Low Voltage PLL Clock Driver

The MPC930 is a 3.3V compatible, PLL based clock driver device targeted for desktop PC applications. With output frequencies of up to 125MHz and output skews of 300ps the MPC930 is ideal for the most demanding portable or desktop PC designs. The device employs a fully differential PLL design to minimize cycle to cycle and long term jitter. This parameter is of significant importance when the clock driver is providing the reference clock for PLL's on board todays microprocessors and ASiC's. The device offers 6 low skew outputs, and a choice between internal or external feedback. The feedback option adds to the flexibility of the device, providing numerous input to output frequency relationships.

- On-Board Crystal Oscillator
- Fully Integrated PLL
- Processor Shut Down Mode
- Output Frequency up to 125MHz
- Bus Clock Speed Selection
- Compatible with PowerPC[™] and Intel Microprocessors
- 32-Lead TQFP Packaging
- Power Down Mode
- ±100ps Typical Cycle-to-Cycle Jitter

The PowerPC 603 microprocessor requires processor clock speeds of up to 66.67MHz with potential higher speeds in the future. The MPC930 clock driver is well positioned for first and next generation MPC603 systems. The device can also be configured to drive the PentiumTM microprocessor cache module by configuring all of the outputs to the same frequency and taking advantage of the MPC930's capability of driving two series terminated 50 Ω transmission lines from each output.

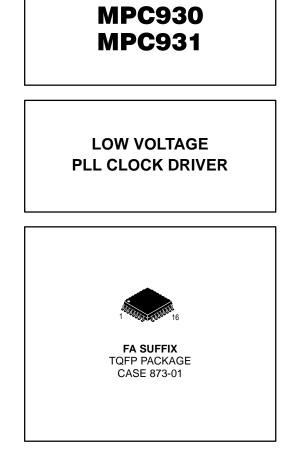
The MPC930 offers two power saving features for power conscious portable or "green" designs. The power down pin will seemlessly reduce all of the clock rates by one half so that the system will run at half the potential clock rate to extend battery life. The POWER_DN pin is synchronized internally to the slowest output clock rate. This allows the transition in and out of the power-down mode to be output glitch free. In addition, the shut down control pins will turn off various combinations of clock outputs while leaving a subset active to allow for total processor shut down while maintaining system monitors to "wake up" the system when signaled. During shut down, the PLL will remain locked so that wake up time will be minimized. The shut down and power down pins can be combined for the ultimate in power savings. The Shut_Dn pins are synchronized to the clock internal to the chip to eliminate the possibility of generating runt pulses.

The MPC930/931 devices offer a great deal of flexibility in what is used as the PLL reference. The MPC930 offers in integrated crystal oscillator that allows for an inexpensive crystal to be used as the frequency reference. For more information on the crystal oscillator please refer to the applications section of this data sheet. In those applications where the 930/931 will be used to regenerate clocks from an existing source or as a zero delay buffer alternative reference clock inputs are provided. Both devices offer an LVCMOS input that can be used as the PLL reference. In addition the MPC931 replaces the crystal oscillator inputs with a differential PECL reference clock input that allows the device to be used in mixed technology clock distribution trees.

An internal feedback divide by 8 of the VCO frequency is compared with the input reference provided by the on-board crystal oscillator when the internal feedback is selected. The on-board crystal oscillator requires no external components other than a series resonant crystal (see Applications Information section for more on crystals). The internal VCO is running at 4x the highest speed output so that the input reference will be either one half or one fourth the highest speed output. If the external feedback is selected, one of the MPC930's outputs is connected to the Ext_FB pin. Using the external feedback, numerous input/output frequency relationships can be developed.

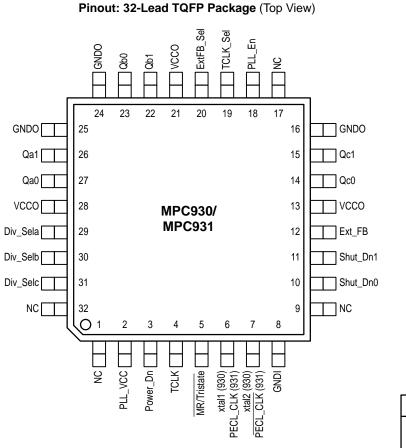
The MPC930 is fully 3.3V compatible and requires no external loop filter components. All inputs accept LVCMOS or LVTTL compatible levels while the outputs provide LVCMOS levels with the capability to drive terminated 50Ω transmission lines. For series terminated applications, each output can drive two 50Ω transmission lines, effectively increasing the fanout to 1:12. The device is packaged in a 32-lead TQFP package to provide the optimum combination of board density and cost.

