

# MOD 10 COUNTER USING IC 7490 Reference

## Mod 10 Counter Using IC 7490

A mod 10 counter using IC 7490 is a fundamental digital circuit used extensively in digital electronics for counting applications. It is primarily used in digital clocks, frequency dividers, and other digital systems requiring a counter that resets after counting to ten. The IC 7490 is a 4-bit decade counter capable of counting from 0 to 9, making it ideal for implementing mod 10 counting sequences. In this article, we will explore the working principles, circuit configuration, and applications of a mod 10 counter using IC 7490, providing comprehensive insights for students, engineers, and hobbyists.

## Understanding the IC 7490

### Overview of IC 7490

The IC 7490 is a decade counter that consists of two cascaded 4-bit binary ripple counters. It is designed to count from 0 to 9 (decimal) and then reset automatically, making it a mod 10 counter. The IC includes two separate 4-bit counter sections, designated as the "A" and "B" counters, which are interconnected to achieve the desired counting sequence.

Key features of IC 7490 include:

- Count range: 0 to 9 (modulo 10)
- Counting type: Asynchronous (ripple) counter
- Input clock: Applied to the clock pin
- Outputs: Q0 to Q3 (binary count outputs)
- Clear and reset functionality

### Pin Configuration

Understanding the pin configuration is vital for designing a mod 10 counter circuit. The main pins include:

- Pin 1, 2, 6, 7: Q outputs (Q0 to Q3)
- Pin 3: Reset (MR) (active low)
- Pin 4: Count Enable (ENT)
- Pin 5: Count Enable (ENP)

- Pin 9: Carry Out (CO)
- Pin 14: Clock input (CLK)
- Pin 15: Reset (active low)
- Pin 16: VCC (Power supply)
- Pin 8: Ground (GND)

Note: The exact pin configuration may vary slightly based on the datasheet, but these are the typical pin functions.

## Working Principle of Mod 10 Counter Using IC 7490

### Counting Process

The IC 7490 counts in binary from 0000 (decimal 0) to 1001 (decimal 9). When the clock pulse is applied to the clock input, the counter advances its count by one. The outputs Q0 to Q3 represent the current count in binary form.

### Automatic Reset for Mod 10 Counting

To convert the binary counter into a mod 10 counter, the counter must reset automatically after reaching decimal 9 (1001 binary). This is achieved through the use of the reset (MR) pin and logic circuitry that detects the count of 1010 (decimal 10) and resets the counter back to zero.

Key steps include:

- Monitoring Q1 and Q3 outputs
- Using logic gates to detect the count of 1010
- Generating a reset pulse to clear the counter when the count reaches 10

## Designing a Mod 10 Counter Using IC 7490

### Basic Circuit Components

To design a mod 10 counter, the following components are essential:

- IC 7490 (Decade Counter)
- Clock pulse generator (Oscillator or clock source)
- Logic gates (AND, OR, etc.)
- Reset circuitry (manual or automatic)

- Power supply (typically +5V)

## Step-by-Step Circuit Implementation

- **Connect Power Supply:** Connect VCC (pin 16) to +5V and GND (pin 8) to ground.
- **Apply Clock Signal:** Connect the clock pulse source to the CLK pin (pin 14).
- **Configure the Counter:** Enable counting by setting ENP (pin 5) and ENT (pin 4) to logic high.
- **Detect Count of 10 (1010):** Use logic gates to monitor Q1 (pin 2) and Q3 (pin 7). When Q1=1 and Q3=1, the count is 1010.
- **Reset Circuit:** Connect the output of the AND gate (detecting 1010) to the MR pin (pin 3). When the count reaches 10, the AND gate output goes low, resetting the counter automatically.
- **Output:** Read the count from Q0 to Q3 for display or further processing.

## Advantages of Using IC 7490 for Mod 10 Counting

- Simple to implement with minimal external components
- Reliable and stable operation
- Automatic resetting after count 9, ensuring proper mod 10 sequence
- Versatile for various digital counting applications

## Applications of Mod 10 Counter Using IC 7490

### Digital Clocks

The mod 10 counter forms the basis of the units digit in digital clock circuits, counting seconds from 0 to 9 before incrementing the minutes counter.

