

CS:APP Chapter 4

Computer Architecture

Logic Design

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Overview of Logic Design

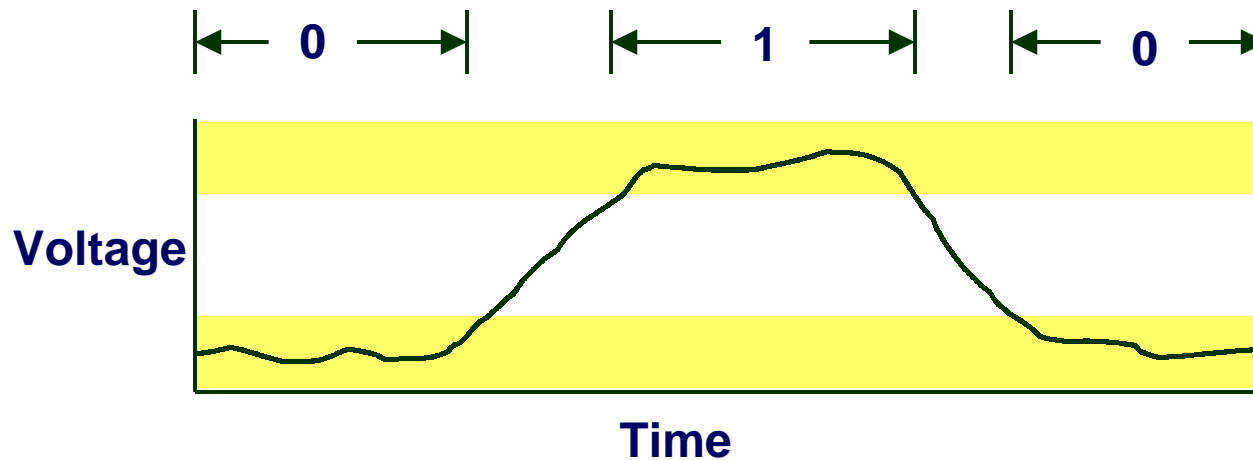
Fundamental Hardware Requirements

- Communication
 - How to get values from one place to another
- Computation
- Storage

Bits are Our Friends

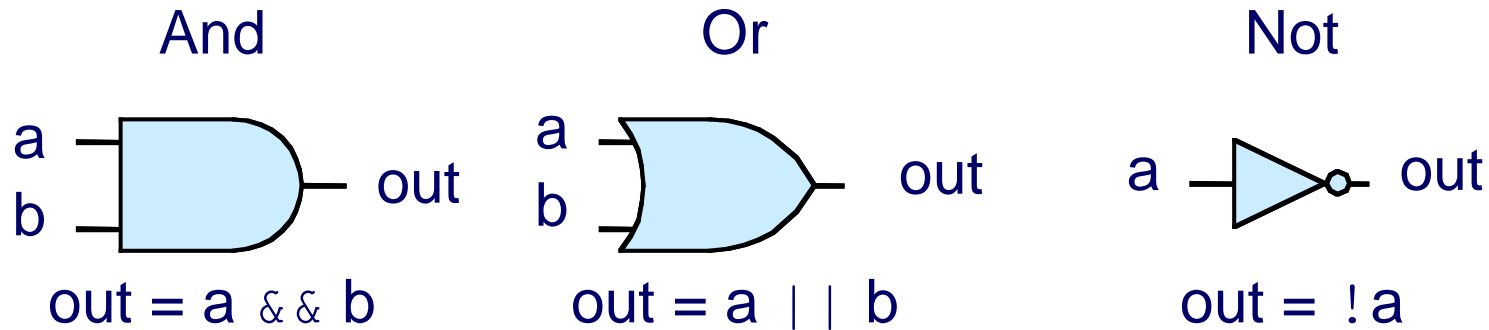
- Everything expressed in terms of values 0 and 1
- Communication
 - Low or high voltage on wire
- Computation
 - Compute Boolean functions
- Storage
 - Store bits of information

Digital Signals

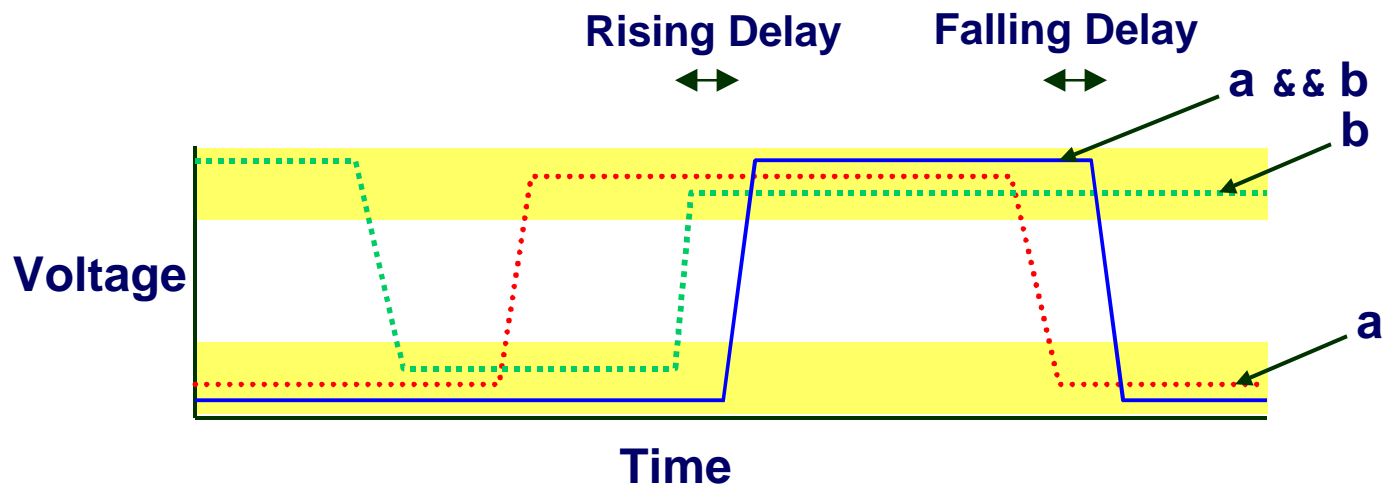


- Use voltage thresholds to extract discrete values from continuous signal
- Simplest version: 1-bit signal
 - Either high range (1) or low range (0)
 - With guard range between them
- Not strongly affected by noise or low quality circuit elements
 - Can make circuits simple, small, and fast