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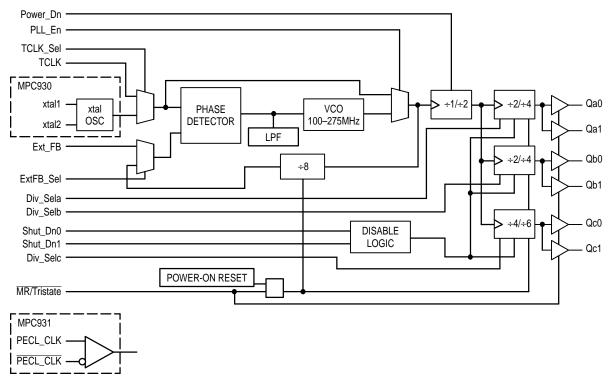


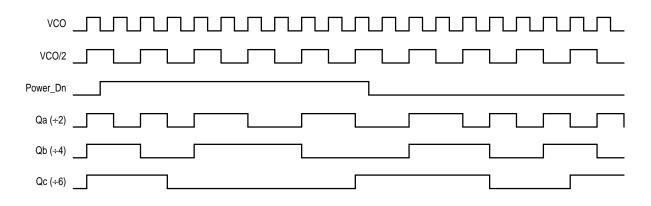
FUNCTION TABLES

TCLK_Sel	Refe		
0 1	xta TC		
PLL_En	PLL	5	
0 1	Tes PL		
ExtFB_Sel	Refe	erence	
0 1	Int. Ext		
Power_Dn	PLL Status		
0 1		0/1 0/2	
-			Qc
1	VC Qa	0/2	Qc ÷4 ÷6
1 Div_Sela,b,c	VC Qa ÷2 ÷4	0/2 Qb ÷2	÷4 ÷6
1 Div_Sela,b,c 0 1	VC Qa ÷2 ÷4 PLL Dis	0/2 Qb ÷2 ÷4	÷4 ÷6

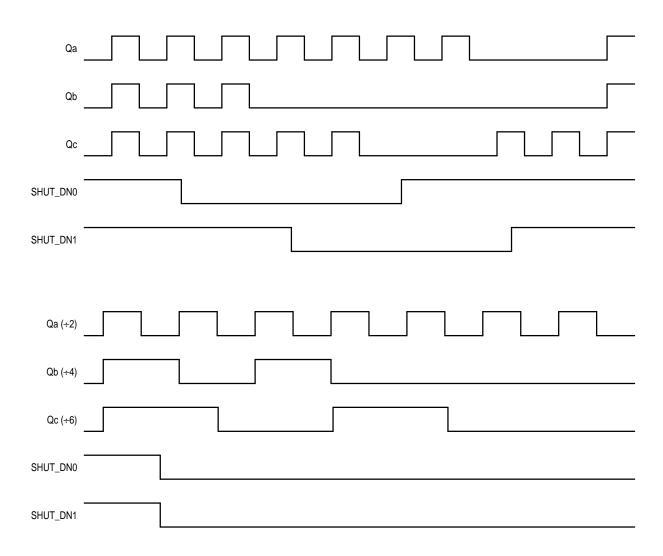
Shut_Dn1	Shut_Dn0	Div_Seln
0	0	Qb & Qc Low, Qa Toggle Qa & Qb Low, Qc Toggle
1	0	Qa & Qb Low, Qc Toggle Qb Low, Qa & Qc Toggle
1	1	All Toggle

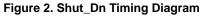
LOGIC DIAGRAM











ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS*

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Unit
VCC	Supply Voltage	-0.3	4.6	V
VI	Input Voltage	-0.3	V _{DD} + 0.3	V
lin	Input Current		±20	mA
T _{Stor}	Storage Temperature Range	-40	125	°C

* Absolute maximum continuous ratings are those values beyond which damage to the device may occur. Exposure to these conditions or conditions beyond those indicated may adversely affect device reliability. Functional operation under absolute-maximum-rated conditions is not implied.

