ₀	Q ₀ *
1	0	0	1
1	1	1	0

Figure 2.10 Data Latch Pin-outs and Truth Tables.

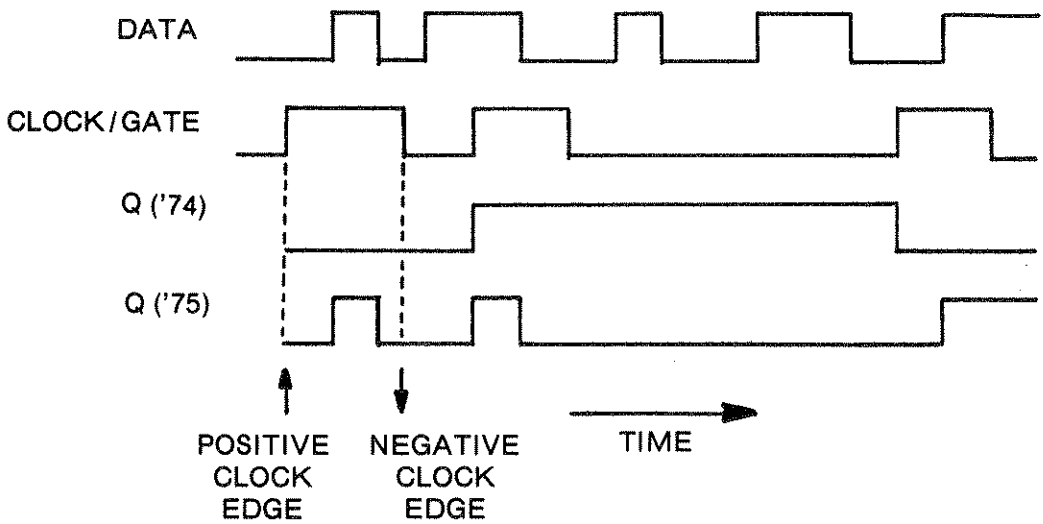


Figure 2.11 Data Latch Timing Diagrams.

The 74LS74 and 74LS75 D-type latches are representative of this type of circuit. Figure 2.10 gives the pin-outs and truth tables of both. The obvious differences between the two ICs are that the 74LS74 is a Dual D-type Latch having Preset and Clear and complementary outputs, whereas the 74LS75 is a Quad D-type Latch having only complementary outputs. More significantly, these ICs illustrate the difference between Clock and Gate data input controls. The 74LS74

labeled CK, the circuit carries out its operation on the rising (positive) or falling (negative) edge of the signal transition. Truth tables for clocked devices will have entries for positive or negative edge-triggered control inputs represented by up-arrows or step-ups or by down-arrows or step-downs (reading from left to right) respectively.

COUNTERS

A *counter integrated circuit* counts pulses arriving at its input. Because this is a digital counter, it would require four output lines to store a count up to 15 (decimal). The outputs are typically labeled A, B, C, and D, where A is the least significant bit and D is the most significant bit. Thus when an output is a logic 1, A is worth 1, B is worth 2, C is worth 4, and D is worth 8. Obviously, all four bits must be read to know the value of the count. The major elements in the circuitry of a counter are flip-flops. The most common 74XX and 74LSXX counters are the '90, '92, and '93 which count to base 10, 12, and 16 respectively. Actually, each of these ICs consists of two counters; one is a binary or "divide-by-two" counter, while the other is a 5, 6, and 8 counter respectively. Because there are two counters on each IC, there are two inputs. The A output is the output of the binary counter; when it is connected to the input of the second counter in the circuit (labeled Input B), then all four outputs D-A hold the four-bit count. The 74LS90 is a decimal counter, which means it counts from 0000 to 1001 (9 in decimal). Like the odometer in an automobile, the next count after 9 is 0. Figure 2.12 illustrates the timing diagram of the 74LS90's outputs when the A input receives a train of clock pulses and output A is connected to the B input. If we read the logic states of the D-A outputs vertically, we find the four-bit binary-coded decimal (BCD) code. There are two important features you should observe about this timing diagram. First, count the number of pulses at the A input and the number of pulses at the A output. You should get ten and five respectively. Thus the output has divided the input by two: this is why the first counter is called a "divide-by-two." Now compare the number of pulses at input B with the number of pulses at output D: the second counter in the 74LS90 is a divide-by-five. Of course, with the two internal counters connected in series (cascaded), the counter is a divide-by-ten.

The second observation we can make about the timing diagram in Figure 2.12 is that the inputs are Clock inputs, which are active on the negative (falling) edge. It is not until the input pulse falls from logic 1 to logic 0 that the counter actually advances the logic states of the outputs. If we have two 74LS90 ICs, we can cascade them by connecting the D output of the first to the A input of the second. Now, everytime the first "rolls-over" and the 9 returns to 0, the second will increment its count. In this manner we could count from 0 to 99. Each additional '90 added by cascading gives

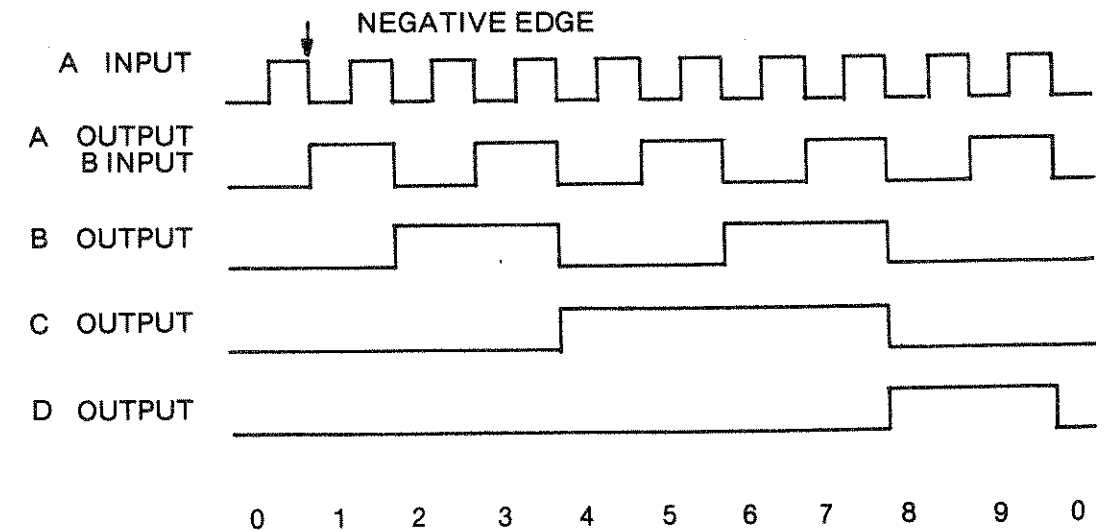


Figure 2.12 Decimal Counter Diagram.

another decimal digit. This is possible because it is the falling edge of the D output which "clocks" the count of the next counter.

