## SN54HC161, SN74HC161 4-BIT SYNCHRONOUS BINARY COUNTERS

SCLS297A - JANUARY 1996 - REVISED MAY 1997

- Internal Look-Ahead for Fast Counting
- Carry Output for n-Bit Cascading
- Synchronous Counting
- Synchronously Programmable
- Package Options Include Plastic Small-Outline (D) and Ceramic Flat (W) Packages, Ceramic Chip Carriers (FK), and Standard Plastic (N) and Ceramic (J) 300-mil DIPs


## description

These synchronous, presettable counters feature an internal carry look-ahead for application in high-speed counting designs. The 'HC161 are 4-bit binary counters. Synchronous operation is provided by having all flip-flops clocked simultaneously so that the outputs change coincident with each other when so instructed by the count-enable (ENP, ENT) inputs and internal gating. This mode of operation eliminates the output counting spikes that are normally associated with synchronous (ripple-clock) counters. A buffered clock (CLK) input triggers the four flip-flops on the rising (positive-going) edge of the clock waveform.

These counters are fully programmable; that is, they can be preset to any number between 0 and 9 or 15 . As presetting is synchronous, setting up a low level at the load input disables the counter and causes the outputs to agree with the setup data after the next clock pulse, regardless of the levels of the enable inputs.


SN54HC161... FK PACKAGE (TOP VIEW)


NC - No internal connection

The clear function for the 'HC161 is asynchronous. A low level at the clear ( $\overline{\mathrm{CLR}}$ ) input sets all four of the flip-flop outputs low, regardless of the levels of the CLK, load (LOAD), or enable inputs.
The carry look-ahead circuitry provides for cascading counters for n-bit synchronous applications without additional gating. Instrumental in accomplishing this function are ENP, ENT, and a ripple-carry output (RCO). Both ENP and ENT must be high to count, and ENT is fed forward to enable RCO. Enabling RCO produces a high-level pulse while the count is maximum ( 9 or 15 with $Q_{A}$ high). This high-level overflow ripple-carry pulse can be used to enable successive cascaded stages. Transitions at ENP or ENT are allowed, regardless of the level of CLK.

These counters feature a fully independent clock circuit. Changes at control inputs (ENP, ENT, or $\overline{\text { LOAD }}$ ) that modify the operating mode have no effect on the contents of the counter until clocking occurs. The function of the counter (whether enabled, disabled, loading, or counting) is dictated solely by the conditions meeting the stable setup and hold times.

The SN54HC161 is characterized for operation over the full military temperature range of $-55^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The SN74HC161 is characterized for operation from $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

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## 4-BIT SYNCHRONOUS BINARY COUNTERS

SCLS297A - JANUARY 1996 - REVISED MAY 1997
logic symbol $\dagger$

† This symbol is in accordance with ANSI/IEEE Std 91-1984 and IEC Publication 617-12.
Pin numbers shown are for the $\mathrm{D}, \mathrm{J}, \mathrm{N}$, and W packages.

## SN54HC161, SN74HC161 <br> 4-BIT SYNCHRONOUS BINARY COUNTERS

logic diagram (positive logic)

$\dagger$ For simplicity, routing of complementary signals $\overline{\mathrm{LD}}$ and $\overline{\mathrm{CK}}$ is not shown on this overall logic diagram. The uses of these signals are shown on the logic diagram of the D/T flip-flops.
Pin numbers shown are for the $\mathrm{D}, \mathrm{J}, \mathrm{N}$, and W packages.
logic symbol, each D/T flip-flop

logic diagram, each D/T flip-flop (positive logic)

$\dagger$ The origins of $\overline{\mathrm{LD}}$ and $\overline{\mathrm{CK}}$ are shown in the logic diagram of the overall device.