PLL INPUT REFERENCE CHARACTERISTICS (T_A = 0 to 70°C)

Symbol	Characteristic	Min	Max	Unit	Condition
t _r , t _f	TCLK Input Rise/Falls		3.0	ns	
fref	Reference Input Frequency	10	Note 1	MHz	
frefDC	Reference Input Duty Cycle	25	75	%	

1. Maximum input reference frequency is limited by the VCO lock range and the feedback divider.

DC CHARACTERISTICS (T_A = 0° to 70°C, V_{CC} = $3.3V \pm 0.3V$)

Symbol	Characteristic	Min	Тур	Max	Unit	Condition
VIH	Input HIGH Voltage	2.0		3.6	V	
VIL	Input LOW Voltage	0.8			V	
VOH	Output HIGH Voltage	2.4			V	I _{OH} = -20mA ¹
VOL	Output LOW Voltage			0.5	V	I _{OL} = 20mA ¹
I _{IN}	Input Current			±100	μΑ	Note 2
ICC	Maximum Quiescent Supply Current		65	80	mA	
ICCPLL	Maximum PLL Supply Current		15	20	mA	
с _{IN}				4	pF	
C _{pd}				20	pF	

1. The MPC930/931 outputs can drive series or parallel terminated 50Ω (or 50Ω to V_{CC}/2) transmission lines on the incident edge (see Applications Info section).

2. Inputs have pull-up resistors which affect input current, PECL_CLK has a pull-down resistor.

Symbol	Characteristic	Min	Тур	Max	Unit	Condition
t _r , t _f	Output Rise/Fall Time	0.15		1.0	ns	0.8 to 2.0V, 50 Ω to V _{CC} /2
^t pw	Output Duty Cycle	tCYCLE/2 -750	tCYCLE/2 ±500	^t CYCLE/2 +750	ps	50 Ω to V _{CC} /2
t _{os}	Output-to-Output Skew Same Frequency Different Frequencies		200 300	300 400	ps	50 Ω to V _{CC} /2
fXtal	Crystal Oscillator Frequency Range	10		25	MHz	Note 2
fvco	PLL VCO Lock Range Feedback = VCO/4 Feedback = VCO/6 Feedback = VCO/8 Feedback = VCO/12		100–275 100–275 100–275 100–275		MHz	Power_Dn = '0' or '1' Power_Dn = '0' Power_Dn = '1' Power_Dn = '1'
f _{max}	Maximum Output Frequency Qa, Qb (÷2) Qa, Qb, Qc (÷4) Qc (÷6)			137 68 45	MHz	Internal Feedback Power_Dn = '0'
^t pd	TCLK to EXT_FB Delay Feedback = VCO/4 Feedback = VCO/6 Feedback = VCO/8 Feedback = VCO/12		X ₁ ±150 X ₂ ±150 X ₃ ±150 X ₄ ±150		ps	ExtFB_Sel = '1' ExtFB_Sel = '1' ExtFB_Sel = '1' ExtFB_Sel = '1'
tPLZ, tPHZ	Output Disable Time	2.0	5.0	8.0	ns	50 Ω to V _{CC} /2
^t PZL	Output Enable Time	3.0	6.5	10	ns	50 Ω to V _{CC} /2
^t jitter	Cycle-to-Cycle Jitter (Peak-to-Peak)		±100		ps	Note 3
^t lock	Maximum PLL Lock Time			10	ms	

AC CHARACTERISTICS (T_A = 0° to 70°C, V_{CC} = $3.3V \pm 0.3V$)

1. X₁, X₂, X₃, and X₄ all to be determined. The specs hold only when the 930 or 931 is used in the external feedback mode.

2. See Applications Info section for crystal specifications.

3. See Applications Info section for more jitter information.

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

Programming the MPC930/931

The MPC930/931 clock driver outputs can be configured into several frequency relationships, in addition the external feedback option allows for a great deal of flexibility in establishing unique input to output frequency relationships. The output dividers for the three output groups allows the user to configure the outputs into 1:1, 2:1, 3:1, 3:2 and 3:2:1 frequency ratios. The use of even dividers ensures that the output duty cycle is always 50%. Table 1 illustrates the various output configurations, the table describes the outputs using the VCO frequency as a reference. As an example for a 3:2:1 relationship the Qa outputs would be set at VCO/2, the Qb's at VCO/4 and the Qc's at VCO/6. These settings will provide output frequencies with a 3:2:1 relationship.

The division settings establish the output relationship, but one must still ensure that the VCO will be stable given the frequency of the outputs desired. The VCO lock range is a function of the feedback divide ratios and can be found in the specification tables. The feedback frequency and the Power_Dn pin can be used to situate the VCO into a frequency range in which the PLL will be stable. The design of the PLL is such that for output frequencies between 25 and 137MHz the MPC930/931 can generally be configured into a stable region. The relationship between the input reference and the output frequency is also very flexible. Table 2 shows the multiplication factors between the inputs and outputs when the internal feedback option is used. For external feedback Table 1 can be used to determine the multiplication factor, there are too many potential combinations to tabularize the external feedback condition. Figure 3 through Figure 8 illustrates several programming possibilities, although not exhaustive it is representative of the potential applications.

