Welcome to CS 150: Components and Design Techniques for Digital Systems

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  - Readers: TBD
- Course web
  - inst.eecs.Berkeley.edu/~cs150
- This week
  - What is logic design?
  - What is digital hardware?
  - What will we be doing in this class?
  - Quick Review
  - Class administration, overview of course web, and logistics

Why are we here?

- Implementation basis for modern computing devices
  - Constructing large systems from small components
  - Another view of a computer: controller + datapath
- Inherent parallelism in hardware
  - Parallel computation beyond 61C
- Counterpoint to software design
  - Furthering our understanding of computation

We will learn in CS 150 ...

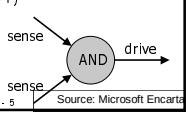
- Language of logic design
  - Logic optimization, state, timing, CAD tools
- Concept of state in digital systems
  - Analogous to variables and program counters in software systems
- Hardware system building
  - Datapath + control = digital systems
- Hardware system design *methodology*
  - Hardware description languages: Verilog
  - Tools to simulate design behavior: *output* = function (*inputs*)
  - Logic compilers synthesize hardware blocks of our designs
  - Mapping onto programmable hardware (code generation)
- Contrast with software design
  - Both map specifications to physical devices
  - Both must be flawless...the price we pay for using discrete math

What is logic design?

- What is design?
  - Given problem spec, solve it with available components
  - While meeting criteria for size, cost, power, beauty, elegance, etc.
- What is logic design?
  - Choose digital logic components to perform specified control, data manipulation, or communication function and their interconnection
  - Which logic components to choose?
    Many implementation technologies (fixed-function components, *programmable devices*, individual transistors on a chip, etc.)
  - Design optimized/transformed to meet design constraints

What is digital hardware?

- Devices that sense/control wires carrying digital values (physical quantity interpreted as "0" or "1")
  - Digital logic: voltage < 0.8v is "0", > 2.0v is "1"
  - Pair of wires where "0"/"1" distinguished by which has higher voltage (differential)
  - Magnetic orientation signifies "0" or "1"
- Primitive digital hardware devices
  - Logic computation devices (sense and drive)
    - two wires both "1" - make another be "1" (AND)
    - at least one of two wires "1" - make another be "1" (OR)
    - a wire "1" - then make another be "0" (NOT)
  - Memory devices (store)
    - store a value
    - recall a value previously stored



Source: Microsoft Encarta

What is the current state of digital design?

- Changes in industrial practice
  - Larger designs
  - Shorter time to market
  - Cheaper products
- Scale
  - Pervasive use of computer-aided design tools over hand methods
  - Multiple levels of design representation
- Time
  - Emphasis on abstract design representations
  - Programmable rather than fixed function components
  - Automatic synthesis techniques
  - Importance of sound design methodologies
- Cost
  - Higher levels of integration
  - Use of simulation to debug designs

CS 150: concepts/skills/abilities

- Basics of logic design (concepts)
- Sound design methodologies (concepts)
- Modern specification methods (concepts)
- Familiarity with full set of CAD tools (skills)
- Appreciation for differences and similarities (abilities) in hardware and software design

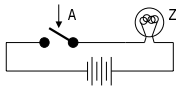
New ability: to accomplish the logic design task with the aid of computer-aided design tools and map a problem description into an implementation with programmable logic devices after validation via simulation and understanding of the advantages/disadvantages as compared to a software implementation

Computation: abstract vs. implementation

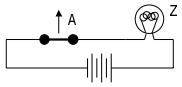
- Computation as a mental exercise (paper, programs)
- vs. implementation with physical devices using voltages to represent logical values
- Basic units of computation:
  - representation: "0", "1" on a wire; set of wires (e.g., for binary integers)
  - assignment: x = y
  - data operations: x + y - 5
  - control:
    - sequential statements: A; B; C
    - conditionals: if x == 1 then y
    - loops: for (i = 1 ; i == 10, i++)
    - procedures: A; proc(...); B;
- Study how these are implemented in hardware and composed into computational structures