### Frequency Division

In communication systems, counting circuits like the IC 7490 are used to divide high-frequency signals into lower frequencies.

### Event Counting

Used in industrial automation for counting items on a conveyor belt, where counting up to ten items is needed before a reset or another action.

### Counter in Digital Meters

Implemented in digital voltmeters, ammeters, and other measuring devices for counting measurement units.

## Conclusion

The mod 10 counter using IC 7490 is an essential component in digital electronics, providing a reliable and efficient way to count from 0 to 9 and then reset automatically. Its simplicity and versatility make it suitable for a wide range of applications, from digital clocks to industrial counters. By understanding the working principles, pin configuration, and circuit design, engineers and students can effectively utilize the IC 7490 to develop various counting systems. Proper implementation of logic circuitry to detect the count of 10 ensures the counter operates correctly in a mod 10 counting sequence, fulfilling the requirements of many digital systems.

Keywords: mod 10 counter, IC 7490, digital counter, decade counter, binary counting, digital electronics, counter circuit, frequency divider, automated reset, digital clock, industrial counter

### Mod 10 Counter Using IC 7490: An In-Depth Investigation

In the realm of digital electronics, counters are fundamental building blocks that enable the sequential counting of events, pulses, or states. Among the various types of counters, the mod 10 counter stands out for its extensive applications in digital clocks, frequency dividers, and event counters. This article delves into the design, operation, and practical implementation of a mod 10 counter using IC 7490, providing a comprehensive review suitable for electronics engineers, students, and enthusiasts alike.

## Introduction to Modulo Counters and IC 7490

A modulo counter is a digital counter that resets after reaching a specific count, effectively counting from 0 up to  $(N-1)$ . For a mod 10 counter, the count ranges from 0 to 9, making it ideal for decimal counting applications.

The IC 7490 is a 4-bit binary ripple counter with preset and asynchronous reset features, making it well-suited for constructing mod 10 counters. Its versatility allows for straightforward design modifications to achieve a variety of count lengths.

## Understanding the IC 7490: Features and Pin Configuration

### Key Features of IC 7490

- 4-bit BCD ripple counter with divide-by-2 and divide-by-5 capabilities.

- Asynchronous reset functionality for quick counter initialization.
- Preset inputs for setting the counter to a specific count.
- High-speed operation suitable for high-frequency applications.
- Dual counter outputs: Q and Q<sup>?</sup> (complementary outputs).

## Pin Configuration Overview

The IC 7490 has 14 pins, with the following notable connections:

- Pin 1 (R01) and Pin 2 (R02): Reset inputs for counter 1 and counter 2.
- Pin 3 (Q1) and Pin 4 (Q2): Outputs for the first counter.
- Pin 5 (Q3) and Pin 6 (Q4): Outputs for the second counter.
- Pin 7 (CLK): Clock input.
- Pin 8 (GND): Ground reference.
- Pin 14 (VCC): Power supply (typically +5V).
- Pin 13 (PRESET1) and Pin 12 (PRESET2): Preset inputs for setting specific counts.
- Pin 11 (P02) and Pin 10 (P01): Preset enable inputs.
- Pin 9 (Q1<sup>?</sup>) and Pin 13 (Q4<sup>?</sup>): Complementary outputs.

## Design Principles of a Mod 10 Counter with IC 7490

### Why Use IC 7490 for a Mod 10 Counter?

The IC 7490's inherent divide-by-2 and divide-by-5 features, combined with its preset and reset capabilities, facilitate the construction of a mod 10 counter by cascading two ICs or configuring a single IC with external logic.

### Approaches to Achieve Mod 10 Counting

- Cascading ICs: Connecting two IC 7490s to create a 4-bit counter that resets after 10 counts.
- Using External Logic: Implementing combinational logic (AND gates) to detect count 10 and generate a reset pulse.

The most common and reliable approach involves cascading two IC 7490s, utilizing the division properties and asynchronous reset features to reset after the 10th count.