Table 1. Programmable Output Frequency Relationships (Power_Dn = '0')

	INPUTS		OUTPUTS	;	
Div_Sela	Div_Selb	Div_Selc	Qa	Qb	Qc
0	0	0	VCO/2	VCO/2	VCO/4
0	0	1	VCO/2	VCO/2	VCO/6
0	1	0	VCO/2	VCO/4	VCO/4
0	1	1	VCO/2	VCO/4	VCO/6
1	0	0	VCO/4	VCO/2	VCO/4
1	0	1	VCO/4	VCO/2	VCO/6
1	1	0	VCO/4	VCO/4	VCO/4
1	1	1	VCO/4	VCO/4	VCO/6

MPC930 MPC931

	INPUTS		OUTPUTS					
			Qa		Qb		Qc	
Div_Sela	Div_Selb	Div_Selc	Power_Dn=0	Power_Dn=1	Power_Dn=0	Power_Dn=1	Power_Dn=0	Power_Dn=1
0	0	0	4x	2x	4x	2x	2x	х
0	0	1	4x	2x	4x	2x	4/3x	2/3x
0	1	0	4x	2x	2x	х	2x	х
0	1	1	4x	2x	2x	х	4/3x	2/3x
1	0	0	2x	х	4x	2x	2x	х
1	0	1	2x	х	4x	2x	4/3x	2/3x
1	1	0	2x	х	2x	х	2x	х
1	1	1	2x	х	2x	х	4/3x	2/3x

Table 2. Input Reference/Output Frequency Relationships (Internal Feedback Only)

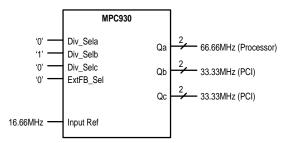


Figure 3. Pentium/PowerPC 603 Configuration

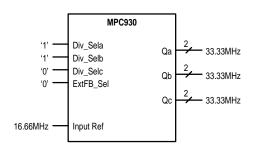


Figure 4. PowerPC 603 Configuration

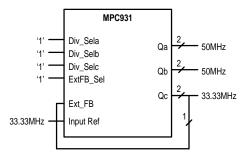


Figure 5. "Zero" Delay Fractional Multiplier

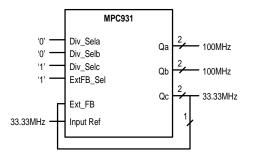


Figure 7. "Zero" Delay Multiply by 3 (50% Duty Cycle)

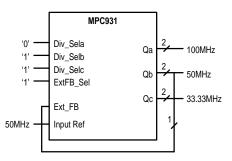


Figure 6. "Zero" Delay Fractional Divider

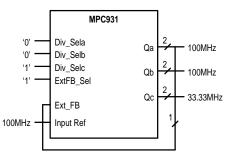


Figure 8. "Zero" Delay Divide by 3 (50% Duty Cycle)

Using the MPC930/931 as a Zero Delay Buffer

The external feedback option of the MPC930/931 clock driver allows for its use as a zero delay buffer. By using one of the outputs as a feedback to the PLL the propagation delay through the device is eliminated. The PLL works to align the output edge with the input reference edge thus producing a near zero delay. The feedback divider affects the static phase offset of the PLL and thus the relative delay between the inputs and outputs. Because the static phase offset is a function of the feedback divisor and input reference frequency, the Tpd of the MPC930/931 is a function of the feedback configuration used. The Tpd of the device is specified in the specification tables.

When used as a zero delay buffer the MPC930/931 will likely be in a nested clock tree application. For these applications the MPC931 offers a LVPECL clock input as a PLL reference. This allows the user to use LVPECL as the primary clock distribution device to take advantage of its far superior skew performance. The MPC931 then can lock onto the LVPECL reference and translate with near zero delay to low skew LVCMOS outputs. Clock trees implemented in this fashion will show significantly tighter skews than trees developed from CMOS fanout buffers.

To minimize part-to-part skew the external feedback option again should be used. The PLL in the MPC930/931 decouples the delay of the device from the propagation delay variations of the internal gates. From the specification table one sees a Tpd variation of only \pm 150ps, thus for multiple devices under identical configurations the part-to-part skew will be around 800ps (300ps for Tpd variation plus 300ps output-to-output skew plus 200ps jitter). For devices that are configured differently the differences between the nominal delays must also be accounted for.