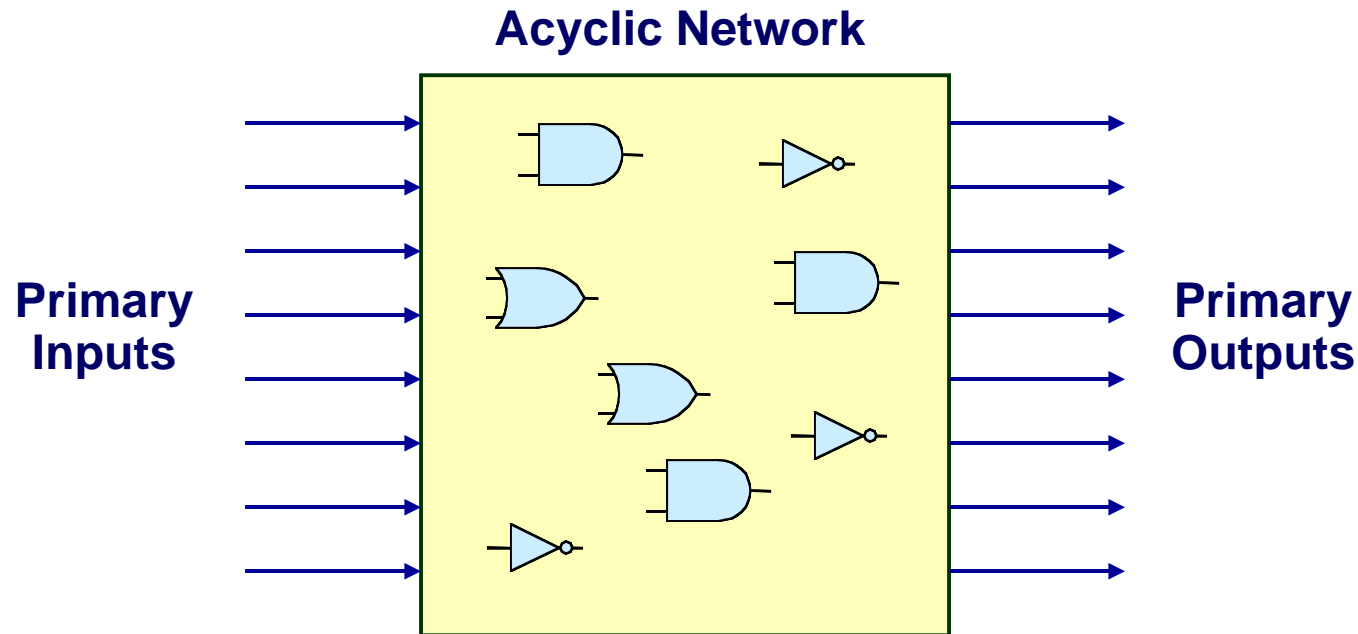
Computing with Logic Gates



- Outputs are Boolean functions of inputs
- Respond continuously to changes in inputs
 - With some, small delay



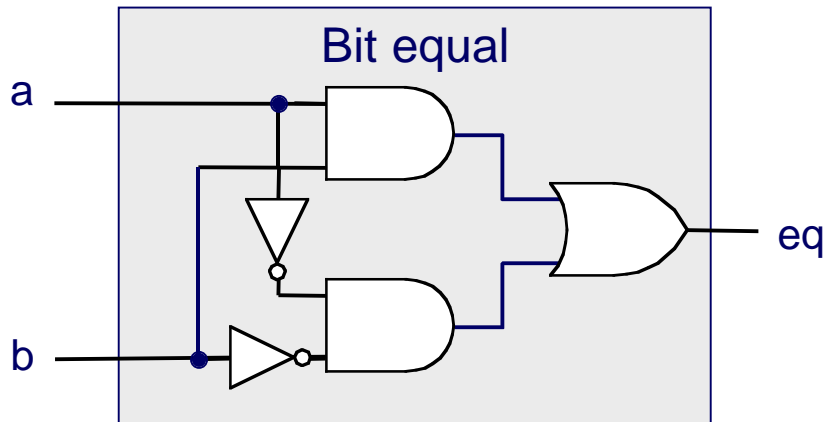
Combinational Circuits



Acyclic Network of Logic Gates

- Continuously responds to changes on primary inputs
- Primary outputs become (after some delay) Boolean functions of primary inputs

Bit Equality



HCL Expression

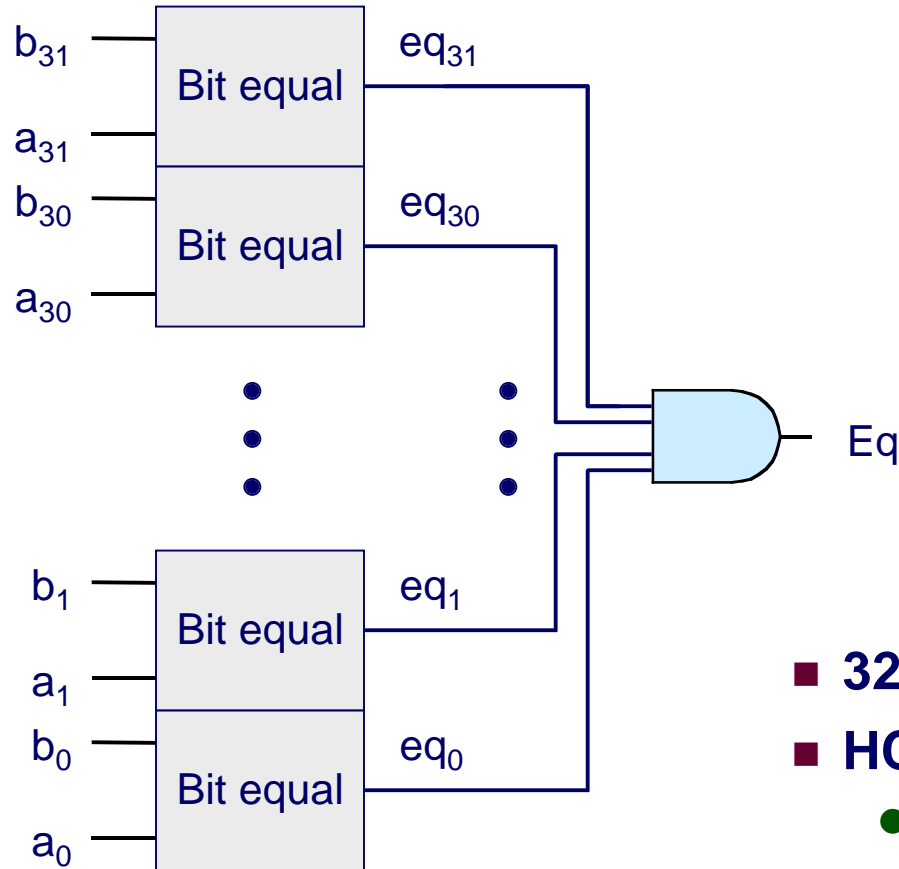
```
bool eq = (a&&b) || (!a&&!b)
```

- Generate 1 if a and b are equal

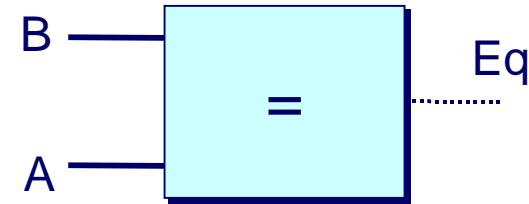
Hardware Control Language (HCL)

- Very simple hardware description language
 - Boolean operations have syntax similar to C logical operations
- We'll use it to describe control logic for processors