Switches: basic element of physical implementations

- Implementing a simple circuit (arrow shows action if wire changes to "1"):



close switch (if A is "1" or asserted) and turn on light bulb (Z)



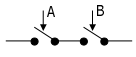
open switch (if A is "0" or unasserted) and turn off light bulb (Z)

Z ≡ A

Switches (cont'd)

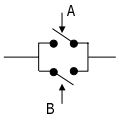
- Compose switches into more complex ones (Boolean functions):

AND



Z ≡ A and B

OR



Z ≡ A or B

Switching networks

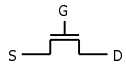
- Switch settings
  - Determine whether conducting path exists to light the bulb
- To build larger computations
  - Use bulb (output of the network) to set other switches (inputs to another network)
- Interconnect switching networks
  - Construct larger switching networks, i.e., connect outputs of one network to the inputs of the next.

Transistor networks

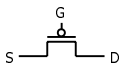
- Modern digital systems designed in CMOS
  - MOS: Metal-Oxide on Semiconductor
  - C for *complementary*: normally-open and normally-closed switches
- MOS transistors act as voltage-controlled switches
  - Similar, though easier to work with, than relays.

MOS transistors

- Three terminals: drain, gate, and source
  - Switch action as follows:
    if voltage on gate terminal is (some amount) higher/lower than source terminal then conducting path established between drain and source terminals

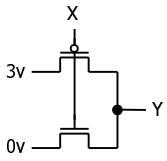


n-channel
open when voltage at G is low
closes when:
voltage(G) > voltage (S) + ε



p-channel
closed when voltage at G is low
opens when:
voltage(G) < voltage (S) – ε

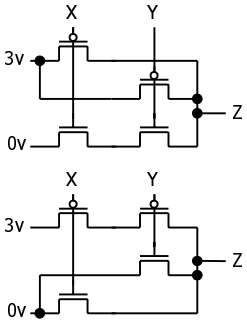
MOS networks



what is the relationship between x and y?

x	y
0 volts	
3 volts	

Two input networks



what is the relationship between x, y and z?

x	y	z
0 volts	0 volts	
0 volts	3 volts	
3 volts	0 volts	
3 volts	3 volts	

Representation of digital designs

- Physical devices (transistors, relays)
- *Switches*
- *Truth tables*
- *Boolean algebra*
- *Gates*
- **Waveforms**
- **Finite state behavior**
- **Register-transfer behavior**
- Concurrent abstract specifications

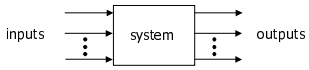
scope of CS 150
more depth than 61C
focus on building systems

Mapping from physical world to binary world

Technology	State 0	State 1
Relay logic	Circuit Open	Circuit Closed
CMOS logic	0.0-1.0 volts	2.0-3.0 volts
Transistor transistor logic (TTL)	0.0-0.8 volts	2.0-5.0 volts
Fiber Optics	Light off	Light on
Dynamic RAM	Discharged capacitor	Charged capacitor
Nonvolatile memory (erasable)	Trapped electrons	No trapped electrons
Programmable ROM	Fuse blown	Fuse intact
Bubble memory	No magnetic bubble	Bubble present
Magnetic disk	No flux reversal	Flux reversal
Compact disc	No pit	Pit

Combinational vs. sequential digital circuits

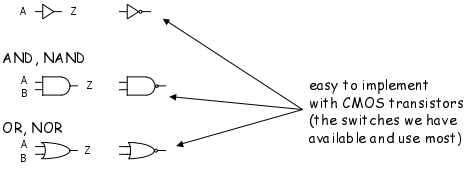
- Simple model of a digital system is a unit with inputs and outputs:



- Combinational means "memory-less"
  - digital circuit is combinational if its output values only depend on its inputs