Jitter Performance of the MPC930/931

With the clock rates of today's digital systems continuing to increase more emphasis is being placed on clock distribution design and management. Among the issues being addressed is system clock jitter and how that affects the overall system timing budget. The MPC930/931 was designed to minimize clock jitter by employing a differential bipolar PLL as well as incorporating numerous power and ground pins in the design. The following few paragraphs will outline the jitter performance of the MPC930/931, illustrate the measurement limitations and provide guidelines to minimize the jitter of the device.

The most commonly specified jitter parameter is cycle-to-cycle jitter. Unfortunately with today's high performance measurement equipment there is no way to measure this parameter for jitter performance in the class demonstrated by the MPC930/931. As a result different methods are used which approximate cycle-to-cycle jitter. The typical method of measuring the jitter is to accumulate a large number of cycles, create a histogram of the edge placements and record peak-to-peak as well as standard deviations of the jitter. Care must be taken that the measured edge is the edge immediately following the trigger edge. If this is not the case the measurement inaccuracy will add significantly to the measured jitter. The oscilloscope cannot collect adjacent pulses, rather it collects data from a very

large sample of pulses. It is safe to assume that collecting pulse information in this mode will produce jitter values somewhat larger than if consecutive cycles were measured, therefore, this measurement will represent an upper bound of cycle–to–cycle jitter. Most likely, this is a conservative estimate of the cycle–to–cycle jitter.

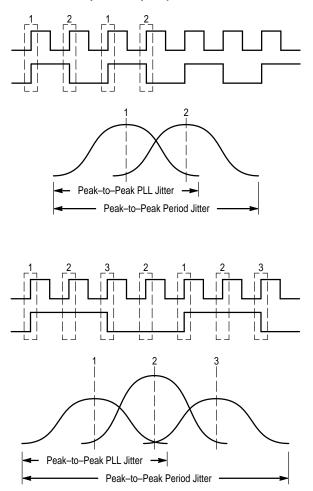


Figure 9. PLL Jitter and Edge Displacement

There are two sources of jitter in a PLL based clock driver, the commonly known random jitter of the PLL and the less intuitive jitter caused by synchronous, different frequency outputs switching. For the case where all of the outputs are switching at the same frequency the total jitter is exactly equal to the PLL jitter. In a device, like the MPC930/931, where a number of the outputs can be switching synchronously but at different frequencies a "multi-modal" jitter distribution can be seen on the highest frequency outputs. Because the output being monitored is affected by the activity on the other outputs it is important to consider what is happening on those other outputs. From Figure 9, one can see for each rising edge on the higher frequency signal the activity on the lower frequency signal is not constant. The activity on the other outputs tends to alter the internal thresholds of the device such that the placement of the edge being monitored is displaced in time. Because the signals are synchronous the relationship is periodic and the resulting jitter is a compilation of the PLL jitter superimposed on the displaced edges. When histograms are plotted the jitter looks like a "multi-modal" distribution as pictured in Figure 9 on page 7. Depending on the size of the PLL jitter and the relative displacement of the edges the "multi-modal" distribution will appear truly "multi-modal" or simply like a "fat" Gaussian distribution. Again note that in the case where all the outputs are switching at the same frequency there is no edge displacement and the jitter is reduced to that of the PLL.

Figure 10 graphically represents the PLL jitter of the MPC930/931. The data was taken for several different output configurations. Because of the relatively few outputs on the MPC930/931, the multimodal distribution is of a second order affect on the 930/931 and can be ignored. As one can see in the figure the PLL jitter is much less dependent on output configuration than on internal VCO frequency. However, for a given VCO frequency, a lower output frequency produces more jitter.

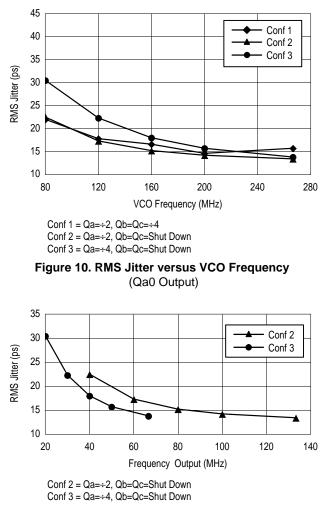


Figure 11. RMS Jitter versus Output Frequency (Qa0 Output)

Finally from the data there are some general guidelines that, if followed, will minimize the output jitter of the device. First and foremost always configure the device such that the VCO runs as fast as possible. This is by far the most critical parameter in minimizing jitter. Second keep the reference frequency as high as possible. More frequent updates at the phase detector will help to reduce jitter. Note that if there is a tradeoff between higher reference frequencies and higher VCO frequency always chose the higher VCO frequency to minimize jitter. The third guideline is to try to shut down outputs that are unused. Minimizing the number of switching outputs will minimize output jitter.