Word Equality



Word-Level Representation

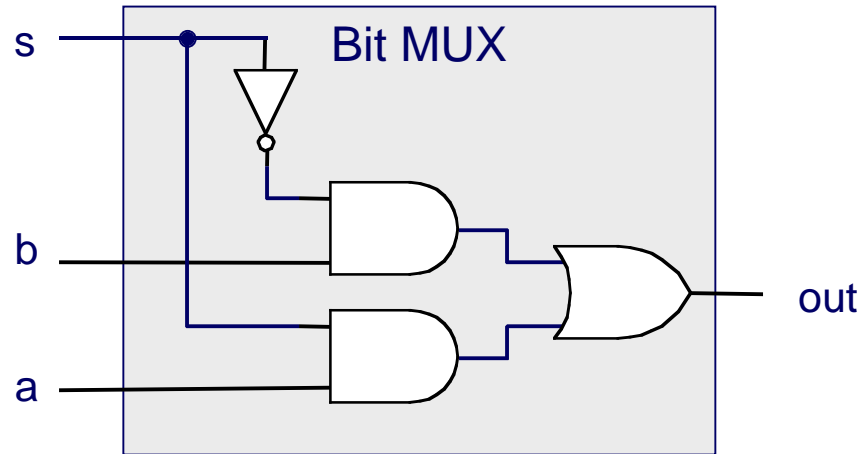


HCL Representation

`bool Eq = (A == B)`

- 32-bit word size
- HCL representation
 - Equality operation
 - Generates Boolean value

Bit-Level Multiplexor

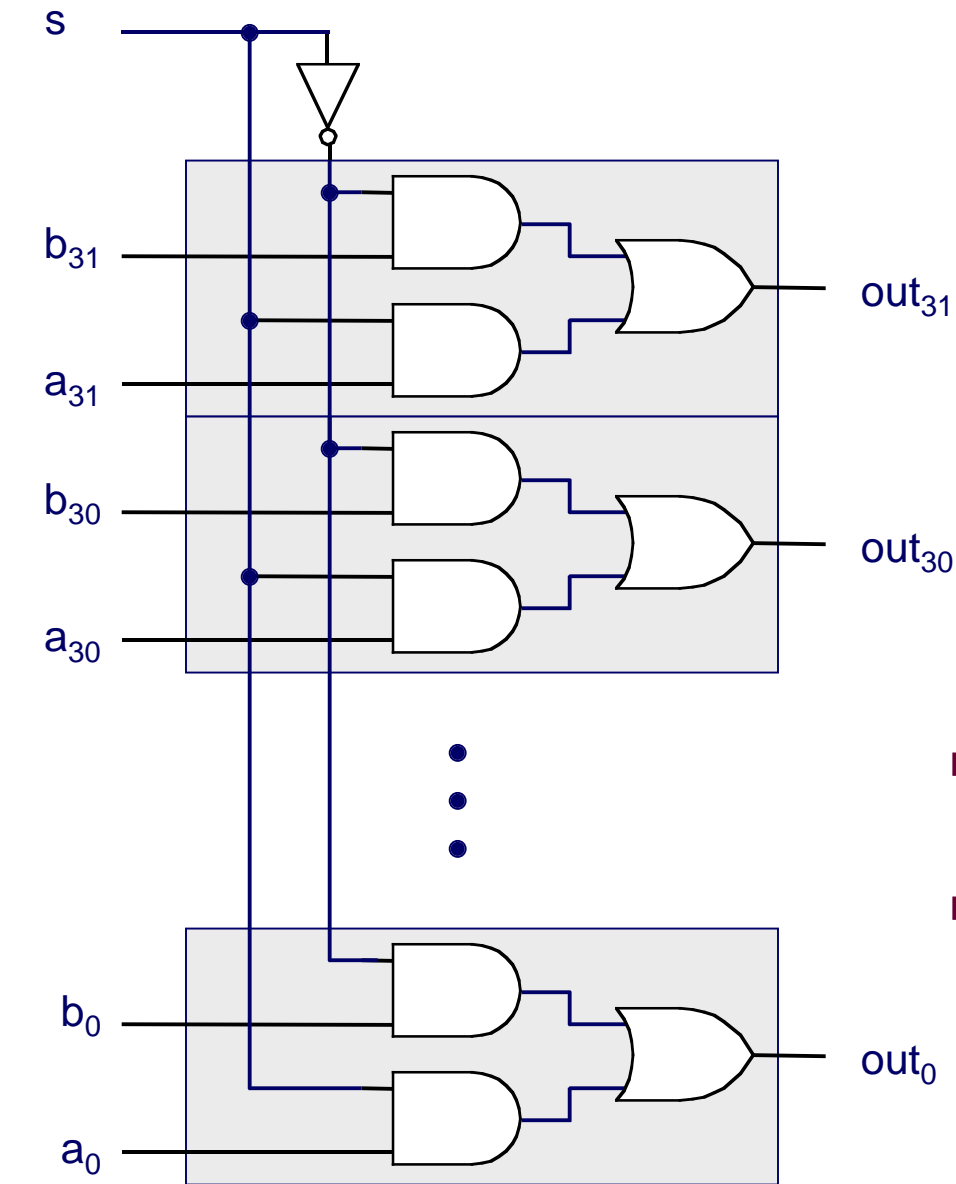


HCL Expression

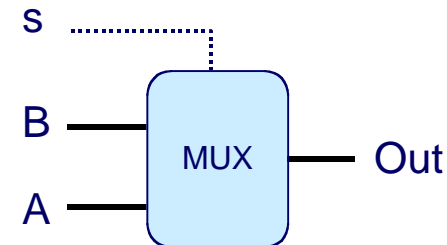
```
bool out = (s&&a) || (!s&&b)
```

- Control signal s
- Data signals a and b
- Output a when $s=1$, b when $s=0$

Word Multiplexor



Word-Level Representation



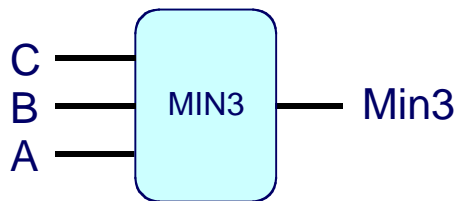
HCL Representation

```
int Out = [
    s : A;
    1 : B;
];
```

- Select input word A or B depending on control signal s
- HCL representation
 - Case expression
 - Series of test : value pairs
 - Output value for first successful test

HCL Word-Level Examples

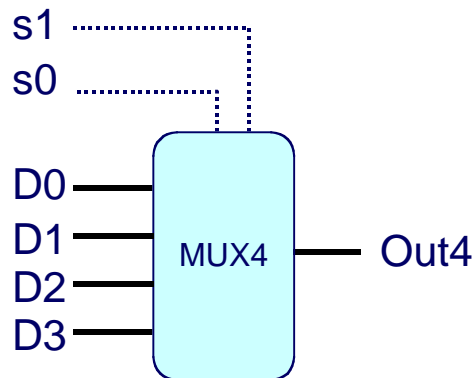
Minimum of 3 Words



```
int Min3 = [  
    A < B && A < C : A;  
    B < A && B < C : B;  
    1                : C;  
];
```

- Find minimum of three input words
- HCL case expression
- Final case guarantees match