The three counter ICs described have additional control inputs, R0(1) and R0(2), plus an additional pair on the '90, R9(1) and R9(2). Various logic states placed on these control lines will reset the counter outputs to 0 or 9. The truth tables for these controls are:

	R0(1)	R0(2)	R9(1)	R9(2)	A	B	C	D
'90:	1	1	0	X	0	0	0	0
	1	1	X	0	0	0	0	0
	X	X	1	1	1	0	0	1
'92, '93:	1	1	not applicable		0	0	0	0

where X is a "don't care" or irrelevant state. For all three ICs, for any other combination of logic states at the reset inputs, the input pulses will be counted.

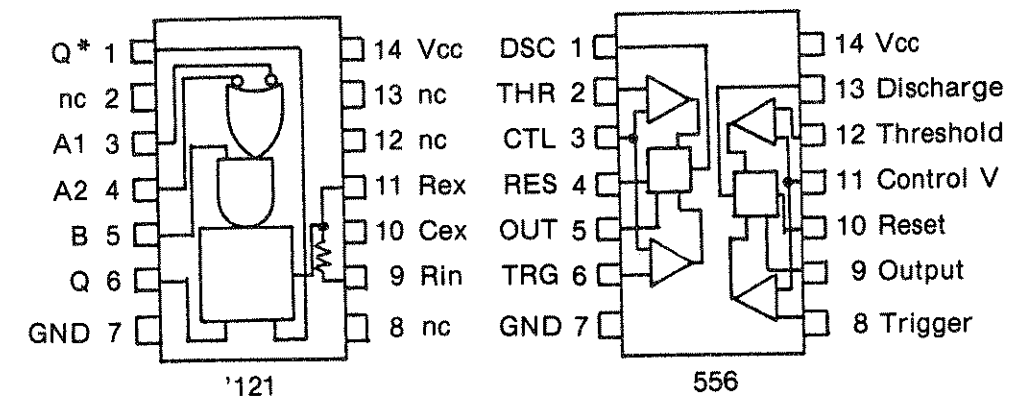
TIMERS

Like counting, one of the more widespread applications of digital electronics is timing. A *clock pulse* is defined as a transition from one logic state to the other and back to the first. A positive clock pulse is 0 V to +5 V to 0 V. A negative clock pulse is +5 V to 0 V to +5 V. Clock pulses can be generated electronically with Monostable ICs or manually with a switch. The IC is called *monostable* because its output is stable in only one state. When it is triggered it goes into its unstable logic state, stays there for a brief (determined) time, t , and then falls back into its stable logic state. In the process, of course, it has generated a single clock pulse. There are several TTL Monostable ICs such as the 74121, 74LS122, and 74LS123. The duration of the clock pulse when the IC is triggered (by another clock pulse at a control input pin) is determined by the values of an external resistor and capacitor connected to two pins on the IC. For example, the 74121 can be adjusted to put out a pulse ranging between 40 nanoseconds and 28 seconds. The duration, t in seconds, of the 'LS122 and 'LS123 clock pulses can be calculated from the equation:

$$t = 0.45 \cdot R \cdot C$$

where R is in ohms and C is in farads (C must be greater than 1000 pF for the equation to be valid). The pin configuration of the 74121 is shown in Figure 2.14a.

There is another IC which, although not a TTL chip, can be operated between +5 V and Ground and is, therefore, TTL compatible. This IC is the eight-pin 555 Timer or the 14-pin 556 Dual 555-type Timer shown in Figure 2.14b. The 555 can be wired to work either as a monostable or as an astable multivibrator. *Astable* means that neither logic state of the output is stable. Therefore when it jumps into a logic state of 1 it stays for a period, $t(1)$, then jumps into a logic state of 0, but it is not stable here either, so after another period, $t(0)$, it jumps back to a logic state of 1 and repeats the process all over again. It therefore continues to vibrate back and forth between logic states. As it



THREE-STATE BUFFERS

Although an output signal of an IC can be connected to several inputs, two or more outputs *cannot* be connected to one input. If two outputs were connected to one input and one was in a logic 1 state and the other in a logic 0 state, the +5 V of the logic 1 connected to the 0 V of the logic 0 would be a short-circuit and probably burn out one of the integrated circuits. We shall see that the microcomputer needs to have many IC output signals share a common signal lead (called a *bus line*) into the microprocessor. To solve this problem of connecting outputs together, integrated circuits have been specially designed that function like switches. These ICs are called *three-state buffers*. The three states correspond to the usual logic 1 and logic 0 states when the buffer is enabled (when the switch is closed) and to a high impedance state when the switch is open.

You will have little difficulty understanding the concept of three states once you realize that the logic 0 state (0 V) is a real condition and a legitimate signal which is different from a "no signal" or disconnected state. A three-state device permits the output signal of an IC to be isolated from the output connection of the device in the same manner as if the output lead were physically disconnected. Of course, the output lead is not physically disconnected but electronically disconnected by means of an extra control signal applied to the three-state device. Whereas the ordinary buffer has one input and one output, the three-state buffer has an additional enabling control input line that "throws the switch." The logic state of the enable gate may be either 1 or 0 depending on the specific series number of the IC.

The 74LS125 and 74LS126 are Quad Bus Buffer Gates. The '125 is enabled by a logic 0 and the '126 is enabled by a logic 1. The pin-outs of the two ICs are shown in Figure 2.15. Many ICs of other classes are available with built-in three-state buffers. One example is the 74LS373 Octal Latch mentioned earlier whose eight outputs are three-state and enabled by a single control input.

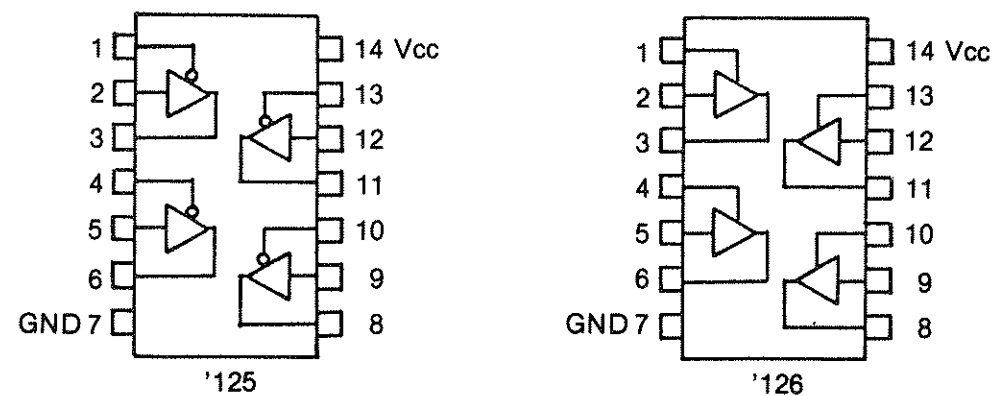


Figure 2.15 Three-State Buffer Pin-outs.