## Implementing a Mod 10 Counter: Step-by-Step Analysis

### Cascading Two IC 7490s

- First IC (Counter 1): Counts from 0 to 9; its terminal count is when Q3 and Q4 outputs generate the count 9.
- Second IC (Counter 2): Counts the number of cycles of Counter 1 and is used to reset the entire system after reaching count 10.

## Logical Connection Diagram

- Connect the clock pulse to the CLK input of the first IC.
- Use the Q3 output of IC1 to enable counting in IC2.
- Connect the Q4 output of IC1 to the reset inputs of both ICs, configured such that when the count reaches 10, a reset signal is generated.
- The outputs Q0-Q3 from IC1 represent the units digit (0-9).

## Detecting the Count of 10

- Since the count sequence is 0-9, the count of 10 occurs when Q3 (MSB) of IC1 and Q2 of IC2 are both high.
- An AND gate can be used to detect this condition, generating a reset pulse that clears both counters.

## Configuring Reset Logic

- Connect Q3 of IC1 and Q2 of IC2 to an AND gate.
- The output of the AND gate drives the asynchronous reset inputs of both ICs.
- When the count reaches 10, the AND gate outputs high, resetting both counters to zero.

## Practical Implementation Details

### Component List

- 2 x IC 7490
- AND gate (e.g., 7408 or equivalent)
- Push-button switch for clock input
- Resistors (for pull-down or pull-up as needed)
- Power supply (+5V DC)
- Connecting wires
- Breadboard or PCB for assembly

## Step-by-Step Assembly

- Power the ICs with +5V and GND.
- Connect the clock input to a push-button switch, with a debouncing circuit if necessary.
- Connect the Q3 output of IC1 and Q2 output of IC2 to the inputs of the AND gate.
- Connect the AND gate output to the reset pins (R01 and R02) of both ICs.
- Connect the outputs Q0?Q3 to display devices or measurement points.
- Ensure proper grounding and power connections.

## Operation and Testing

- Apply clock pulses manually or via a clock generator.
- Observe the counting sequence on the output LEDs or display.
- When the count reaches 10, the reset logic should clear both counters, returning the count to zero.
- Verify that the counter operates accurately, resetting precisely at 10.

## Analysis of Performance and Limitations

### Advantages of Using IC 7490 for Mod 10 Counters

- Simplicity: Straightforward cascading configuration.
- Speed: Suitable for high-frequency counting.
- Flexibility: Preset and reset features facilitate numerous counting modes.
- Availability: Widely available and well-documented.

### Potential Limitations

- Ripple Counter Delay: As a ripple counter, propagation delay accumulates, impacting high-speed applications.
- Complex Reset Logic: Requires external logic gates for detecting count 10.
- Power Consumption: Slightly higher than CMOS counterparts for large arrays.

### Mitigation Strategies

- **Use synchronous counters for high-speed applications.**
- **Optimize logic gate placement for minimal propagation delay.**

- **Employ proper decoupling and grounding to prevent noise.**

## Applications and Practical Uses

- Digital Clocks: Counting seconds or minutes in a decimal format.
- Event Counters: Counting items up to 10 units.
- Frequency Dividers: Generating lower frequency signals from high-frequency inputs.
- Educational Demonstrations: Teaching digital counting principles.

## Summary and Conclusions

The mod 10 counter using IC 7490 exemplifies the elegant use of basic digital ICs to achieve precise and reliable counting sequences. By cascading two IC 7490s and implementing external reset logic, engineers can design a robust counter suitable for a variety of applications requiring decimal counting.

This investigation highlights the importance of understanding the IC's features, proper configuration, and the need for supplementary logic to realize specific counting functions. Despite some limitations, the IC 7490 remains a popular choice for educational projects and low to moderate-speed applications.

In future developments, integrating synchronous counters or programmable logic devices could enhance performance further, but the classic 7490-based mod 10 counter remains a foundational concept in digital electronics.

## References

- Sedra, A. S., & Smith, K. C. (2015). Microelectronic Circuits. Oxford University Press.
- Digital IC datasheets and application notes.
- Electronics textbooks and online tutorials on counters and flip-flops.