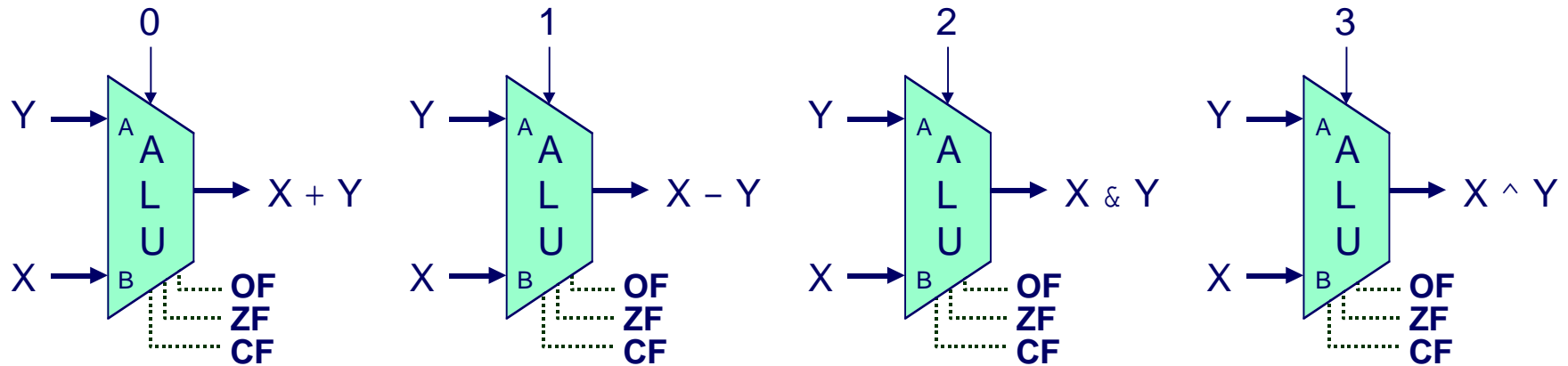
4-Way Multiplexor



```
int Out4 = [  
    !s1 && !s0 : D0;  
    !s1        : D1;  
    !s0        : D2;  
    1          : D3;  
];
```

- Select one of 4 inputs based on two control bits
- HCL case expression
- Simplify tests by assuming sequential matching

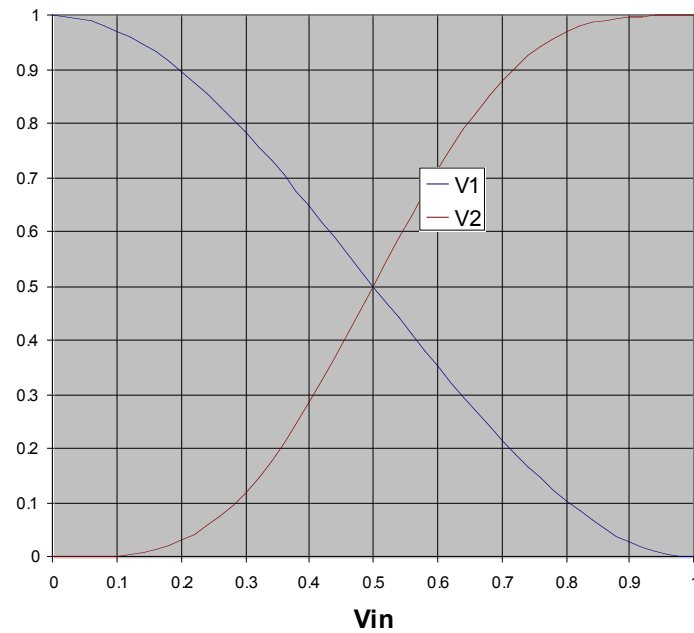
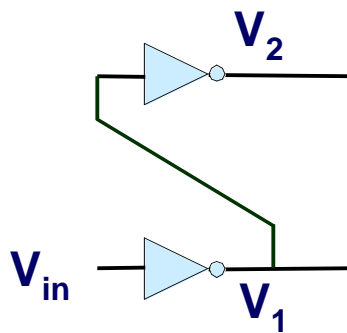
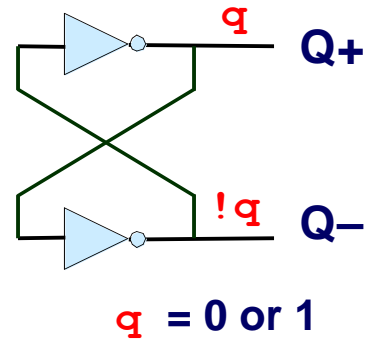
Arithmetic Logic Unit



- **Combinational logic**
 - Continuously responding to inputs
- **Control signal selects function computed**
 - Corresponding to 4 arithmetic/logical operations in Y86
- **Also computes values for condition codes**

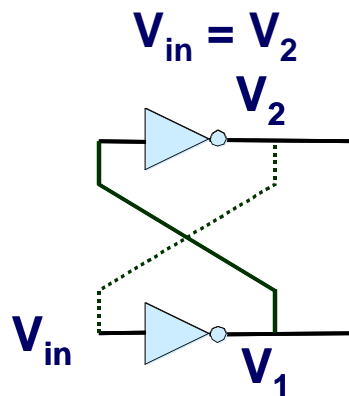
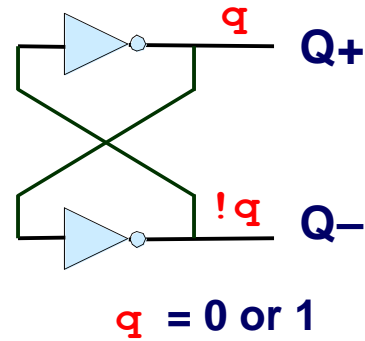
Storing 1 Bit

Bistable Element

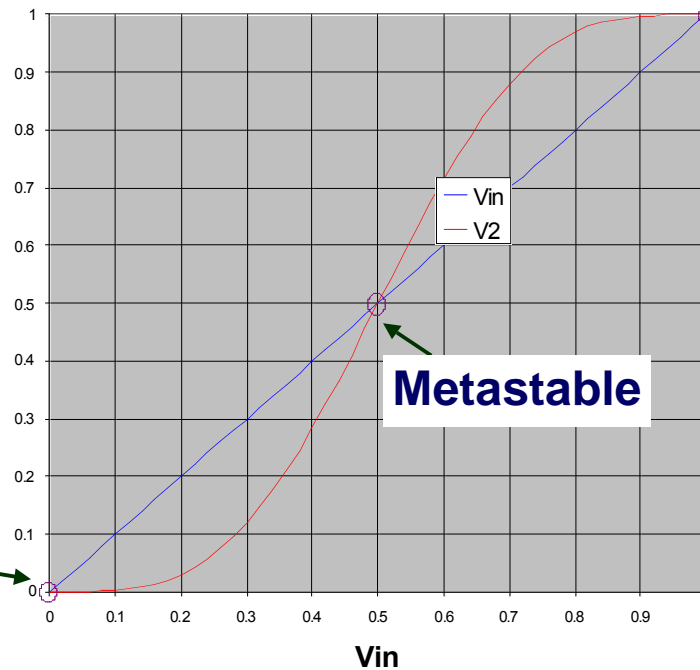


Storing 1 Bit (cont.)