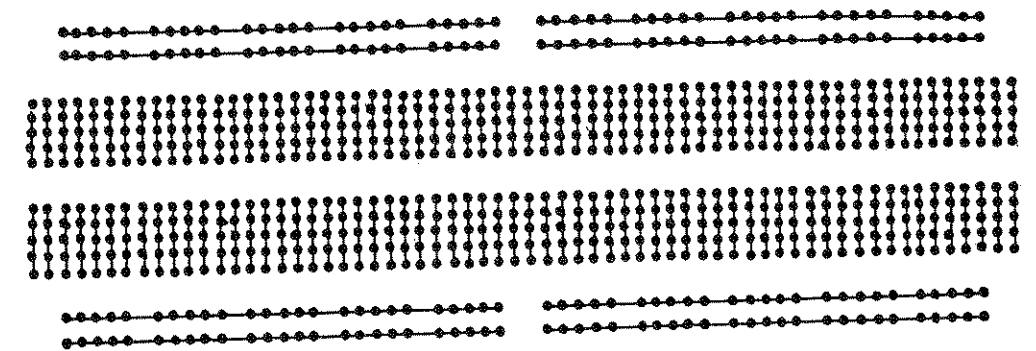


Figure 2.16 Layout of Breadboard.

HARDWARE AND TOOLS

As we already mentioned in Chapter 1, the interfacing experiments require a breadboard socket for wiring the circuits. In addition to the 64 rows of five common tie points on either side of the center channel, there are four rows in two sections each of 25 common tie points that run lengthwise along the outer edge of the breadboard. These rows are used as power rails. Always wire up the socket board so that the outside horizontal rails both at the top and bottom of the board are wired up for +5 V and the inside horizontal rails for 0 V as shown below. The connections of the tie points are shown in Figure 2.16. Note that jumpers on the power rails must be made at the center of the board and at one of the ends.

By using standard DIP integrated circuits, the solderless breadboarding socket allows rapid wiring of the experiments. Insertion of the chips is not difficult as long as

When stripping the single stranded colored wire, only leave about 5 mm (0.2 inch) of wire exposed at either end. Too much exposed wire could lead to short circuits when many wires are used in an experiment. A suggested color code could be:

Red	+5 V Power
Black	0 V Ground
Brown/Orange/Grey/White	Control lines
Yellow/Green/Blue/Violet	Bus lines

Cost savings can be achieved by purchasing large reels of different colored wires rather than buying prepackaged wires cut to specific lengths. The following tools are required:

- 1 Long nosed pliers
- 2 Wire cutters
- 3 Wire strippers
- 4 Small screwdriver

A small-tipped, 15-watt soldering iron will also be useful if you intend assembling the printed circuit Interface Board yourself, but we envisage very little soldering for the experiments. Other hardware involved should be relatively inexpensive parts, which can be purchased from your local electronics store.

It is hoped that a kit of integrated circuit chips and other components will be made available with the Interface Board to be used with this book. You may have many of the chips we recommend lying around your workbench at the present time. We would like to emphasize that only LS chips should be used with these experiments as use of the regular 7400 series of TTL chips will lead to too much drain on the Timex/Sinclair power supply and loss of quality in the video picture.

If you intend to wire wrap any of your circuits for a permanent application then you will need to purchase a wire wrap tool, wire wrap wire, and wire wrap sockets and connectors for your circuit.

BREADBOARDING

The layout of a typical solderless breadboard has already been discussed in this chapter. The experiments using the FDZX1 Interface Board with the microcomputer can be performed easily by following the guidelines below.

Gather all the necessary components and integrated circuit chips as listed under *Components* and as noted from the *Schematic* for the experiment. Next insert your integrated circuit chips into the socket board adjacent and as close as possible to the cables from the Interface board. The orientation of the chips should be with pin 1 nearest the left front corner of the breadboard. If you have your chip oriented in the correct fashion then the identification key (notch or dimple in the plastic) will be on the left side of the chip—otherwise the chip is turned around. Pin 1 is invariably marked with a dot or notch on the integrated circuit chip. In this orientation, for a 14-

pin chip: pin 1 is in the lower left; pin 7, the lower right; pin 8, top right; and pin 14, top left corner of the chip. The +5-V power jumper from the socket board power rail to the +5-V cable pin should be disconnected.

First, connect all GND pins of your integrated circuit chips to the 0-V rail, then all the V(cc) pins (+5 V) to the 5-V rail of your socket board. Now, complete the rest of wiring of the circuit schematic. It is good practice to have the schematic in front of you at all times while wiring the circuit. Most often, the wires will jumper between the vertical series of four holes at each of the pins of the integrated circuit chips. The schematics have all connections to the integrated circuit chips numbered with the appropriate pin number of the chip. An added tip would be to color code your wire connections and tick off each wire connected on the schematic as it is inserted into the socket board. All interfacing signals can be jumpered in a similar manner from the cable socket pins on the breadboard.

Any resistors or other components should be inserted into the socket board in as nearly a similar position as indicated in the schematic. For example, don't put a resistor used in the input circuitry (left end of your schematic) in the socket board near the right end of your circuit; this sort of wiring leads to considerable crossing of wires and the construction of what is loosely referred to as a "birds nest"!

Your schematic indicates wires that join and wires that cross without an electrical connection as shown in Figure 2.17a and 2.17b respectively. Once you are satisfied that all connections have been made, check your circuit connections, working from one end of the socket board towards the other. By color coding and cutting your wires to length, neat circuit

Once you have successfully wired a few interface experiments, beginning with the short simple ones in Chapter 2, then the larger circuits in Chapters 5 and 6 can be constructed with confidence. Good luck, and always remember that you, not the microcomputer, are the master.

CAUTION. Only plug or unplug your interface board with the computer switched off.

It is always good practice if you ever wish to connect or disconnect the FDZX1 Interface Board from your Timex/Sinclair microcomputer to switch off the whole unit while carrying out such an operation. This prevents the possibility of damage to your microcomputer or Interface Board from transient voltage pulses generated whenever circuit connections are made or broken.

EXPERIMENT 2.1

TRUTH TABLES OF COMMON INTEGRATED CIRCUIT CHIPS

COMPONENTS	1 * 74LS00 quad two-input NAND gate
	1 * 74LS02 quad two-input NOR gate
	1 * 74LS08 quad two-input AND gate
	1 * 74LS32 quad two-input OR gate
	2 * Jumper leads or logic switches
	2 * 3.3-Kohm resistors
	1 * LED and 470-ohm resistor or lamp monitor

DISCUSSION As explained in this chapter knowledge of the truth tables of certain integrated digital logic chips assists greatly in understanding how logic circuits function. To determine the truth tables of the chips use will be made of logic switches and a lamp monitor. To keep costs down jumper wires can be used as the 0-V or 5-V logic switches and an LED in series with a 470-ohm resistor can be used as the lamp monitor.

PROCEDURE

STEP 1 With the computer unplugged, mount the interface Board to the computer. Position the breadboard socket on the computer case between the keyboard and the Interface Board, and insert the cable sockets from the Interface Board at the right end of the breadboard.

STEP 2 Lamp Monitors and Logic Switches will be used throughout many of the experiments in this book. You may wish to refer to Steps 1 and 2 in Experiments 4.4 and 4.5 for a description of assembling sets of eight of each. Alternatively, small printed circuit boards are commercially available which plug into the breadboard and thereby save room on the breadboard. Further references to lamp monitors will mean LEDs with current-limiting 470-ohm resistors, and references to logic switches will mean the equivalent of power rail jumpers.