Combinational logic symbols

- Common combinational logic systems have standard symbols called logic gates
  - Buffer, NOT
  - AND, NAND
  - OR, NOR



Sequential logic

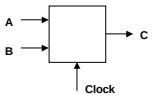
- Sequential systems
  - Exhibit behaviors (output values) that depend on current *as well as* previous inputs
- All real circuits are sequential
  - Outputs do not change instantaneously after an input change
  - Why not, and why is it then sequential?
- Fundamental abstraction of digital design is to reason (mostly) about steady-state behaviors
  - Examine outputs only after sufficient time has elapsed for the system to make its required changes and settle down

Synchronous sequential digital systems

- Combinational circuit outputs depend *only* on current inputs
  - After sufficient time has elapsed
- Sequential circuits have *memory*
  - Even after waiting for transient activity to finish
- Steady-state abstraction: most designers use it when constructing sequential circuits:
  - Memory of system is its state
  - Changes in system state only allowed at specific times controlled by an external periodic signal (the *clock*)
  - Clock period is elapsed time between state changes sufficiently long so that system reaches steady-state before next state change at end of period

Example of combinational and sequential logic

- Combinational:
  - input A, B
  - wait for clock edge
  - observe C
  - wait for another clock edge
  - observe C again: will stay the same
- Sequential:
  - input A, B
  - wait for clock edge
  - observe C
  - wait for another clock edge
  - observe C again: may be different



An example

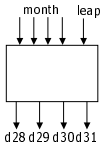
- Calendar subsystem: number of days in a month (to control watch display)
  - used in controlling the display of a wrist-watch LCD screen
  - inputs: month, leap year flag
  - outputs: number of days

Implementation in software

```
integer number_of_days ( month,
  leap_year_flag) {
   switch (month) {
      case 1: return (31);
      case 2: if (leap_year_flag == 1) then return (29)
        else return (28);
      case 3: return (31);
      ...
      case 12: return (31);
      default: return (0);
   }
}
```

Implementation as a combinational digital system

- Encoding:
  - how many bits for each input/output?
  - binary number for month
  - four wires for 28, 29, 30, and 31
- Behavior:
  - combinational
  - truth table specification



month	leap	d28	d29	d30	d31
0000	–	–	–	–	–
0001	–	0	0	0	1
0010	0	1	0	0	0
0010	1	0	1	0	0
0011	–	0	0	0	1
0100	–	0	0	1	0
0101	–	0	0	0	1
0110	–	0	0	1	0
0111	–	0	0	0	1
1000	–	0	0	0	1
1001	–	0	0	1	0
1010	–	0	0	0	1
1011	–	0	0	1	0
1100	–	0	0	0	1
1101	–	–	–	–	–
111–	–	–	–	–	–

Combinational example (cont'd)

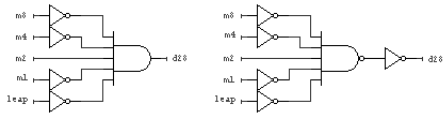
- Truth-table to logic to switches to gates
  - d28 = 1 when month=0010 and leap=0
  - d28 = m8'·m4'·m2·m1'·leap'
  - d31 = 1 when month=0001 or month=0011 or … month=1100
  - d31 = (m8'·m4'·m2'·m1) + (m8'·m4'·m2·m1) + … (m8·m4·m2'·m1')
  - d31 = can we simplify more?

symbol for or, symbol for and, symbol for not

month	leap	d28	d29	d30	d31
0001	–	0	0	0	1
0010	0	1	0	0	0
0010	1	0	1	0	0
0011	–	0	0	0	1
0100	–	0	0	1	0
…					
1100	–	0	0	0	1
1101	–	–	–	–	–
111–	–	–	–	–	–
0000	–	–	–	–	–

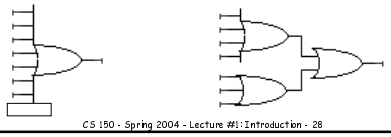
Combinational example (cont'd)