Power Supply Filtering

The MPC930/931 is a mixed analog/digital product and as such it exhibits some sensitivities that would not necessarily be seen on a fully digital product. Analog circuitry is naturally susceptible to random noise, especially if this noise is seen on the power supply pins. The MPC930/931 provides separate power supplies for the output buffers (V_{CCO}) and the internal logic (V_{CCI}) of the device. The purpose of this design technique is to try and isolate the high switching noise digital outputs from the relatively sensitive internal analog phase–locked loop. In a controlled environment such as an evaluation board this level of isolation is sufficient. However, in a digital system environment where it is more difficult to minimize noise on the power supplies a second level of isolation may be required. The simplest form of isolation is a power supply filter on the V_{CCI} pin for the MPC930/931.

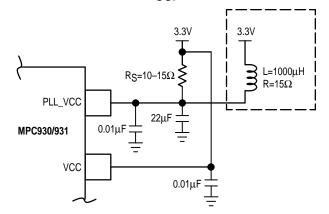


Figure 12. Power Supply Filter

Figure 12 illustrates a typical power supply filter scheme. The MPC930/931 is most susceptible to noise with spectral content in the 1KHz to 1MHz range. Therefore the filter should be designed to target this range. The key parameter that needs to be met in the final filter design is the DC voltage drop that will be seen between the V_{CC} supply and the PLL_VCC pin of the MPC930/931. From the data sheet the IPLL_VCC current (the current sourced through the PLL_VCC pin) is typically 15mA (20mA maximum), assuming that a minimum of 3.0V must be maintained on the PLL_VCC pin very little DC voltage drop can be tolerated when a 3.3V V_{CC} supply is used. The resistor shown in Figure 12 must have a resistance of 10–15 Ω to meet the voltage drop criteria. The RC filter pictured will provide a broadband filter with approximately 100:1 attenuation for noise whose spectral

content is above 20KHz. As the noise frequency crosses the series resonant point of an individual capacitor it's overall impedance begins to look inductive and thus increases with increasing frequency. The parallel capacitor combination shown ensures that a low impedance path to ground exists for frequencies well above the bandwidth of the PLL.

A higher level of attenuation can be acheived by replacing the resistor with an appropriate valued inductor. Figure 12 shows a 1000 μ H choke, this value choke will show a significant impedance at 10KHz frequencies and above. Because of the current draw and the voltage that must be maintained on the PLL_VCC pin a low DC resistance inductor is required (less than 15 Ω). Generally the resistor/capacitor filter will be cheaper, easier to implement and provide an adequate level of supply filtering.

Although the MPC930/931 has several design features to minimize the susceptibility to power supply noise (isolated power and grounds and fully differential PLL) there still may be applications in which overall performance is being degraded due to system power supply noise. The power supply filter schemes discussed in this section should be adequate to eliminate power supply noise related problems in most designs.

Using the Power Management Features of the MPC930/931

The MPC930/931 clock driver offers two different features that designers can take advantage of for managing power dissipation in their designs. The first feature allows the user to turn off outputs which drive portions of the system which may go idle in a sleep mode. The Shut_Dn pins allow for three different combinations of output shut down schemes. The schemes are summarized in the function tables in the data sheet. The MPC930/931 synchronizes the shut down signals internal to the chip and applies them in a manner which eliminates the possibility of creating runt pulse on the outputs. The device waits for the outputs are re–enabled the device waits and re–enables the output such that the transition is synchronous and in the proper phase relationship to the outputs which remained active.

The Power_Dn pin offers another means of implementing power management schemes into a design. To use this feature the device must be set up in its normal operating mode with the Power_Dn pin "LOW", in addition the user must use the internal feedback option. If the external feedback option were used the output frequency reduction would change the feedback frequency and the PLL will lose lock. When the Power_Dn pin is driven "HIGH" the MPC930/931 synchronizes the signal to the internal clock and then seemlessly reduces the frequency of the outputs by one half. The Power_Dn signal is synchronized to the slowest internal VCO clock. It waits until both VCO clocks are in the "LOW" state and then switches from the nominal speed VCO clock to the half speed VCO clock. This will in turn cause the current output pulse to stretch to reflect the reduction in output frequency. When the Power_Dn pin is brought back "LOW" the device will again wait until both of the VCO clocks are "LOW" and then switch to the nominal VCO clock. This will cause the current output pulses, and all successive pulses, to shrink to match the higher output frequency. Both the power up and power down features are illustrated in the timing diagrams of in this data sheet.