STEP 3 Wire up one of the gate chips to the +5-V and 0-V lines on your socket board (with the power off). These four chips all have +5 V going to pin 14 and 0 V going to pin 7. If you mount

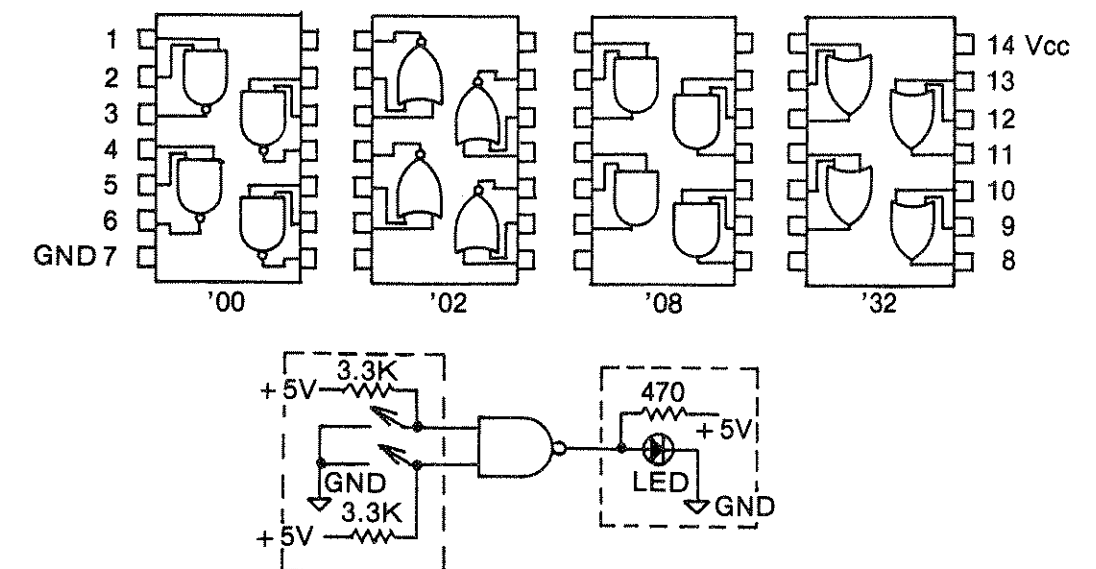


Figure 2.18 Experiment 2.1 Schematic.

your chips on your board so that pin

EXPERIMENT 2.2	
TRUTH TABLE OF 74LS20 FOUR-INPUT NAND GATE	
COMPONENTS	1 * 74LS20 dual four-input NAND gate
	4 * Logic switches
	4 * 3.3-Kohm resistors
	1 * Lamp monitor

DISCUSSION Digital logic gates are not limited to just two inputs as will be shown in this experiment. It is possible to have a number of inputs to any gate but the most common numbers are two, three, four, and eight. It will also be instructive in this experiment to determine what happens to a gate input that is left disconnected.

PROCEDURE

STEP 1 With the power jumper from the +5-V cable pin disconnected from the power rail, remove all other chips from your socket board, and connect your 74LS20 according to the schematic shown in Figure 2.19.

STEP 2 Verify that the truth table for the four-input NAND gate is as below, by jumpering the inputs in sequence to 1s and 0s.

INPUT D	INPUT C	INPUT B	INPUT A	OUTPUT
0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1	0

STEP 3 Now remove the four jumper leads connected to the inputs so that each input is allowed to float to its own potential. What output logic state do you observe? You should have observed that the output state was a logic 0. What does that indicate about the logic states of the inputs that have been left unconnected? It indicates that when the inputs to the chips are left disconnected they float high; that is, they take up the Vcc potential of +5 V.

The general rule for the TTL integrated circuit chips is that unconnected inputs float high and assume a logic 1 state.

FURTHER DISCUSSION It is as well to note that the 74LS00 series of chips can be joined together in series with the output of one chip driving the input or inputs of succeeding chips. When such connections are used, it is important for the experimenter to be aware that the electronics of the devices (chips) have current limitations. The maximum a 74LS00 chip output can drive is five

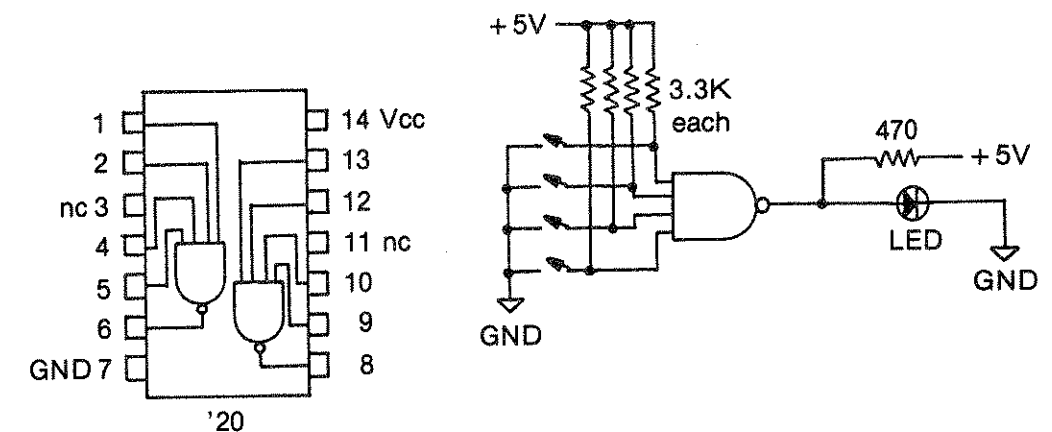


Figure 2.19 Experiment 2.2 Schematic.

counters. Experimenters often wonder why the count displayed by their digital counter rarely agrees with the number of times the switch was activated.

This observation is very important because it highlights the fact that switches are mechanical devices and that their signals need to be conditioned so that digital circuits will respond correctly to a key closure. The problem arises due to the mechanical nature of a switch that uses springs to push the stationary and moving contacts of a switch mechanism into contact. The contacts tend to bounce apart when the lever of the switch is thrown from one position to the other. This bouncing of the contacts causes voltage pulses, the pulses being directly related to the number of times the contacts bounce together. So even if you only move the lever of the switch once, many pulses are produced in a short time, at least for several milliseconds.

A digital counter connected to such a switch will count each and every individual pulse produced by the bouncing contacts and display a count that is anything but related to the number of times the switch lever was moved. To overcome this problem the switch (or any mechanical key closure) has to be "debounced." One method is to use an R-S (Reset-Set) latch circuit made from two NAND gates. Another method, often used with microcomputer keyboards, is to write a time delay into software to wait for the bouncing process to terminate. This experiment will demonstrate how you can construct a hardware debouncer circuit.

By referring to the schematic of the experiment, Figure 2.20, it can be seen that the output of each of the pair of gates is returned to one of the inputs of the other gate. The switch is connected across the two remaining inputs, pins 1 and 5. If we assume that the situation is as shown in the schematic we can use our knowledge of the two-input NAND gate to determine the states of the outputs Q and Q*.

Because the switch is touching contact A, then input 1 of G2 will have a 0 applied to its input. If any of the inputs of a NAND gate are 0, the output must be a logic 1 state. This logic 1 state is applied to pin 4 of gate G2 at the same time a logic 1 is being applied to pin 5 from the 1-Kohm pull-up resistor. Thus the output of G2 is a logic 0 showing that Q and Q* are truly opposite digital states.