## End of Article

**Question** What is the primary function of an IC 7490 in a mod 10 counter circuit? The IC 7490 is a decade counter that divides the input frequency by 10, effectively counting from 0 to 9, making it ideal for creating mod 10 counters in digital circuits. **Answer** How do you configure IC 7490 to implement a mod 10 counter? To configure IC 7490 as a mod 10 counter, connect the Q outputs appropriately, reset the counter after reaching count 9 (binary 1001), typically by using the ripple

carry or manual reset pins to reset the counter when the count reaches 10. What are the common connections required for designing a mod 10 counter using IC 7490? Common connections include connecting the clock input to a clock source, setting the reset pins to reset the counter at count 10, and using the Q outputs to display the count or to drive other circuitry. Can IC 7490 be cascaded to count beyond 10, and how? Yes, multiple IC 7490s can be cascaded by connecting the carry-out of one IC to the clock input of the next, enabling counting beyond 10, such as up to 100 or 1000, depending on the number of cascaded ICs. What are the advantages of using IC 7490 for creating a mod 10 counter in digital applications? IC 7490 offers a reliable, easy-to-use, and integrated solution for decade counting, with built-in reset and carry functions, reducing the complexity of external circuitry and ensuring accurate counting in digital systems.

**Related keywords:** mod 10 counter, IC 7490, decade counter, ripple counter, binary counter, synchronous counter, counter circuit, decade counter design, 7490 IC pinout, digital counter

## DECADE COUNTER LAB EXPERIMENT USING IC 7490

### Decade Counter Lab Experiment Using IC 7490

**Decade counter lab experiment using IC 7490** is a fundamental practical activity in digital electronics that helps students and engineers understand the operation of binary counters, frequency division, and digital counting principles. The IC 7490 is a 4-bit decade counter, which means it can count from 0 to 9 (a total of ten states) before resetting to zero. This makes it an ideal component for designing counters, digital clocks, and various counting applications.

In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the working principle of IC 7490, the steps to set up a decade counter experiment, and the significance of this experiment in understanding digital logic concepts. Whether you are a student preparing for lab exams or a hobbyist interested in digital electronics, this article aims to provide a detailed and optimized overview of the decade counter lab experiment using IC 7490.

## Understanding IC 7490: The Decade Counter

### Overview of IC 7490

The IC 7490 is a 14-pin dual-decimal counter designed for counting applications. It is a presettable divide-by-10 counter, capable of counting from 0 to 9 in decimal and 0000 to 1001 in binary. The key features include:

- 4-bit binary counter with outputs Q0, Q1, Q2, and Q3.
- Divide-by-10 functionality, resetting automatically after reaching 9.
- Asynchronous reset and preset inputs for easier control.
- Clock input (CP) for timing control.
- Carry-out (Cout) for cascading counters to extend counting range.

## Block Diagram and Pin Configuration

The typical pin configuration includes:

- Pin 1 (MR): Master reset (active low), resets counter to zero.
- Pin 2 (PL): Parallel load (active low), loads data into the counter.
- Pin 3 (CARRY OUT): Cascading output for extending counting range.
- Pin 4 (CP): Clock pulse input.
- Pins 5-8 (Q0-Q3): Counter outputs.
- Pin 9 (GND): Ground.
- Pin 10 (VCC): Power supply (+5V).
- Pin 11 (P0): Parallel data input bit 0.
- Pin 12 (P1): Parallel data input bit 1.
- Pin 13 (P2): Parallel data input bit 2.
- Pin 14 (P3): Parallel data input bit 3.

Understanding the pin configuration is essential for designing and troubleshooting the experiment.

## Objectives of the Decade Counter Lab Experiment

The primary objectives include:

- Demonstrating the operation of a decade counter using IC 7490.
- Understanding the concept of counting, reset, and preset functions.
- Cascading multiple ICs for extended counting.
- Observing the output waveforms and frequency division.
- Implementing applications such as digital clocks or event counters.