- d28 = m8'·m4'·m2·m1'·leap'
- d29 = m8'·m4'·m2·m1'·leap
- d30 = (m8'·m4·m2'·m1') + (m8'·m4·m2·m1') + (m8·m4'·m2'·m1) + (m8·m4'·m2·m1)
- d31 = (m8'·m4'·m2'·m1) + (m8'·m4'·m2·m1) + (m8'·m4·m2'·m1) + (m8'·m4·m2·m1) + (m8·m4'·m2'·m4') + (m8·m4'·m2·m1') + (m8·m4·m2'·m1')



Combinational example (cont'd)

- d28 = m8'·m4'·m2·m1'·leap'
- d29 = m8'·m4'·m2·m1'·leap
- d30 = (m8'·m4·m2'·m1') + (m8'·m4·m2·m1') + (m8·m4'·m2'·m1) + (m8·m4'·m2·m1)
- d31 = (m8'·m4'·m2'·m1) + (m8'·m4'·m2·m1) + (m8'·m4·m2'·m1) + (m8'·m4·m2·m1) + (m8·m4'·m2'·m4') + (m8·m4'·m2·m1') + (m8·m4·m2'·m1')



Another example

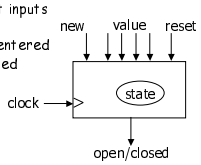
- Door combination lock:
  - punch in 3 values in sequence and the door opens; if there is an error the lock must be reset; once the door opens the lock must be reset
  - inputs: sequence of input values, reset
  - outputs: door open/close
  - memory: must remember combination or always have it available as an input

Implementation in software

```
integer combination_lock ( ) {
    integer v1, v2, v3;
    integer error = 0;
    static integer c[3] = 3, 4, 2;

    while (!new_value( ));
    v1 = read_value( );
    if (v1 != c[1]) then error = 1;

    while (!new_value( ));
    v2 = read_value( );
    if (v2 != c[2]) then error = 1;

    while (!new_value( ));
    v3 = read_value( );
    if (v2 != c[3]) then error = 1;

    if (error == 1) then return(0); else return (1);
}
```

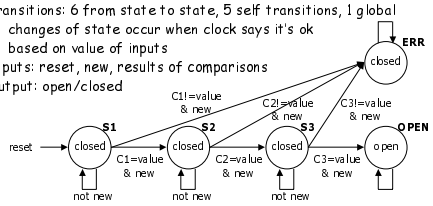
Implementation as a sequential digital system

- Encoding:
  - how many bits per input value?
  - how many values in sequence?
  - how do we know a new input value is entered?
  - how do we represent the states of the system?
- Behavior:
  - clock wire tells us when it's ok to look at inputs (i.e., they have settled after change)
  - sequential: sequence of values must be entered
  - sequential: remember if an error occurred
  - finite-state specification



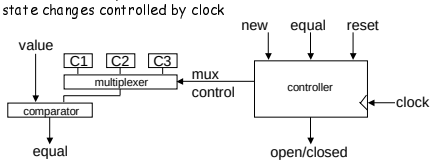
Sequential example (cont'd): abstract control

- Finite-state diagram
  - States: 5 states
    - represent point in execution of machine
    - each state has outputs
  - Transitions: 6 from state to state, 5 self transitions, 1 global
    - changes of state occur when clock says it's ok
    - based on value of inputs
  - Inputs: reset, new, results of comparisons
  - Output: open/closed



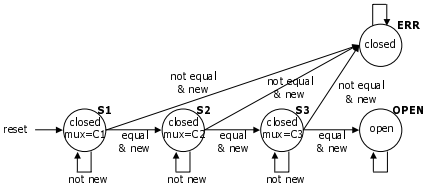
Sequential example (cont'd): data-path vs. control

- Internal structure
  - data-path
    - storage for combination
    - comparators
  - control
    - finite-state machine controller
    - control for data-path
    - state changes controlled by clock