Now if the switch is moved over to contact B and momentarily touches the contact, then the input to gate G2 on pin 5 will be a logic 0. Therefore, the output of G2 is put into a high or logic 1 state. This logic 1 state is passed back to the input on pin 2 of G1, which together with the logic 1 state on pin 1 from the pull-up resistor causes the output of G1 to go low to a logic 0 state, the reverse of the original situation.

Now, should the switch bounce off contact B and put a logic 1 on pin 5 again there will be no further change in the output of G2 because the other input, pin 4, is at a logic 0 state and we only require one input to be a logic 0 state for the output to be a logic 1.

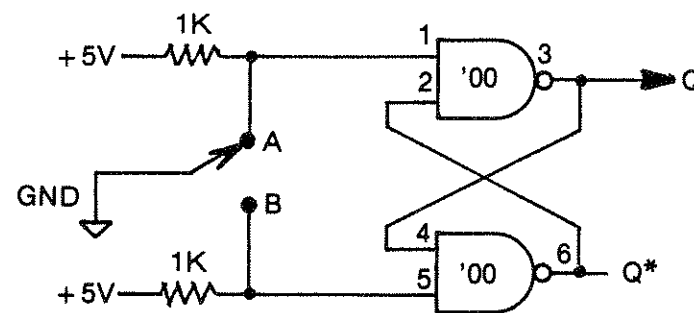


Figure 2.20 Experiment 2.3 Schematic.

So no matter how many times the switch (or key) bounces on the contacts only one change of state will occur at the outputs, that is, only one pulse is produced each time the switch is activated. This is exactly the situation we require in digital electronics to perfect a digital counter.

PROCEDURE

The 74LS93 binary counter chip is identical in pin-out to the 74LS90 counter chip but its outputs are arranged to count the full four-bit binary (i.e. hexadecimal 0 to F). The 74LS93 only has the reset to 0 controls at pins 2 and 3 and not the Reset to 9: pins 6 and 7 have no internal connections.

Using LEDs to display the output condition of the counter where a lit LED corresponds to the logic 1 state and an unlit LED corresponds to the logic 0 state, the appearance of the LEDs will be as follows:

LIGHT		EMITTING		DIODES		COUNT
D	C	B	A			
0	0	0	0			0
0	0	0	1			1
0	0	1	0			2
0	0	1	1			3
0	1	0	0			4
0	1	0	1			5
0	1	1	0			6
0	1	1	1			7
1	0	0	0			8
1	0	0	1			9
1	0	1	0			A
1	0	1	1			B
1	1	0	0			C
1	1	0	1			D
1	1	1	0			E
1	1	1	1			F

PROCEDURE

STEP 1 Wire the circuit as shown in the schematic, Figure 2.21, (with the +5-V rail disconnected!) together with the debouncer circuit from Experiment 2.3.

STEP 2 By activating your debounced switch you should cause your counter to advance by one count each time. If this does not happen, thoroughly check all your wiring connections.

STEP 3 Each time you throw the switch you create a logic transition. We have seen that the count

and then connect this output to R0(1) at pin 2 of the 'LS93, what happens? Why? Your circuit should look like the circuit shown in Figure 2.22.

STEP 7 By selecting any two outputs of the counter and ANDing (NAND and Invert) them to R0, you can make the following modulus counters: 2 (with outputs A and B), 5 (A and C), 6 (B and C), 9 (A and D), 10 (B and D), and 12 (C and D).

STEP 8 You can verify the excessive bounce of a mechanical switch by substituting the debounced switch. Leave the common lead of the switch connected to the 0-V rail and, after removing the jumper from pin 14 of the counter, insert one of the other switch leads into pin 14. There is no way to predict the number of bounces. If it exceeds 16 you could not know with the present circuit. Can you suggest a way to find out if the number is less than 160 (16 * 10) with the components on hand? How about cascading the D output of the 'LS90 to the A input of the 'LS93? You will need eight lamp monitors.

STEP 9 Save your circuit for the next experiment.

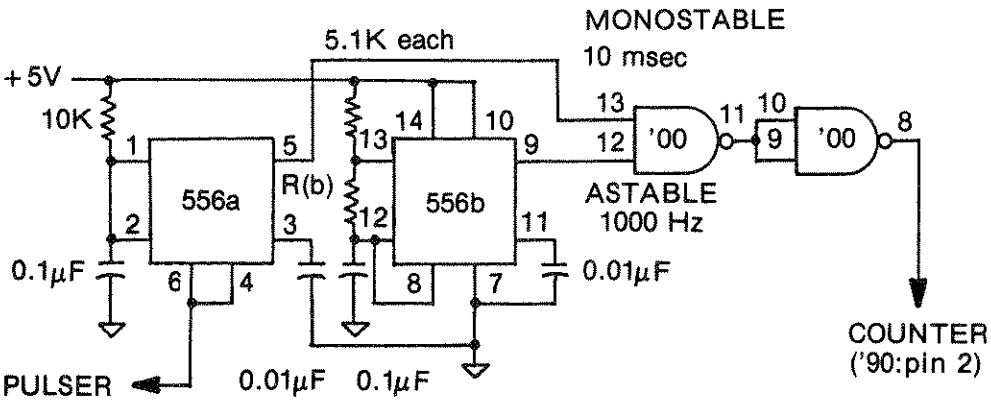
EXPERIMENT 2.5
GATING A COUNTER

- COMPONENTS
- 1 * 74LS93 4-bit Binary Counter
 - 1 * 74LS00 Quad Two-Input NAND Gate
 - 1 * 556 Dual 555-type Timer
 - 4 * Lamp Monitors
 - 1 * Debounced switch or pulser
 - 2 * 0.01 μ F Capacitors
 - 2 * 0.10 μ F Capacitors
 - 2 * 5.1-Kohm Resistors
 - 1 * each 2.2-, 3.3-, 7.5-Kohm Resistors
 - 2 * 10-Kohm Resistors

DISCUSSION In this experiment we will show how a gate can be used to stop and start a counter. The use of such a system can be extended by using pulses of controlled length from a monostable applied to the gate to turn the counter on and off. In this way very high frequency clock signals can be counted by the counter.

The schematic for this experiment, Figure 2.23, explains the action of the circuit. The controlling gate is an AND gate (NAND and Invert) whose truth table should be reviewed during this explanation. To one input of the AND gate is connected the incoming square wave clock frequency that is to be counted, to the other input is connected the monostable pulse. As you remember, both inputs of the AND gate must be high (in a logic 1 state) before the output goes high. The pulses from the clock are alternately high and low and while the monostable pulse is kept in the low state (logic 0) the output (pin 8) of the AND gate will remain low, so in effect no pulses from the clock will pass through to the counter.

When the monostable pulse goes into the logic 1 state, the AND gate output will go high every time the clock input goes high thus passing the clock pulse through to the counter. By connecting a pulse of known time length on to AND input pin 12, the gate can be opened for a set period and the number of clock pulses counted for that time interval. In this manner, a digital counter can be made to operate as a frequency meter.



