

# Re: Missing Schmitt Gates??

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2007-12/msg00594.html>

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- *From:* John Fields <jfields@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Wed, 05 Dec 2007 08:44:43 -0600
- 

On Tue, 04 Dec 2007 21:53:49 -0500, Spehro Pefhany  
<speffSNIP@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Tue, 04 Dec 2007 19:54:53 -0600, the renowned John Fields  
<jfields@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Tue, 04 Dec 2007 16:47:14 -0800, John Larkin  
<jjlarkin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Tue, 04 Dec 2007 16:45:54 -0700, Jim Thompson  
<To-Email-Use-The-Envelope-Icon@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote:

On Tue, 04 Dec 2007 15:40:47 -0800, D  
from BC  
<myrealaddress@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Tue, 04 Dec 2007  
22:17:36 GMT, Rich Grise  
<rich@xxxxxxxxxx>  
wrote:

On Mon, 03  
Dec 2007  
19:07:08  
-0800, John  
Larkin  
wrote:

On  
Mon,  
3  
Dec

Re: Missing Schmitt Gates??

2007  
17:57:28  
-0800,  
"Joel  
Koltner"

"D  
from  
BC"  
<myrealaddress@xxxxxxxx>  
wrote  
in  
message

A  
crystal  
needs  
a  
good  
linear  
amp.

Everything  
is  
linear  
if  
you  
look  
closely  
enough...

I  
am  
being  
a  
little  
obtuse  
here  
--  
the  
kind  
of  
oscillator  
I  
was  
thinking  
of  
was

Re: Missing Schmitt Gates??

your  
canoncial  
microcontroller/FPGA  
clock  
that  
doesn't  
need  
to  
be  
particularly  
accurate  
--  
it's  
common  
to  
use  
50  
or  
even  
100ppm  
rocks  
in  
such  
systems;  
this  
is  
a  
completely  
different  
league  
of  
oscillator  
than  
those  
you  
build  
for,  
e.g.,  
fancy  
RF  
applications  
where  
you're  
after  
2.5ppm  
or  
better.

I  
was

Re: Missing Schmitt Gates??

never  
able  
to  
get  
the  
Schmitts  
to  
oscillate  
anywhere  
near  
the  
supposed  
crystal  
frequency.

Maybe it's a  
little late in  
the thread to  
bring this  
up, but I'd  
think that  
with the  
Schmitt  
characteristics  
of the input,  
the crystal  
would have  
to be  
drastically  
overdriven,  
just to get  
the gate to  
notice that  
there's a  
feedback  
signal.

But I  
wouldn't  
have any  
qualms  
about an  
HCU  
inverter or  
3. ;-)

Cheers!  
Rich

Re: Missing Schmitt Gates??

I think Ht for Logic with  
Schmitt inputs is about 1V  
@ 5V.

A crystal..well... isn't it just  
tiny jiggling piece of rock?  
Ooops...I might be thinking  
piezo..

Damn..forgot all my crystal  
theory...cuts, shapes, modes  
and all that

jazz.

Anyways.. I can imagine  
that one has to be kind to a  
tiny piece of  
crystal and not bash it with  
lots of drive.

However....depends on the  
precision required..

As someone posted, for  
clocking an uC or CPU  
...who cares about some  
drift..

D from BC

A crystal oscillator using an inverter with  
hysteresis WILL NOT  
self-start.

...Jim Thompson

Of course it will self-start. It just won't run anywhere near  
the  
crystal frequency!

---  
Nope.

There's no guarantee that it'll self-start because you've only got  
one delta V (on turn-on) to cause the crystal to ring, and if it  
doesn't ring hard enough to get to the opposite switching threshold  
it'll just sit there, squeezed.

Re: Missing Schmitt Gates??

At what input voltage? Of course it's assumed you will also have a high-value bias resistor across the ST inverter.

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OK, but then I think the ST has to be configured to self-oscillate in order to pump the crystal up to where it has enough output to run the ST instead of the ST running itself.  
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The right way to do it is to use an inverter which can be biased so that the input and the output are both at about  $V_{cc}/2$  and then let noise tickle the crystal until it takes off.

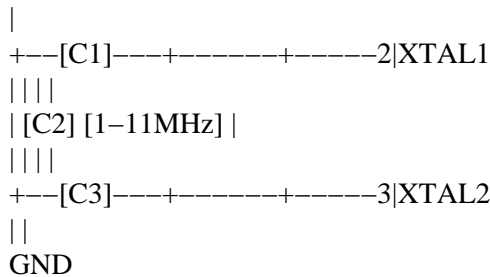
The MCS48 used a ST in the clock oscillator IIRC. It would oscillate at some tens of kHz before the crystal got going. Maybe a "feature" kind of a limp-home thing if the crystal failed (usually, not always, open).

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My 1990 Intel "8-Bit Embedded Controllers" data book states, on page 1-8:

"OSCILLATOR

The on-board oscillator is a high gain parallel resonant circuit with a frequency range of 1 to 11 MHz. The X1 external pin is the input to the amplifier stage while X2 is the output. A crystal or ceramic resonator connected between X1 and X2 provides the feedback and phase shift required for oscillation"

Then, on page 4-28, they show:



- C1 = 5pF +/- 1/2 + (stray < 5pF)
- C2 = (CRYSTAL + STRAY) < 8pF
- C3 = 20pF +/- 1 pF (stray < 5pF)

Which looks pretty much like a Pierce oscillator.

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Finally, in the figure on page 9, they say: "For XTAL1 and XTAL2 define "high" as voltages above 1.6V and "low" as voltages below 1.6V."

I found no mention of self-oscillation, and with that tightly defined trigger point and no hysteresis, it doesn't seem likely that's a Schmitt trigger.

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JF