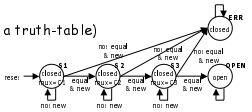
Sequential example (cont'd): finite-state machine

- Finite-state machine
  - refine state diagram to include internal structure



Sequential example (cont'd): finite-state machine

- Finite-state machine
  - generate state table (much like a truth-table)



reset	new	equal	state	next state	mux	open/closed
1	-	-	-	S1	C1	closed
0	0	-	S1	S1	C1	closed
0	1	0	S1	ERR	-	closed
0	1	1	S1	S2	C2	closed
0	0	-	S2	S2	C2	closed
0	1	0	S2	ERR	-	closed
0	1	1	S2	S3	C3	closed
0	0	-	S3	S3	C3	closed
0	1	0	S3	ERR	-	closed
0	1	1	S3	OPEN	-	open
0	-	-	OPEN	OPEN	-	open
0	-	-	ERR	ERR	-	closed

Sequential example (cont'd): encoding

- Encode state table
  - state can be: S1, S2, S3, OPEN, or ERR
    - needs at least 3 bits to encode: 000, 001, 010, 011, 100
    - and as many as 5: 00001, 00010, 00100, 01000, 10000
    - choose 4 bits: 0001, 0010, 0100, 1000, 0000
  - output mux can be: C1, C2, or C3
    - needs 2 to 3 bits to encode
    - choose 3 bits: 001, 010, 100
  - output open/closed can be: open or closed
    - needs 1 or 2 bits to encode
    - choose 1 bits: 1, 0

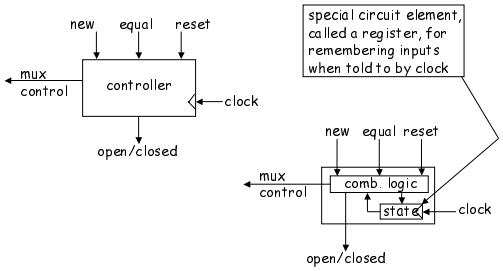
Sequential example (cont'd): encoding

- Encode state table
  - state can be: S1, S2, S3, OPEN, or ERR
    - choose 4 bits: 0001, 0010, 0100, 1000, 0000
  - output mux can be: C1, C2, or C3
    - choose 3 bits: 001, 010, 100
  - output open/closed can be: open or closed
    - choose 1 bits: 1, 0

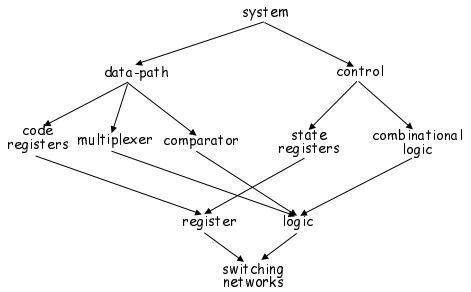
reset	new	equal	state	next state	mux	open/closed	
1	-	-	-	0001	001	0	
0	0	-	0001	0001	001	0	
0	1	0	0001	0000	-	0	good choice of encoding!
0	1	1	0001	0010	010	0	
0	0	-	0010	0010	010	0	mux is identical to last 3 bits of state
0	1	0	0010	0000	-	0	
0	1	1	0010	0100	100	0	
0	0	-	0100	0100	100	0	open/closed is identical to first bit of state
0	1	0	0100	0000	-	0	
0	1	1	0100	1000	-	1	
0	-	-	1000	1000	-	1	
0	-	-	0000	0000	-	0	

Sequential example (cont'd): controller implementation

- Implementation of the controller



Design hierarchy



Summary

- What the entire course is about
  - Converting solutions to problems into combinational and sequential networks effectively organizing the design hierarchically
  - Doing so with a modern set of design tools that lets us handle large designs effectively
  - Taking advantage of optimization opportunities
- Now let's do it again
  - this time we'll take the rest of the semester!