Bistable Element

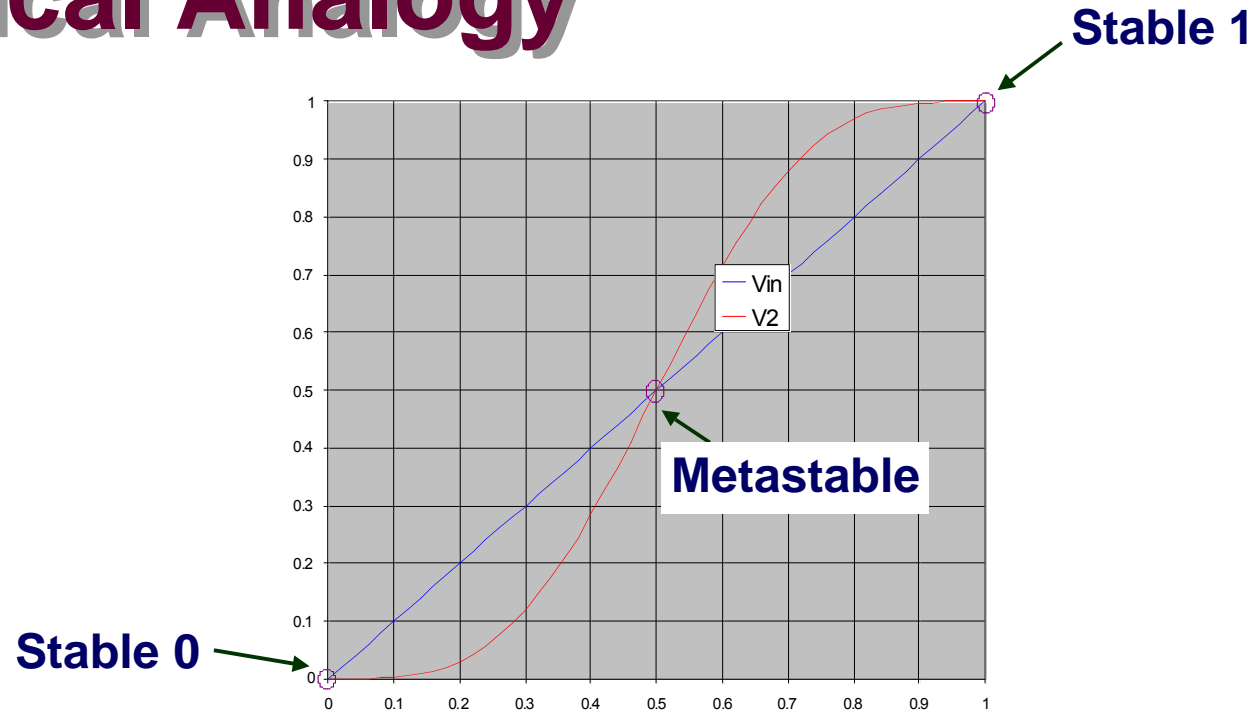


Stable 0



Stable 1

Physical Analogy



V_1

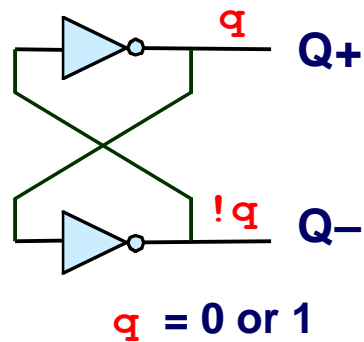
Metastable

Stable left

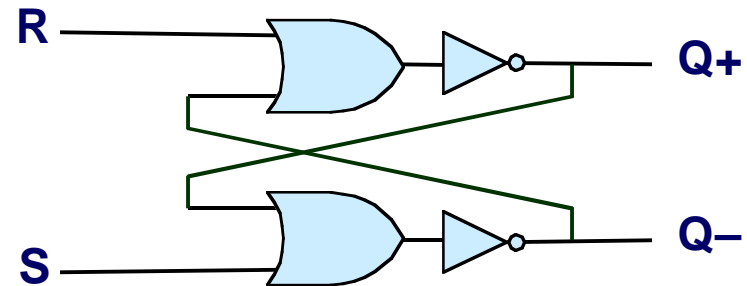
Stable right

Storing and Accessing 1 Bit

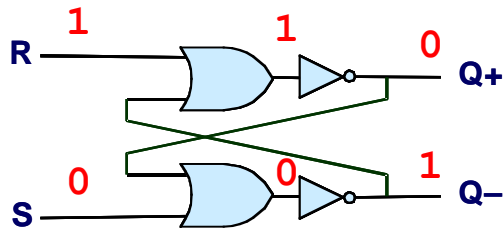
Bistable Element



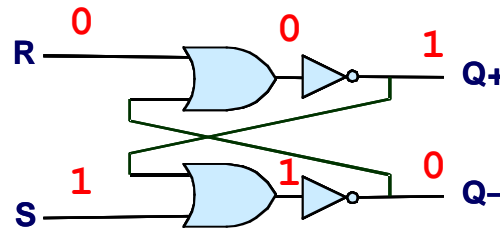
R-S Latch



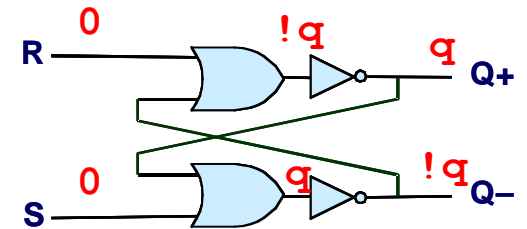