## Components Required for the Experiment

To set up the decade counter experiment using IC 7490, the following components are necessary:

- IC 7490 (Decade Counter)
- Power supply (5V DC)
- Push-button switches for clock pulse input
- Connecting wires
- Breadboard or PCB
- LEDs (to display outputs Q0-Q3)
- Resistors (220 $\Omega$  or 470 $\Omega$  for current limiting on LEDs)
- Debouncing circuit (optional, for cleaner clock pulses)
- Cables for cascading multiple counters (if extending count beyond 10)

## Step-by-Step Procedure for the Experiment

### 1. Circuit Connection

- Power the IC by connecting VCC (Pin 10) to +5V and GND (Pin 9) to ground.
- Connect the clock pulse source to the CP (Pin 4).
- Connect LEDs to Q0-Q3 outputs through current-limiting resistors.
- Connect the reset (MR) pin to a switch or control circuit to reset the counter when needed.
- Connect parallel load pins (PL) if presetting the counter.
- For cascading, connect the CARRY OUT (Pin 3) of one IC to the clock input (CP) of the next IC.

### 2. Applying the Clock Pulses

- Use a push-button or a square wave generator to provide clock pulses.
- Press the button repeatedly to observe the counter advancing from 0 to 9.
- For continuous operation, connect the clock to an oscillator circuit.

### 3. Observing the Outputs

- Monitor the LEDs connected to Q0-Q3.
- The binary count will be displayed visually on the LEDs.
- When the count reaches 9, the IC should automatically reset to 0, demonstrating the decade operation.

### 4. Verifying the Counter Functionality

- Use a frequency counter or oscilloscope to verify the counting frequency.

- Check the reset operation by manually triggering the reset pin.
- Observe the carry-out pulse at the 9 count, which can be used to cascade with other counters.

## Understanding the Working of IC 7490 in the Experiment

### Counting Sequence

The IC 7490 counts in decimal from 0 to 9. The binary outputs (Q0-Q3) represent the count in binary form. The IC uses asynchronous reset to return the count to zero after reaching 9, ensuring the counter operates as a decade counter.

### Cascading Counters

To extend the counting range beyond 9, multiple ICs can be cascaded. The CARRY OUT of the first IC triggers the clock of the second IC, enabling complex counting sequences like decimal counting up to 99, 999, etc.

### Frequency Division

The IC acts as a frequency divider, halving the frequency of the clock pulse at each decade. This feature is crucial in digital clock circuits where precise time division is required.

## Applications of Decade Counters Using IC 7490

- Digital clocks and timers
- Event counters
- Frequency dividers in communication systems
- Digital voltmeters and multimeters
- Timing circuits in industrial automation
- Frequency synthesizers

## Tips and Troubleshooting

- Ensure proper power supply (5V DC) connections.
- Check for correct wiring of outputs and clock input.
- Use debouncing circuitry for manual clock pulses to avoid erratic counting.
- Confirm that the reset and preset pins are correctly connected to control the counter operation.
- Use a logic analyzer or oscilloscope to verify signal integrity.

## Conclusion

The decade counter lab experiment using IC 7490 is an essential exercise for understanding the fundamental principles of digital counting, frequency division, and cascading digital counters. By assembling and testing the circuit, students gain practical insights into how digital systems perform counting operations, which are the backbone of more complex digital electronics applications. Mastery of this experiment lays a strong foundation for further exploration into counters, timers, and digital clock design.

In summary, the IC 7490 provides a simple yet powerful platform for implementing decade counters, making it an invaluable component in both educational and practical digital electronics projects. Through careful setup, observation, and analysis, learners can deepen their understanding of digital logic and prepare for advanced digital system design.

### Decade Counter Lab Experiment Using IC 7490

The Decade Counter Lab Experiment Using IC 7490 is a fundamental yet essential exercise in digital electronics that provides insight into binary counting, decade counting, and the practical application of Johnson and ripple counters. This experiment is particularly significant for students and engineers aiming to understand the working principles of counters, their configurations, and their real-world applications in digital systems such as frequency dividers, digital clocks, and event counters.