ADDRESS LINE INPUTS						OUTPUT LINE 74LS138								
Weight:	32	16	8	4	2	1								
	A5	A4	A3	A2	A1	A0	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	0	0	0	0	1	1	3							
	0	0	1	0	1	1		11						
				0	1	1			19					
				0	1	1								
				0	1	1								
				0	1	1								
				0	1	1								

We will use this table in Chapter 4.

STEP 6 You should, by studying the previous table, be able to deduce (at least, partly) how the 74LS138 decoder chip on the buffered Interface Board produces the unique device select codes as shown on your ribbon cable connectors.

□ 3 □

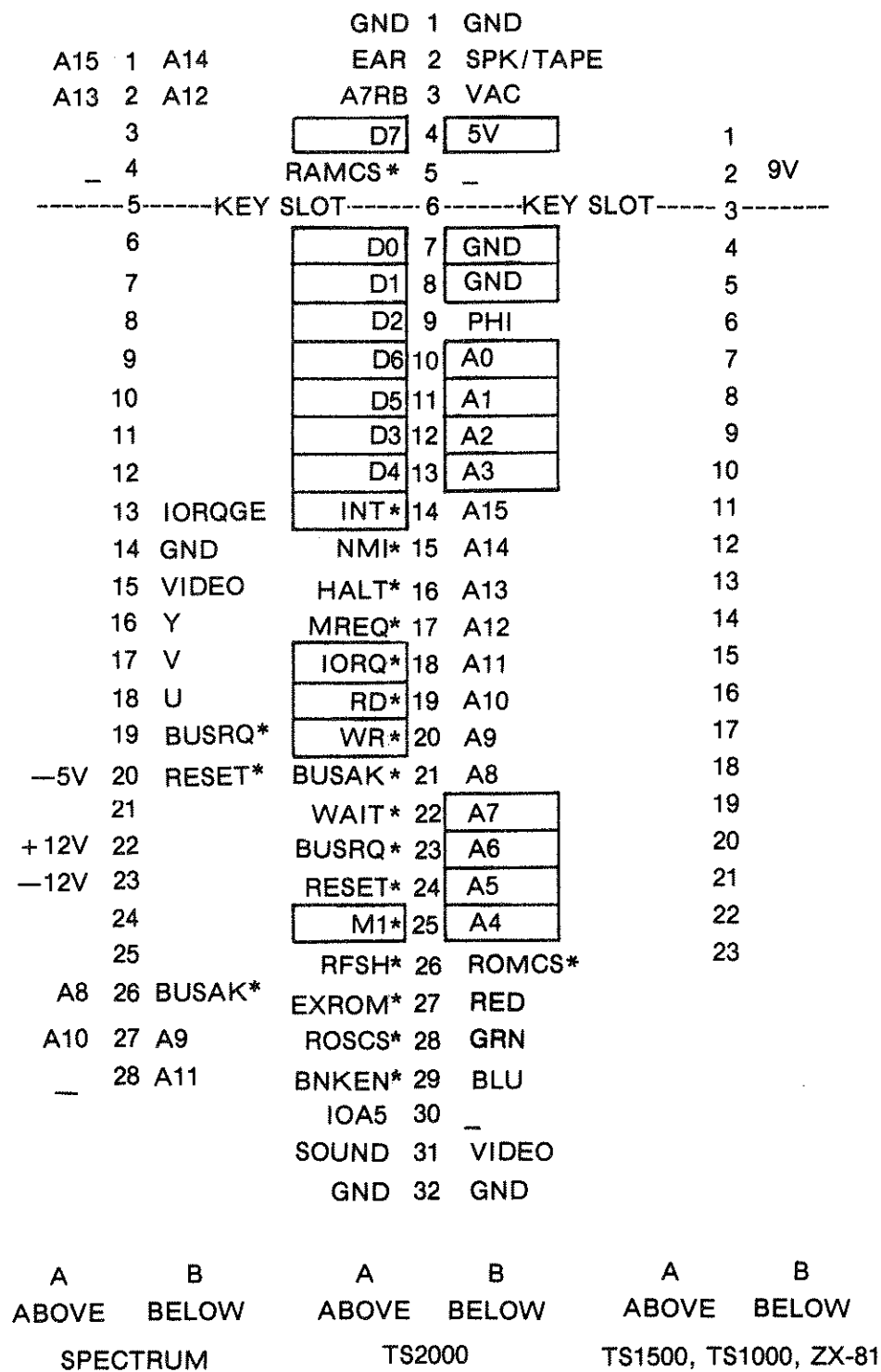
microcomputer
fundamentals

A microcomputer consists of four major components and the support logic circuitry needed to coordinate them. The four components include (1) a microprocessor, (2) a certain amount of memory registers ranging typically between 9 KB and 64 KB (1 KB = 1024 eight-bit registers), (3) an input device, which is usually a keyboard, and (4) an output device, which is typically a video monitor or television set.

A *microprocessor* is a very large scale integrated (VLSI) digital circuit consisting of an arithmetic logic unit (ALU), several registers, and the subsidiary decoding, timing, and control circuitry. Most microprocessors are 40-pin DIP ICs. There are several different microprocessors in use currently, some of which differ significantly from the others in the way they operate. There is one group, however, that functions similarly, is known as the 80 family, and consists of the following microprocessors: 8080, 8085, Z80, and NSC800. To say that the 80 family microprocessors function similarly does not mean that they are identical but that they have comparable internal registers and have a large portion of their instruction set in common. Thus the Z80 microprocessor has an extensive instruction set consisting of 698 distinct operations. The 8080 has 244 operation codes, all of which are included in the Z80's set. We shall refer to these as the 8080 subset when we discuss machine language programming in a later section.

THE MICROCOMPUTER BUSES

All microprocessors can be schematically represented as consisting of three sets of connections exclusive of the power supply connections. Each set is a number of parallel wires (or lines) called a *bus*. The three buses are known as the Data Bus, the Address Bus, and the Control Bus. In its simplest definition, a bus is a common signal pathway. This



BASIC PROGRAM

```
1 REM 123456789 123456789 1234567890      (for B&W models)
1 CLEAR 32129                               (for Color models)
10 LET Z = 0
20 PRINT "NUMBER OF BYTES? "
30 INPUT N
40 LET M = 16514                             (for B&W models)
40 LET M = 32130                             (for Color models)
50 PRINT "ENTER CODE: "
60 FOR I = M TO M+N-1
70 IF Z <> 0 THEN GOTO 100
80 INPUT B
90 POKE I,B
100 PRINT I; " = ";PEEK I
110 NEXT I
120 PAUSE 33333
130 LET Z = 1
140 LET L = USR M
150 LET B = INT (L/256)
160 LET C = L - 256*B
170 PRINT "B = ";B, "C = ";C
```

PROCEDURE

STEP 1 ENTER the BASIC program. Throughout the rest of the experiments, differences for the B&W and Color models will be indicated with the same line number listed twice as shown in this listing. DO NOT enter the statements "for . . . models" into the BASIC line. The number of bytes that need to be allocated in the REM statement are shown in groups of ten (counting the space) with all digits shown in the last group before <ENTER>. The CLEAR # command for the Color models protects the memory above that address from the operating system.

