



Faculty of Engineering and Technology
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

ENCS 2110

EXP 5 Post-Lab: Sequential Logic Circuits

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- ✓ Although latches are useful for storing binary information, they are rarely used in sequential circuit design, why?

Latches are **level-triggered** devices, meaning they continuously respond to input changes as long as the enable (or clock) signal is active. This can cause timing issues like glitches or race conditions, especially in complex circuits.

In contrast, **flip-flops** are edge-triggered, meaning they only respond to inputs at the moment of a **clock edge** (rising or falling), making them more predictable and stable in synchronous designs.

- ✓ What is the disadvantage of the RS flip flop?

The **RS flip-flop** (Set-Reset flip-flop) has an undefined state when both Set (**S**) and Reset (**R**) inputs are high (**1**) at the same time.

In this condition, the outputs **Q** and **Q'** both go low, violating their expected behavior of being complements of each other.

- ❖ This creates uncertainty and can lead to circuit malfunction, which is why this condition must always be avoided.

- ✓ What is the difference between “synchronous” and “ripple” counters?

Synchronous counters:

All **flip-flops** are triggered by the same clock signal simultaneously. This results in faster and more predictable behavior, making them ideal for high-speed applications.

Ripple counters (also called asynchronous counters):

The clock **input** is given only to the **first flip-flop**, and the **output** of each **flip-flop** triggers the next one. This creates a **ripple** effect, causing propagation delays as the signal moves through each **flip-flop**.

- ❖ So, **synchronous** = faster and accurate.
- ❖ **Ripple** = simpler but slower due to delay.