## Introduction to IC 7490 and Decade Counters

### What is the IC 7490?

The IC 7490 is a 4-bit binary ripple counter manufactured by most semiconductor manufacturers. It is a part of the 7400 series of TTL (Transistor-Transistor Logic) integrated circuits and is widely used for counting applications. The IC contains two separate 4-bit decade counters, which are capable of counting from 0 to 9 (decimal), making it ideal for applications requiring decimal counting rather than binary.

#### Key Features of IC 7490:

- 4-stage decade counter
- BCD (Binary-Coded Decimal) output capability
- Count from 0 to 9, then reset automatically
- Compatible with TTL logic levels
- Push-button reset feature

- Count enable inputs for controlling counting operations
- Power supply voltage typically 5V to 15V

## Understanding Decade Counters

A decade counter is a type of digital counter that counts from 0 to 9 (decimal) and then resets to 0 automatically, thus completing one cycle every ten counts. These are crucial in applications where counting in decimal is necessary, such as digital clocks, odometers, and event counters.

Characteristics of Decade Counters:

- Count sequence from 0 to 9 (0000 to 1001 in binary)
- Reset after reaching 9 to start again at 0
- Can be configured as ripple or synchronous counters
- Useful in dividing frequency by 10

## Components and Circuit Requirements

### Primary Components

To perform the decade counter experiment with IC 7490, the following components are essential:

- IC 7490 (Decade Counter)
- Power supply (5V DC)
- Connecting wires
- Breadboard or PCB
- Push-button switches for counting and reset
- Resistors (for pull-up or current limiting, if necessary)
- LED indicators (to visualize outputs)
- Clock pulse generator (using an astable multivibrator or 555 timer IC)

### Additional Equipment

- Digital multimeter (for voltage measurement)
- Logic probe (for verifying logic states)
- Oscilloscope (for waveform visualization, optional)

## Working Principle of IC 7490 in Decade Counting

The IC 7490 contains two independent 4-bit binary ripple counters, which are cascaded to implement a decade counter. The core working involves counting input pulses and advancing the count in binary form. When the count reaches 9 (1001 binary), the circuit resets automatically to 0 (0000), thus completing a decimal cycle.

Operational Highlights:

- The device counts on each clock pulse received at the clock input.
- The count progresses through binary states (0000 to 1001).
- At the count of 9, the IC generates a reset signal, clearing the flip-flops and starting the count anew.
- The outputs Q0, Q1, Q2, Q3 represent the binary count.

Key Pins and Their Functions:

| Pin Number | Function         | Description                       |
|------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1, 2, 6, 7 | Outputs Q0 to Q3 | Binary count outputs              |
| 3, 4, 8, 9 | Reset pins       | Resets the counter when activated |
| 10, 11     | Enable pins      | Enable counting when active       |
| 14         | Clock input      | Receives clock pulses             |
| 16         | Vcc              | Power supply (+5V)                |
| 7          | GND              | Ground                            |

Counting Sequence:

| Count | Binary | Q3 | Q2 | Q1 | Q0 | Reset? |
|-------|--------|----|----|----|----|--------|
| 0     | 0000   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | No     |
| 1     | 0001   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | No     |

| 2 | 0010 | 0 0 1 0 | No |

| 3 | 0011 | 0 0 1 1 | No |

| 4 | 0100 | 0 1 0 0 | No |

| 5 | 0101 | 0 1 0 1 | No |

| 6 | 0110 | 0 1 1 0 | No |

| 7 | 0111 | 0 1 1 1 | No |

| 8 | 1000 | 1 0 0 0 | No |

| 9 | 1001 | 1 0 0 1 | Yes (Reset triggered) |

When the counter reaches 1001, the reset pins are activated to clear the flip-flops, bringing the output back to 0000, thereby completing the cycle.

## Step-by-Step Procedure for the Experiment

### 1. Circuit Assembly

- Connect the IC 7490 on the breadboard.
- Connect power supply pins (Vcc to +5V, GND to ground).
- Connect the clock pulse generator to the clock input pin (pin 14).
- Connect output pins (Q0, Q1, Q2, Q3) to LEDs via current-limiting resistors to visualize counting.
- Connect reset pins (pin 4 and/or 3) through push-buttons for manual reset, if needed.
- Connect enable pins (pin 10 and 11) to logic high (Vcc) for normal operation.