## typical clear, preset, count, and inhibit sequence

The following sequence is illustrated below:

1. Clear outputs to zero (asynchronous)
2. Preset to binary 12
3. Count to $13,14,15,0,1$, and 2
4. Inhibit


## absolute maximum ratings over operating free-air temperature range $\dagger$



Output clamp current, $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{OK}}\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{O}}<0\right.$ or $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{O}}>\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ ) (see Note 1) .................................... $\pm 20 \mathrm{~mA}$


Package thermal impedance, $\theta_{\mathrm{JA}}$ (see Note 2): D package . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 113² $\mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ N package .......................................... $78^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$

$\dagger$ Stresses beyond those listed under "absolute maximum ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated under "recommended operating conditions" is not implied. Exposure to absolute-maximum-rated conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.
NOTES: 1. The input and output voltage ratings may be exceeded if the input and output current ratings are observed.
2. The package thermal impedance is calculated in accordance with JESD 51, except for through-hole packages, which use a trace length of zero.
recommended operating conditions

$\ddagger$ If this device is used in the threshold region (from $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IL }} \max =0.5 \mathrm{~V}$ to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IH }} \mathrm{min}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}$ ), there is a potential to go into the wrong state from induced grounding, causing double clocking. Operating with the inputs at $t_{t}=1000 \mathrm{~ns}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}=2 \mathrm{~V}$ does not damage the device; however, functionally, the CLK inputs are not ensured while in the shift, count, or toggle operating modes.

## SN54HC161, SN74HC161 4-BIT SYNCHRONOUS BINARY COUNTERS

SCLS297A - JANUARY 1996 - REVISED MAY 1997
electrical characteristics over recommended operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)

| PARAMETER | TEST CONDITIONS |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ | $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |  |  | SN54HC161 |  | SN74HC161 |  | UNIT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | MIN | TYP | MAX | MIN | MAX | MIN | MAX |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OH}}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {I }}=\mathrm{V}_{\text {IH }}$ or $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IL }}$ | ${ }^{\mathrm{l}} \mathrm{OH}=-20 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ |  | 2 V | 1.9 | 1.998 |  | 1.9 |  | 1.9 |  | V |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 4.4 | 4.499 |  | 4.4 |  | 4.4 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 5.9 | 5.999 |  | 5.9 |  | 5.9 |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{I} \mathrm{OH}=-4 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 4.5 V | 3.98 | 4.3 |  | 3.7 |  | 3.84 |  |  |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{I} \mathrm{OH}=-5.2 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 6 V | 5.48 | 5.8 |  | 5.2 |  | 5.34 |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OL}}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {I }}=\mathrm{V}_{\text {IH }}$ or $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IL }}$ | $\mathrm{lOL}=20 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 2 V |  | 0.002 | 0.1 |  | 0.1 |  | 0.1 | V |  |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V |  | 0.001 | 0.1 |  | 0.1 |  | 0.1 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V |  | 0.001 | 0.1 |  | 0.1 |  | 0.1 |  |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{l} \mathrm{OL}=4 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 4.5 V |  | 0.17 | 0.26 |  | 0.4 |  | 0.33 |  |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{l} \mathrm{OL}=5.2 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 6 V |  | 0.15 | 0.26 |  | 0.4 |  | 0.33 |  |  |
| 1 | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{I}}=\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ or 0 |  | 6 V |  | $\pm 0.1$ | $\pm 100$ |  | $\pm 1000$ |  | $\pm 1000$ | nA |  |
| $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{I}}=\mathrm{V}_{\text {CC }}$ or 0 , | $\mathrm{l}=0$ | 6 V |  |  | 8 |  | 160 |  | 80 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ |  |  | 2 V to 6 V |  | 3 | 10 |  | 10 |  | 10 | pF |  |

timing requirements over recommended operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)