Resetting



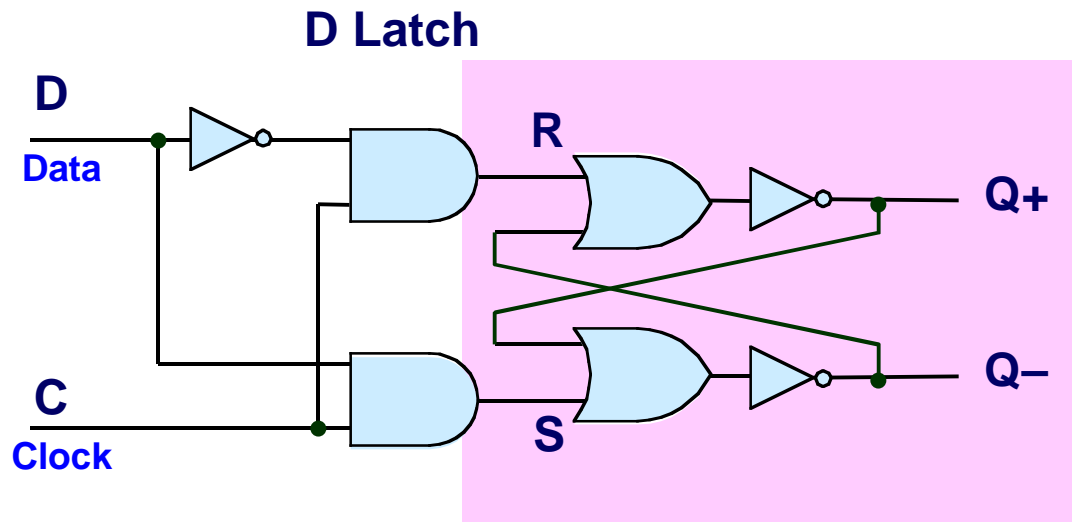
Setting



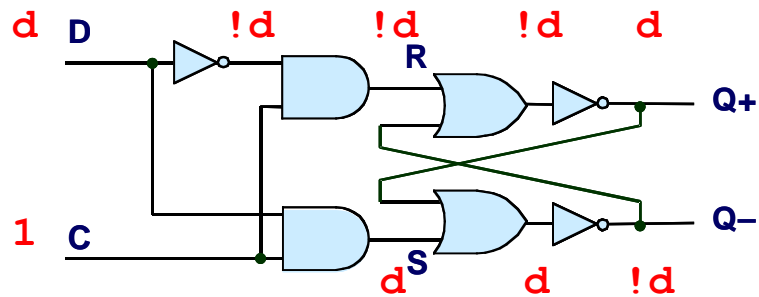
Storing



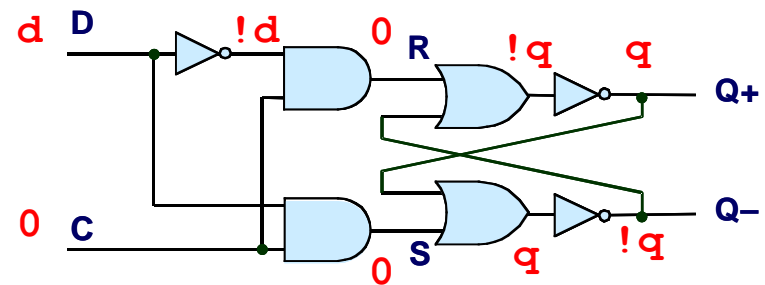
1-Bit Latch



Latching

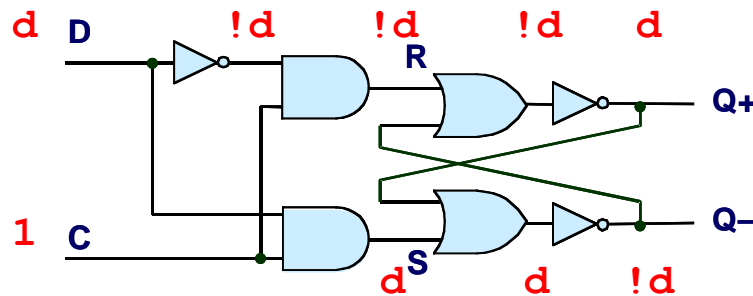


Storing

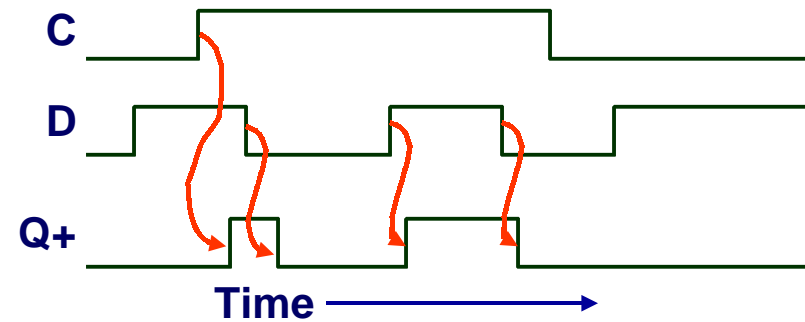


Transparent 1-Bit Latch

Latching

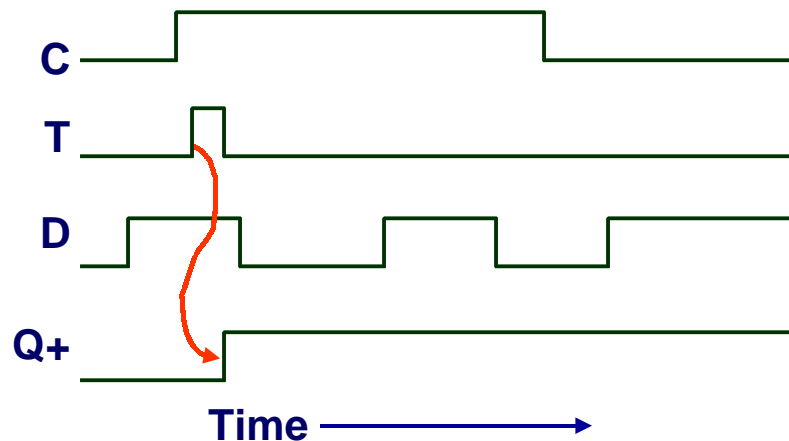
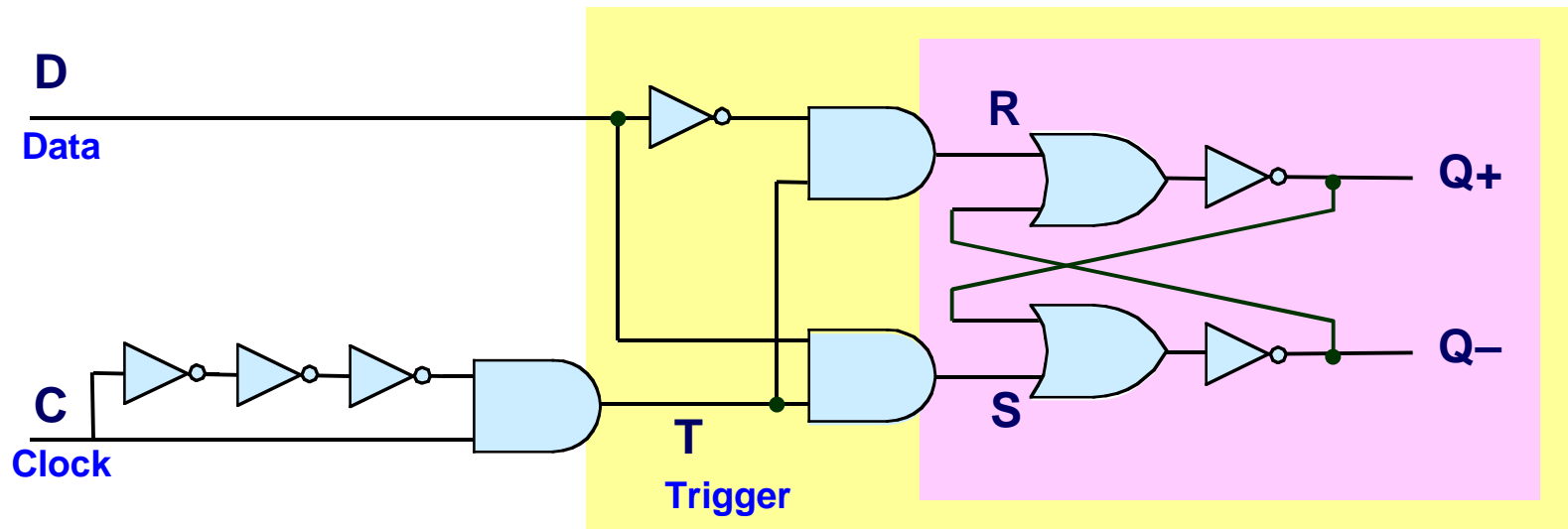