Timing diagrams for both of the power management features are shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2 on page 3.

Using the On–Board Crystal Oscillator

The MPC930/931 features an on-board crystal oscillator to allow for seed clock generation as well as final distribution. The on-board oscillator is completely self contained so that the only external component required is the crystal. As the oscillator is somewhat sensitive to loading on its inputs the user is advised to mount the crystal as close to the MPC930/931 as possible to avoid any board level parasitics. To facilitate co-location surface mount crystals are recommended, but not required. In addition, with crystals with a higher shunt capacitance, it may be necessary to place a 1k resistor across the two crystal leads.

The oscillator circuit is a series resonant circuit as opposed to the more common parallel resonant circuit, this eliminates the need for large on-board capacitors. Because the design is a series resonant design for the optimum frequency accuracy a series resonant crystal should be used (see specification table below). Unfortunately most off the shelf crystals are characterized in a parallel resonant mode. However a parallel resonant crystal is physically no different than a series resonant crystal, a parallel resonant crystal is simply a crystal which has been characterized in its parallel resonant mode. Therefore in the majority of cases a parallel specified crystal can be used with the MPC930/931 with just a minor frequency error due to the actual series resonant frequency of the parallel resonant specified crystal. Typically a parallel specified crystal used in a series resonant mode will exhibit an oscillatory frequency a few hundred ppm lower than the specified value. For most processor implementations a few hundred ppm translates into kHz inaccuracies, a level which does not represent a major issue.

Value
Value
Fundamental AT Cut
Series Resonance*
±75ppm at 25°C
±150pm 0 to 70°C
0 to 70°C
5–7pF
50 to 80Ω
100μW
5ppm/Yr (First 3 Years)

Table 3. Crystal Specifications

* See accompanying text for series versus parallel resonant discussion.

The MPC930/931 is a clock driver which was designed to generate outputs with programmable frequency relationships and not a synthesizer with a fixed input frequency. As a result

the crystal input frequency is a function of the desired output frequency. For a design which utilizes the external feedback to the PLL the selection of the crystal frequency is straight forward; simply chose a crystal which is equal in frequency to the fed back signal. To determine the crystal required to produce the desired output frequency for an application which utilizes internal feedback the block diagram of Figure 13 should be used. The P and the M values for the MPC930/931 are also included in Figure 13. The M values can be found in the configuration tables included in this applications section.

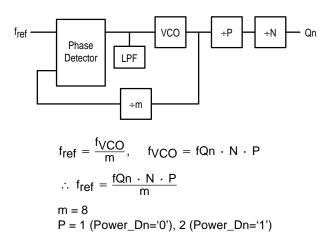


Figure 13. PLL Block Diagram

For the MPC930/931 clock driver, the following will provide an example of how to determine the crystal frequency required for a given design.

Given:

Qa = 160MHz Qb = 80MHz Qc = 40MHz Power_Dn = '0'

$$f_{ref} = \frac{fQn \cdot N \cdot P}{m}$$

From Table 3

$$fQc = VCO/4$$
 then N = 4

From Figure 13

m = 8 and P = 1

$$f_{ref} = \frac{33.33 \cdot 4 \cdot 1}{8} = 16.66 \text{MHz}$$

Driving Transmission Lines

The MPC930/931 clock driver was designed to drive high speed signals in a terminated transmission line environment. To provide the optimum flexibility to the user the output drivers were designed to exhibit the lowest impedance possible. With an output impedance of less than 10Ω the drivers can drive either parallel or series terminated transmission lines. For more information on transmission

lines the reader is referred to application note AN1091 in the Timing Solutions brochure (BR1333/D).

In most high performance clock networks point-to-point distribution of signals is the method of choice. In a point-to-point scheme either series terminated or parallel terminated transmission lines can be used. The parallel technique terminates the signal at the end of the line with a 50Ω resistance to V_{CC}/2. This technique draws a fairly high level of DC current and thus only a single terminated line can be driven by each output of the MPC930/931 clock driver. For the series terminated case however there is no DC current draw, thus the outputs can drive multiple series terminated lines. Figure 14 illustrates an output driving a single series terminated line vs two series terminated lines in parallel. When taken to its extreme the fanout of the MPC930/931 clock driver is effectively doubled due to its capability to drive multiple lines.