|  |  |  | Vcc | $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |  | SN54HC161 |  | SN74HC161 |  | UNIT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | MIN | MAX | MIN | MAX | MIN | MAX |  |
| ${ }^{\text {f clock }}$ | Clock frequency |  | 2 V | 0 | 6 | 0 | 4.2 | 0 | 5 | MHz |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 0 | 31 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 25 |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 0 | 36 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 29 |  |
| ${ }^{\text {w }}$ w | Pulse duration | CLK high or low | 2 V | 80 |  | 120 |  | 100 |  | ns |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 16 |  | 24 |  | 20 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 14 |  | 20 |  | 17 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 V | 80 |  | 120 |  | 100 |  |  |
|  |  | $\overline{\text { CLR }}$ low | 4.5 V | 16 |  | 24 |  | 20 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 14 |  | 20 |  | 17 |  |  |
| $t_{\text {su }}$ | Setup time before CLK $\uparrow$ | A, B, C, or D | 2 V | 150 |  | 225 |  | 190 |  | ns |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 30 |  | 45 |  | 38 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 26 |  | 38 |  | 32 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 V | 135 |  | 205 |  | 170 |  |  |
|  |  | $\overline{\text { LOAD }}$ Iow | 4.5 V | 27 |  | 41 |  | 34 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 23 |  | 35 |  | 29 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 2 V | 170 |  | 255 |  | 215 |  |  |
|  |  | ENP, ENT | 4.5 V | 34 |  | 51 |  | 43 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 29 |  | 43 |  | 37 |  |  |
|  |  | $\overline{\mathrm{CLR}}$ inactive | 2 V | 125 |  | 190 |  | 155 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 25 |  | 38 |  | 31 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 21 |  | 32 |  | 26 |  |  |
| th | Hold time, all synchronous inputs after CLK $\uparrow$ |  | 2 V | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  | ns |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  |  |

SCLS297A - JANUARY 1996 - REVISED MAY 1997
switching characteristics over recommended operating free-air temperature range, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}=50 \mathrm{pF}$ (unless otherwise noted) (see Figure 1)

| PARAMETER | $\begin{aligned} & \text { FROM } \\ & \text { (INPUT) } \end{aligned}$ | TO (OUTPUT) | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{cc}}$ | $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |  |  | SN54HC161 |  | SN74HC161 |  | UNIT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | MIN | TYP | MAX | MIN | MAX | MIN | MAX |  |
| ${ }^{\prime}$ max |  |  | 2 V | 6 | 14 |  | 4.2 |  | 5 |  | MHz |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 31 | 40 |  | 21 |  | 25 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 36 | 44 |  | 25 |  | 29 |  |  |
| ${ }^{\text {tpd }}$ | CLK | RCO | 2 V |  | 83 | 215 |  | 325 |  | 270 | ns |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V |  | 24 | 43 |  | 65 |  | 54 |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V |  | 20 | 37 |  | 55 |  | 46 |  |
|  |  | Any Q | 2 V |  | 80 | 205 |  | 310 |  | 255 |  |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V |  | 25 | 41 |  | 62 |  | 51 |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V |  | 21 | 35 |  | 53 |  | 43 |  |
|  | ENT | RCO | 2 V |  | 62 | 195 |  | 295 |  | 245 |  |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V |  | 17 | 39 |  | 59 |  | 49 |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V |  | 14 | 33 |  | 50 |  | 42 |  |
| tPHL | $\overline{\text { CLR }}$ | Any Q | 2 V |  | 105 | 210 |  | 315 |  | 265 | ns |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V |  | 21 | 42 |  | 63 |  | 53 |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V |  | 18 | 36 |  | 54 |  | 45 |  |
|  |  | RCO | 2 V |  | 110 | 220 |  | 330 |  | 275 |  |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V |  | 22 | 44 |  | 66 |  | 55 |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V |  | 19 | 37 |  | 56 |  | 47 |  |
| $t_{t}$ |  | Any | 2 V |  | 38 | 75 |  | 110 |  | 95 | ns |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V |  | 8 | 15 |  | 22 |  | 19 |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V |  | 6 | 13 |  | 19 |  | 16 |  |

operating characteristics, $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$

| PARAMETER | TEST CONDITIONS | TYP | UNIT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{pd}} \quad$ Power dissipation capacitance | No load | 60 | pF |

## PARAMETER MEASUREMENT INFORMATION



Figure 1. Load Circuit and Voltage Waveforms

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

## n-bit synchronous counters

This application demonstrates how the look-ahead carry circuit can be used to implement a high-speed $n$-bit counter. The 'HC161 count in binary. Virtually any count mode (modulo-N, $\mathrm{N}_{1}$-to- $\mathrm{N}_{2}, \mathrm{~N}_{1}$-to-maximum) can be used with this fast look-ahead circuit.