### 2. Applying Clock Pulses

- Use a clock pulse generator such as a 555 timer configured in astable mode or a manual push-button to provide pulses.
- Ensure the pulse frequency is suitable for observing the counting sequence comfortably (e.g., 1Hz to 2Hz).

### 3. Monitoring and Recording

- Observe the LEDs corresponding to the output pins as they change states with each clock pulse.
- Record the binary count and corresponding decimal value at each step.

#### 4. Testing Reset Functionality

- Manually press the reset push-button at any count to verify the counter resets to zero.
- Observe the LEDs returning to the 0 (all off) state.

#### 5. Verifying the Count Range

- Continue clock pulses until the counter reaches 9 (1001).
- Confirm that after count 9, the counter resets to 0 automatically, demonstrating the decade counting feature.

### Data Observation and Analysis

- Count Sequence:

Ensure the sequence follows the correct binary pattern from 0000 to 1001.

- LED Indicators:

The LEDs should turn on and off in sync with the binary output, providing visual confirmation of each count.

- Reset Functionality:

When reset is activated, all outputs should immediately go to zero.

- Frequency Division:

If using a clock of a certain frequency, check the output frequency at Q3 or Q2 to verify division by 10.

## Applications of Decade Counters and IC 7490

Decade counters are fundamental in various digital systems. Some key applications include:

- Digital Clocks: Counting seconds, minutes, or hours.
- Frequency Dividers: Dividing high-frequency signals for measurement or control purposes.
- Event Counters: Counting objects, pulses, or occurrences in industrial systems.
- Odometers and Digital Meters: Counting units in measurement devices.
- Binary to Decimal Conversion: Simplifying binary counting for human-readable displays.

IC 7490 specifically is suitable for building:

- Decimal counters with clear reset functionality.
- Modular counters in combination with other digital ICs for complex counting sequences.

## Advantages and Limitations of IC 7490 in Decade Counting

Advantages:

- Simple to connect and operate.
- Provides clear binary outputs for easy interpretation.
- Built-in reset and enable features streamline design.
- Low power consumption suitable for portable devices.
- Widely available and cost-effective.

Limitations:

- Ripple counter design introduces propagation delay, which can limit high-speed applications.
- Requires careful debouncing in manual reset or clock inputs.
- Limited to TTL logic levels, which may require level shifting in modern systems.
- Not suitable for high-frequency counting without modifications or additional buffering.

## Extensions and Advanced Topics

Once students are comfortable

QuestionAnswer What is the primary function of the IC 7490 in a decade counter lab

experiment? The IC 7490 is a decade counter IC used to count from 0 to 9 (decades) in binary form, making it essential for designing digital counters and understanding counting sequences in lab experiments. How do you connect the IC 7490 to ensure proper counting in the experiment? The IC 7490 should be connected with appropriate clock pulses to the clock input, with reset and enable pins configured as per the required counting sequence, and output pins used to display the binary count for observation. What are common troubleshooting steps if the decade counter isn't counting correctly in the lab? Common troubleshooting includes checking power supply connections, verifying the integrity of the clock pulse source, ensuring reset pins are correctly configured, and confirming that output connections are properly wired without shorts or open circuits. How can the outputs of the IC 7490 be used to display decimal numbers in the experiment? The outputs Q0 to Q3 of the IC 7490 represent the binary count, which can be connected to a 7-segment display or other display modules to visually show the current decimal count from 0 to 9. What are some practical applications of a decade counter using IC 7490 demonstrated in the lab? Practical applications include digital clocks, frequency dividers, event counters, and timing circuits, all of which can be demonstrated using a decade counter in the lab to understand their digital counting principles.

**Related keywords:** decade counter, IC 7490, digital counter, binary counter, ripple counter, decade counter circuit, 7-segment display, counter experiment, digital electronics lab, IC 7490 pin configuration

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