STEP 2 Our first project is to verify that the USR function returns the B and C register values. To do this, we need a simple machine language subroutine to Load Immediate BC with a pair of numbers and return to BASIC. The instruction we need is: LD BC,NN. Our subroutine will be:

ADDRESS	INSTRUCTION MNEMONIC	DECIMAL CODE
<i>B&W / Color</i>		
16514 / 32130	LD BC,NN	1
16515 / 32131	<N>	201
16516 / 32132	<N>	1
16517 / 32133	RET	201

How many bytes long is the subroutine? Your answer should be 4.

STEP 3 RUN the BASIC program. Respond to "NUMBER OF BYTES?" with 4 and ENTER.

STEP 4 Now respond to "ENTER CODE:" by ENTERing each of the four numbers of the machine language subroutine in succession. The program will print your entries on the screen so you can check your entries against the list. If you make a mistake, press BREAK and reRUN.

STEP 5 After your program is entered correctly, press any key (other than BREAK) to get out of the PAUSE 33333 command at line 120. What do you observe for the values of B and C printed on the screen? You should have B = 1 and C = 201.

STEP 6 What is the distinction between the 1s at addresses 16514/32130 and 16516/32132 and the 201s at addresses 16515/32131 and 16517/32133? Which are opcodes and which are operands?

STEP 7 ReRUN the program but choose different numbers for the values at addresses 16515/32131 and 16516/32132.

STEP 8 LIST the program. If you are using a B&W model, what do you observe in the REM statement? Look up the codes for the first four characters in the Appendix of your User's Manual. SAVE the

PROCEDURE

STEP 1 LOAD the BASIC program from Experiment 3.1 if it is not already in memory.

STEP 2 To display the binary values of B and C so that the individual bits can be examined, add the following lines to your BASIC program:

```
200 DIM B(8)
210 LET B$= " "
220 DIM C(8)
230 LET C$= " "
240 FOR J=8 TO 1 STEP -1
250 LET B(J)=INT (B/2**(J-1))
260 LET B=B-B(J)*(2**(J-1))
270 LET B$=B$+STR$ (B(J))
280 LET C(J)=INT (C/2**(J-1))
290 LET C=C-C(J)*(2**(J-1))
300 LET C$=C$+STR$ (C(J))
310 NEXT J
320 PRINT B$,C$
330 PRINT TAB 16; "MZ-----C "
```

This routine will take about 30 seconds to run. SAVE the BASIC program on cassette for use in subsequent experiments.

STEP 3 The first instruction we shall examine is the XOR A, which performs an exclusive OR on A with A. The subroutine we need is:

ADDRESS	INSTRUCTION MNEMONIC	DECIMAL CODE
<i>B&W / Color</i>		
16514 / 32130	LD A,N	62
16515 / 32131	<N>	255
16516 / 32132	XOR A	175
16517 / 32133	PUSH AF	245
16518 / 32134	POP BC	193
16519 / 32135	RET	201

RUN your program and ENTER the six codes of the subroutine as in Experiment 3.1. After you have compared your list for correctness, remember to press any key (except BREAK) to continue past line 120.

STEP 4 Make up a chart with headings:

	<16515/32131>		<C7>	<C6>	<C0>
OP	A(INITIAL)	A(FINAL)	MINUS	ZERO	CARRY
XOR	255 127	0	0	1	0

Your results should have been as shown in the first line where A(INITIAL) is the byte in the subroutine at address 16515/32131, A(FINAL) is the value of B printed on the screen, and the Flag bits are from the binary digits of C printed on the screen and underlined by M, Z, and C, respectively.

STEP 5 You can substitute other numbers into A by changing the operand on line 16515/32131. Rather than reloading the subroutine each time just to change one number, a new number can be POKEd directly by typing (without a line number)

```
POKE 16515,127 <ENTER>      (B&W)
POKE 32131,127 <ENTER>      (Color)
```

then rerun the program by ENTERing:

16517/32133	LD A,B	120
16518/32134	ADD A,C	129
16519/32135	PUSH AF	245
16520/32136	POP BC	193
16521/32137	RET	201

Write down your results in a chart having the headings:

	<16516/32132>	<16515/32131>		<C7>	<C6>	<C0>
OP	A(INITIAL)	C(INITIAL)	A(FINAL)	MINUS	ZERO	CARRY
ADD	128	127	255	1	0	0

You should have the results shown.

STEP 10 You can POKE different values for C and B into locations 16515/32131 and 16516/32132 and also change the operations in location 16518/32134 but remember to use the operations for the A,C registers.

EXPERIMENT 3.3

MACHINE LANGUAGE ROTATE OPERATIONS

DISCUSSION There are essentially two types of rotate operations: the eight-bit rotate in which the Carry bit is in parallel with either D7 or D0 (depending on direction of rotation), and the nine-bit rotate in which the Carry bit is in series with the eight bits of the register. The Carry bit is the only Flag affected by the Rotate and Shift instructions. As was pointed out earlier, the four rotates on Chart A.1 belong to the 8080 subset and are also repeated in the upper right box of Chart A.4 (A column) when they are used in the Z80 Augmented set and require the Prefix 230. The only difference between them is the time of execution. If you look on the Timing Table (Chart A.5) you will find that the prefixed Rotates take 8t and the 8080 subset Rotates take 4t.

PROCEDURE

STEP 1 Load the Basic program from Experiment 3.2 if it is not already in memory.

STEP 2 We can examine the 8080 rotates using almost the same subroutine we first used in Experiment 3.1 by loading an immediate operand into A and ORing it to set the Flags based on its value. This is because the Transfer ops do not affect the Flags but the Math ops do. RUN the BASIC program and load the following 7 codes:

ADDRESS	INSTRUCTION MNEMONIC	DECIMAL CODE
B&W / Color		
16514 / 32130	LD A,N	62
16515 / 32131	<N>	129

16516/32132	OR A	183
16517/32133	RLCA	7
16518/32134	PUSH AF	245
16519/32135	POP BC	193
16520/32136	RET	201

STEP 3 Make up a table to record your observations using the

STEP 7 To transfer data from one of the microprocessor's registers to a memory register, both the destination and address and the contents of the byte to be transferred have to be loaded directly in the subroutine. RUN the BASIC program, and ENTER the following seven codes:

ADDRESS	INSTRUCTION MNEMONIC	DECIMAL CODE
<i>B&W / Color</i>		
16514 / 32130	LD BC,NN	1
16515 / 32131	<Lo N>	158
16516 /	<Hi N>	64
/ 32132	<Hi N>	125
16517 / 32133	LD A,(BC)	10
16518 / 32134	INC BC	3
16519 / 32135	LD (BC),A	2
16520 / 32136	RET	201

What values for B and C should be printed on the screen? This will be address 16543/32159. If you LIST the B&W program, the two last characters in the REM statement should now both be the number 9 in inverse video.

EXPERIMENT 3.5

ABSOLUTE BRANCH INSTRUCTIONS

DISCUSSION The branch opcodes of the 8080 subset include unconditional and conditional Jumps, Calls, and Returns. Because the Timex/Sinclair USR function implements the unconditional CALL, we have in essence been performing the three-byte CALL instruction by providing the 16-bit destination address as the argument of the USR function in BASIC. Of course, all the subroutines have also used the unconditional Return opcode as well. We shall examine the absolute JUMP instructions with the understanding that subroutine Calls and Returns operate in a similar manner.