Changing D



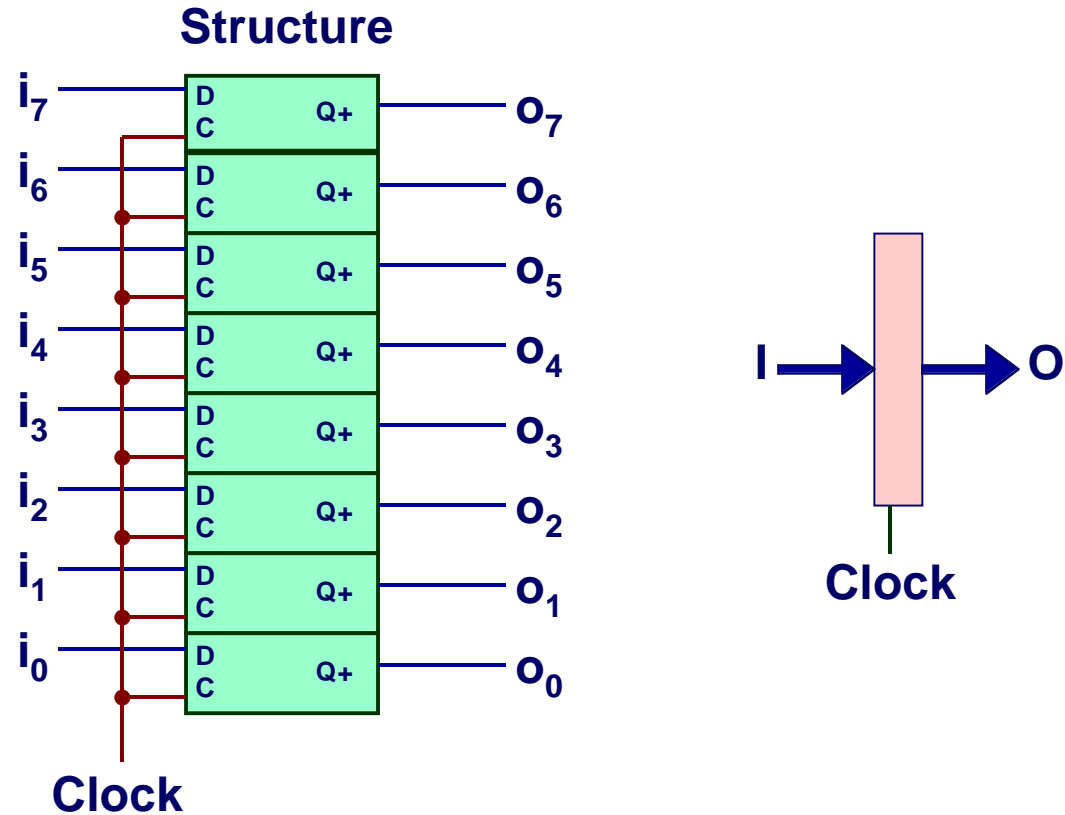
- When in latching mode, combinational propagation from D to $Q+$ and $Q-$
- Value latched depends on value of D as C falls

Edge-Triggered Latch



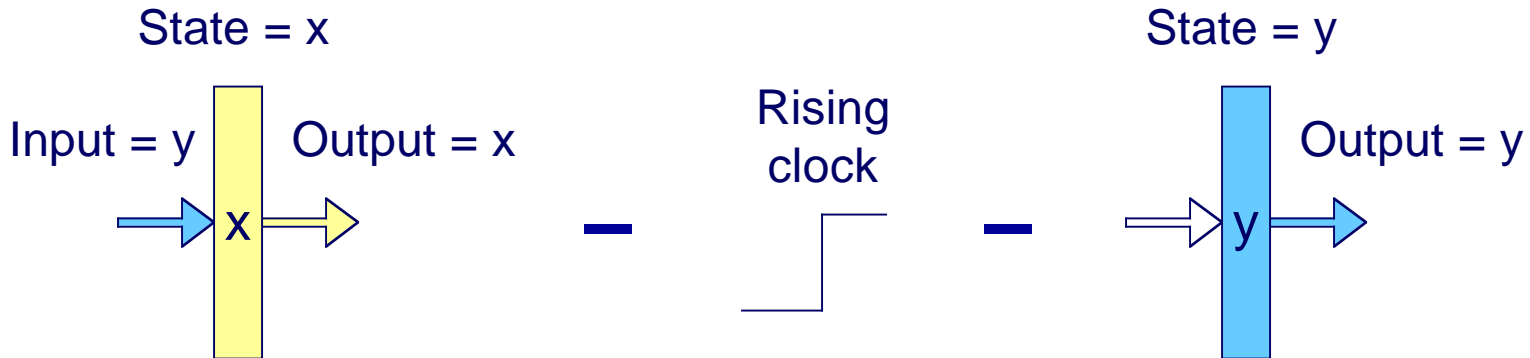
- Only in latching mode for brief period
 - Rising clock edge
- Value latched depends on data as clock rises
- Output remains stable at all other times

Registers



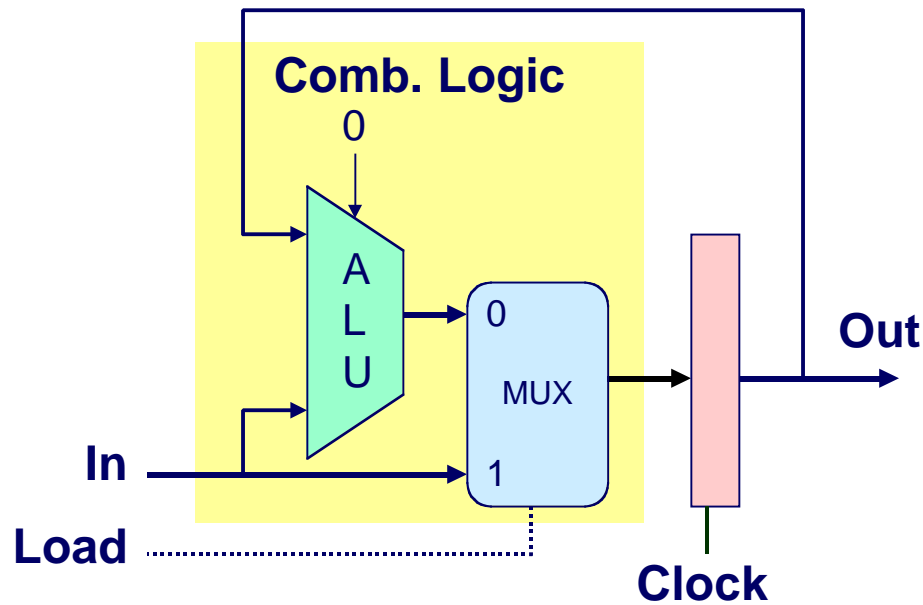
- Stores word of data
 - Different from *program registers* seen in assembly code
- Collection of edge-triggered latches
- Loads input on rising edge of clock

