Minimising Memory Connections

M. T. Clarke

Anyone who has connected together memory ICs may well be appalled at the number of connections, especially those which simply parallel the IC pins.

Realizing that the address pin designations are purely notional means that address lines can be rearranged before they reach an IC, as convenient. This eases considerably PCB design.

An example is shown where connection of 4K dynamic RAMs (2604) was undertaken on Vero-board. The copper

tracks provide all address connections for every alternate IC without any wiring from the surrounding ICs (this saved almost 100 connections on a 4K x 16 board).

Dynamic RAMs require segregating the row and column addresses, but within each they can be freely mixed.