The application circuit shown in Figure 2 is not valid for clock frequencies above 18 MHz (at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and $\left.4.5-\mathrm{V} \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}\right)$. The reason for this is that there is a glitch that is produced on the second stage's RCO and every succeeding stage's RCO. This glitch is common to all HC vendors that Texas Instruments has evaluated, in addition to the bipolar equivalents (LS, ALS, AS).


Figure 2

The glitch on RCO is caused because the propagation delay of the rising edge of $Q_{A}$ of the second stage is shorter than the propagation delay of the falling edge of ENT. RCO is the product of ENT, $Q_{A}, Q_{B}, Q_{C}$, and $Q_{D}$ ( $E N T \times Q_{A} \times Q_{B} \times Q_{C} \times Q_{D}$ ). The resulting glitch is about 7-12 ns in duration. Figure 3 shows the condition in which the glitch occurs. For simplicity, only two stages are being considered, but the results can be applied to other stages. $Q_{B}, Q_{C}$, and $Q_{D}$ of the first and second stage are at logic one, and $Q_{A}$ of both stages are at logic zero (1110 1110) after the first clock pulse. On the rising edge of the second clock pulse, $Q_{A}$ and RCO of the first stage go high. On the rising edge of the third clock pulse, $Q_{A}$ and RCO of the first stage return to a low level, and $Q_{A}$ of the second stage goes to a high level. At this time, the glitch on RCO of the second stage appears because of the race condition inside the chip.


Figure 3
The glitch causes a problem in the next stage (stage three) if the glitch is still present when the next rising clock edge appears (clock pulse 4). To ensure that this does not happen, the clock frequency must be less than the inverse of the sum of the clock-to-RCO propagation delay and the glitch duration $\left(\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{g}}\right)$. In other words, $\mathrm{f}_{\max }=1 /\left(\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{pd}}\right.$ CLK-to-RCO $\left.+\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{g}}\right)$. For example, at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ at $4.5-\mathrm{V} \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$, the clock-to-RCO propagation delay is 43 ns and the maximum duration of the glitch is 12 ns . Therefore, the maximum clock frequency that the cascaded counters can use is 18 MHz . The following tables contain the $f_{c l o c k}, t_{w}$, and $f_{\text {max }}$ specifications for applications that use more than two 'HC161 devices cascaded together.
timing requirements over recommended operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)

switching characteristics over recommended operating free-air temperature range, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}=50 \mathrm{pF}$ (unless otherwise noted) (see Note 3)

| PARAMETER | $\begin{aligned} & \text { FROM } \\ & \text { (INPUT) } \end{aligned}$ | TO (OUTPUT) | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{Cc}}$ | $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |  | SN54HC161 |  | SN74HC161 |  | UNIT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | MIN | MAX | MIN | MAX | MIN | MAX |  |
| ${ }^{f}$ max |  |  | 2 V | 3.6 |  | 2.5 |  | 2.9 |  | MHz |
|  |  |  | 4.5 V | 18 |  | 12 |  | 14 |  |  |
|  |  |  | 6 V | 21 |  | 14 |  | 17 |  |  |

NOTE 3: These limits apply only to applications that use more than two 'HC161 devices cascaded together.
If the 'HC161 are used as a single unit, or only two cascaded together, then the maximum clock frequency that the device can use is not limited because of the glitch. In these situations, the device can be operated at the maximum specifications.
A glitch can appear on RCO of a single 'HC161 device, depending on the relationship of ENT to CLK. Any application that uses RCO to drive any input except an ENT of another cascaded 'HC161 must take this into consideration.

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