PROCEDURE

- STEP 1 Load the BASIC program used in Experiment 3.2.
- STEP 2 RUN the program, and enter the following 16-byte subroutine:

ADDRESS	INSTRUCTION MNEMONIC	DECIMAL CODE
<i>B&W / Color</i>		
16514 / 32130	LD A,N	62
16515 / 32131	<N>	1

16516 / 32132	ADD A,N	198
16517 / 32133	<N>	128
16518 / 32134	JP NZ,NN	194
16519 / 32135	Lo Addr.	140
16520 /	Hi Addr.	64
/ 32136	Hi Addr.	125
16521 / 32137	PUSH AF	245
16522 / 32138	POP BC	193
16523 / 32139	RET	201
16524 / 32140	PUSH AF	245
16525 / 32141	LD A,N	62
16526 / 32142	<N>	85

EXPERIMENT 4.2	
DEVICE SELECT PULSES	
COMPONENTS	1 * 74LS02 Quad Two-Input NOR Gate
	1 * 74LS32 Quad Two-Input OR Gate
	From Experiment 4.1:
	1 * 74121 Monostable
	1 * 22-Kohm resistor
	1 * 1.0-μF capacitor
	1 * Lamp Monitor

DISCUSSION In this experiment we shall examine the uniqueness of a Device Select Pulse. We saw in Experiment 4.1 that the device decoder has constant activity on its channel outputs and that the control signals are also very active. Actually, all we could verify is that pulses on these lines occur at least once every 15 to 30 milliseconds, otherwise we would have observed the LED flicker. To determine whether a channel pulse from the decoder and one of the control pulses (IN* or OUT*) occur simultaneously, we will have to gate the two signals and examine the output of the gate. This output signal will be a Device Select Pulse. We can create a DSP by programming the BASIC USR function and observe the result as a flash on the LED.

PROCEDURE

- STEP 1 If you have not already done so, wire the 74121 circuit from Experiment 4.1.
- STEP 2 Mount a 74LS02 on the breadboard, and connect pin 14 to +5 V and pin 7 to 0 V.
- STEP 3 Complete the NOR connections to the cable pins of OUT* and C3* and to the Monostable as shown in Figure 4.8. The output at pin 4 is the DSP OUT C3. The output at pin 6 after inversion is OUT C3*.

STEP 4 Load the following BASIC program:

```
10 REM 1234567890      (for B&W models)
10 CLEAR 32129          (for Color models)
20 LET L = USR 16514    (for B&W models)
20 LET L = USR 32130    (for Color models)
```

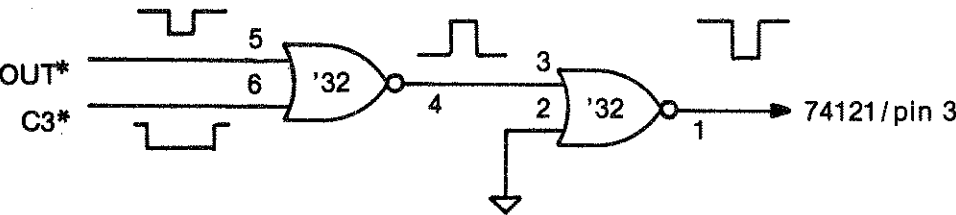


Figure 4.8 DSP "OUT C3*".

STEP 5 Enter the following machine language subroutine:

ADDRESS	DECIMAL CODE	INSTRUCTION MNEMONIC
<i>B&W / Color</i>		
16514 / 32130	211	OUT (N),A
16515 / 32131	3	(N)
16516 / 32132	201	RET

by ENTERing each of the following direct POKE commands:

```
POKE 16514,21
```

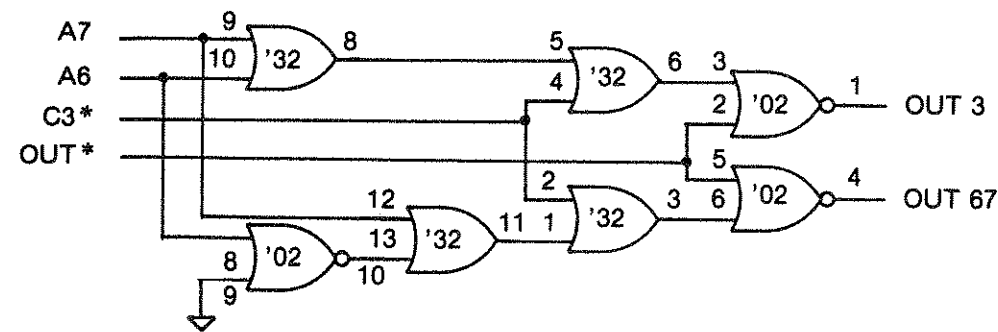


Figure 4.9 Absolute Decoding of Channel 3.

STEP 12 Verify the following Pulse Table by changing device codes in the subroutine and alternately probing pins 1 and 4 of the NOR gates.

DEVICE CODES	NOR GATE OUTPUTS	
<16515/32131>	Pin 1	Pin 4
3	PULSE	None
67	None	PULSE
131	None	None

STEP 13 Exchange the wire connections at A7 and A6 of the cable connector. What DSPs are now available at NOR outputs 1 and 4? Your answer should be OUT 3 and OUT 131 respectively. Can you make another Pulse Table? These last four steps illustrate absolute decoding. In all subsequent experiments, we shall confine our device codes to the six codes below address 64 and thereby avoid port conflict due to the relative decoding of the I/O Interface circuit. If you need more than six port addresses, then by proper absolute decoding as in this experiment, you can have up to 18 available device codes from the I/O Interface.

EXPERIMENT 4.3

DEVICE SELECT PULSES FOR DIGITAL CONTROL

COMPONENTS 1 * 74LS74 Dual D latch
1 * 74LS32 Quad Two-input OR gate
1 * Lamp monitor

DISCUSSION Although most of our interest in interfacing is generally related to data acquisition, the DSP can also function as a control pulse for some external device. Even though the instructions IN A,(N) and OUT (N),A involve transfer of a data byte between a port and the Accumulator, we may choose to ignore the data byte and rely only on the uniqueness of the DSP

to perform some operation. The DSP can be used to activate some digital device such as a relay to turn on or turn off a high voltage lamp or motor or any other ON/OFF device.

PROCEDURE

STEP 1 We can illustrate any ON/OFF device by using a D latch having both PRreset and CLear control inputs, such as the 74LS74 IC. Wire the circuit as shown in the schematic, Figure 4.10.

STEP 2 Load the following BASIC program:

```

10 REM 1234567890      (for B&W models)
10 CLEAR 32129          (for Color models)
20 LET L = USR 16514    (for B&W models)
20 LET L = USR 32130    (for Color models)
30 PRINT "OFF" ;
40 PAUSE 33333
50 LET L = USR 16520    (for B&W models)
50 LET L = USR 32136    (for Color models)
60 PRINT "ON " ;
70 PAUSE 33333
80 GOTO 20

```