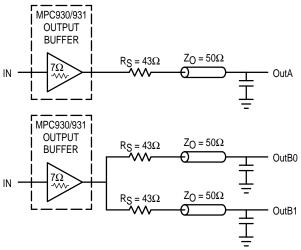


Figure 14. Single versus Dual Transmission Lines

The waveform plots of Figure 15 show the simulation results of an output driving a single line vs two lines. In both cases the drive capability of the MPC930/931 output buffers is more than sufficient to drive 50Ω transmission lines on the incident edge. Note from the delay measurements in the simulations a delta of only 43ps exists between the two differently loaded outputs. This suggests that the dual line driving need not be used exclusively to maintain the tight output–to–output skew of the MPC930/931. The output waveform in Figure 15 shows a step in the waveform, this step is caused by the impedance mismatch seen looking into the driver. The parallel combination of the 43 Ω series resistor plus the output impedance does not match the parallel combination of the line impedances. The voltage wave launched down the two lines will equal:

$$VL = VS (Zo / (Rs + Ro +Zo))$$

Zo = 50\(\Omega || 50\(\Omega Rs = 43\(\Omega || 43\(\Omega Ro = 7\(\Omega Q) || 43\(\Omega Ro = 7\(\Omega Ro = 7\(

At the load end the voltage will double, due to the near unity reflection coefficient, to 2.8V. It will then increment towards the quiescent 3.0V in steps separated by one round trip delay (in this case 4.0ns).

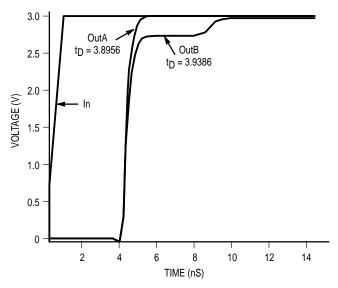


Figure 15. Single versus Dual Waveforms

Since this step is well above the threshold region it will not cause any false clock triggering, however designers may be uncomfortable with unwanted reflections on the line. To better match the impedances when driving multiple lines the situation in Figure 16 should be used. In this case the series terminating resistors are reduced such that when the parallel combination is added to the output buffer impedance the line impedance is perfectly matched.

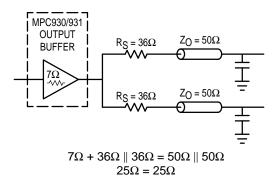
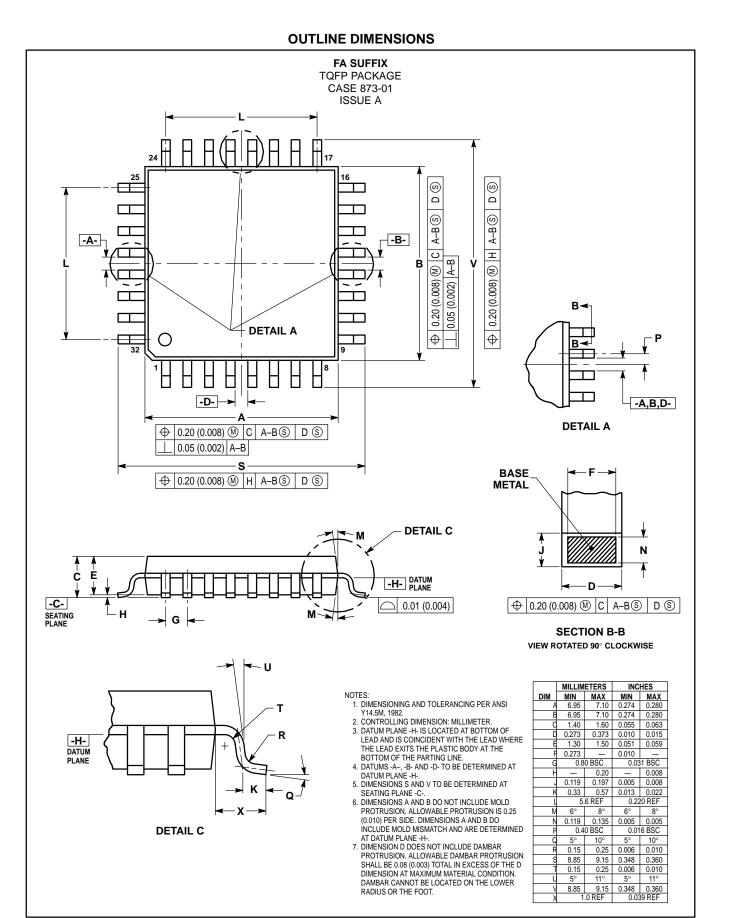


Figure 16. Optimized Dual Line Termination

SPICE level output buffer models are available for engineers who want to simulate their specific interconnect schemes. In addition IV characteristics are in the process of being generated to support the other board level simulators in general use.



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