Register Operation

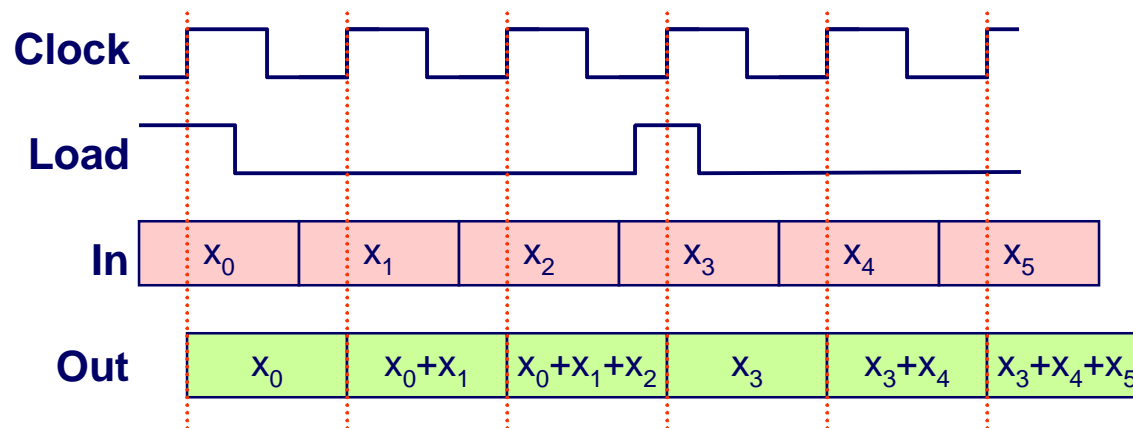


- Stores data bits
- For most of time acts as barrier between input and output
- As clock rises, loads input

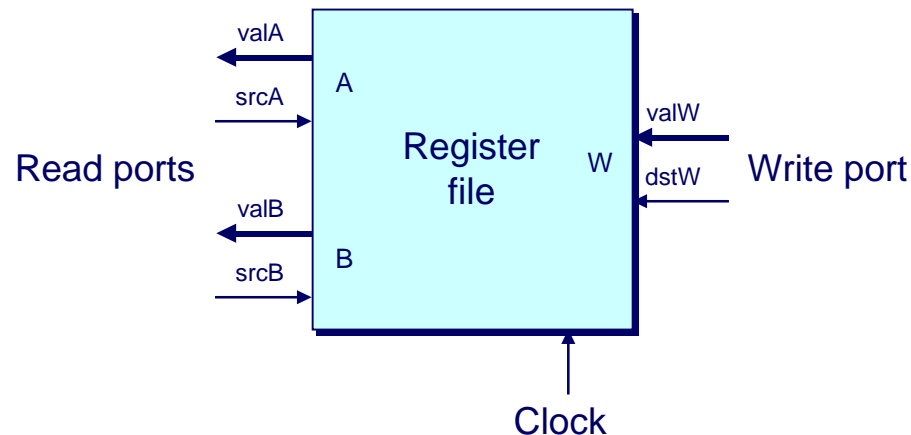
State Machine Example



- Accumulator circuit
- Load or accumulate on each cycle

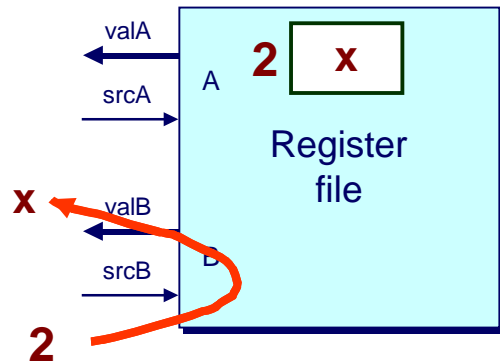


Random-Access Memory



- **Stores multiple words of memory**
 - Address input specifies which word to read or write
- **Register file**
 - Holds values of program registers
 - `%eax`, `%esp`, etc.
 - Register identifier serves as address
 - » ID 8 implies no read or write performed
- **Multiple Ports**
 - Can read and/or write multiple words in one cycle
 - » Each has separate address and data input/output

Register File Timing

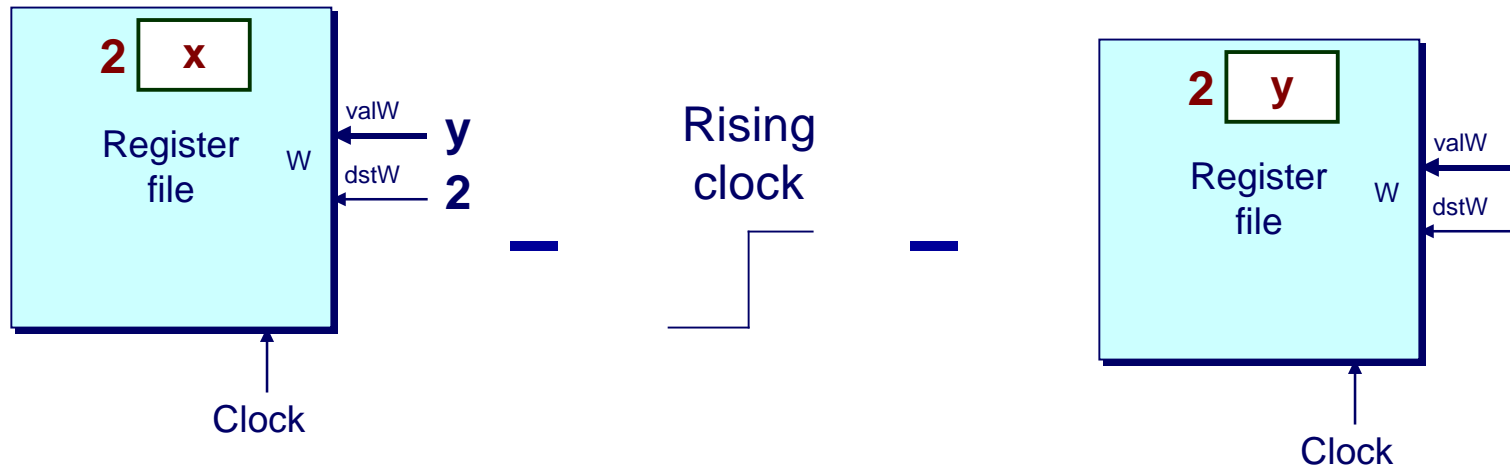


Reading

- Like combinational logic
- Output data generated based on input address
 - After some delay

Writing

- Like register
- Update only as clock rises



Hardware Control Language

- Very simple hardware description language
- Can only express limited aspects of hardware operation
 - Parts we want to explore and modify

Data Types

- `bool`: Boolean
 - `a, b, c, ...`
- `int`: words
 - `A, B, C, ...`
 - Does not specify word size---bytes, 32-bit words, ...

Statements

- `bool a = bool-expr ;`
- `int A = int-expr ;`

HCL Operations

- Classify by type of value returned

Boolean Expressions

- Logic Operations

- `a && b, a || b, !a`

- Word Comparisons

- `A == B, A < B, A <= B, A >= B, A > B`

- Set Membership

- `A in { B, C, D }`

» Same as `A == B || A == C || A == D`

Word Expressions

- Case expressions

- `[a : A; b : B; c : C]`
- Evaluate test expressions `a, b, c, ...` in sequence
- Return word expression `A, B, C, ...` for first successful test

Summary

Computation

- Performed by combinational logic
- Computes Boolean functions
- Continuously reacts to input changes

Storage

- Registers
 - Hold single words
 - Loaded as clock rises
- Random-access memories
 - Hold multiple words
 - Possible multiple read or write ports
 - Read word when address input changes
 - Write word as clock rises