

# CS61C: Great Ideas in Computer Architecture (aka Machine Structures)

Lecture 10: Combinational Logic, FSMs

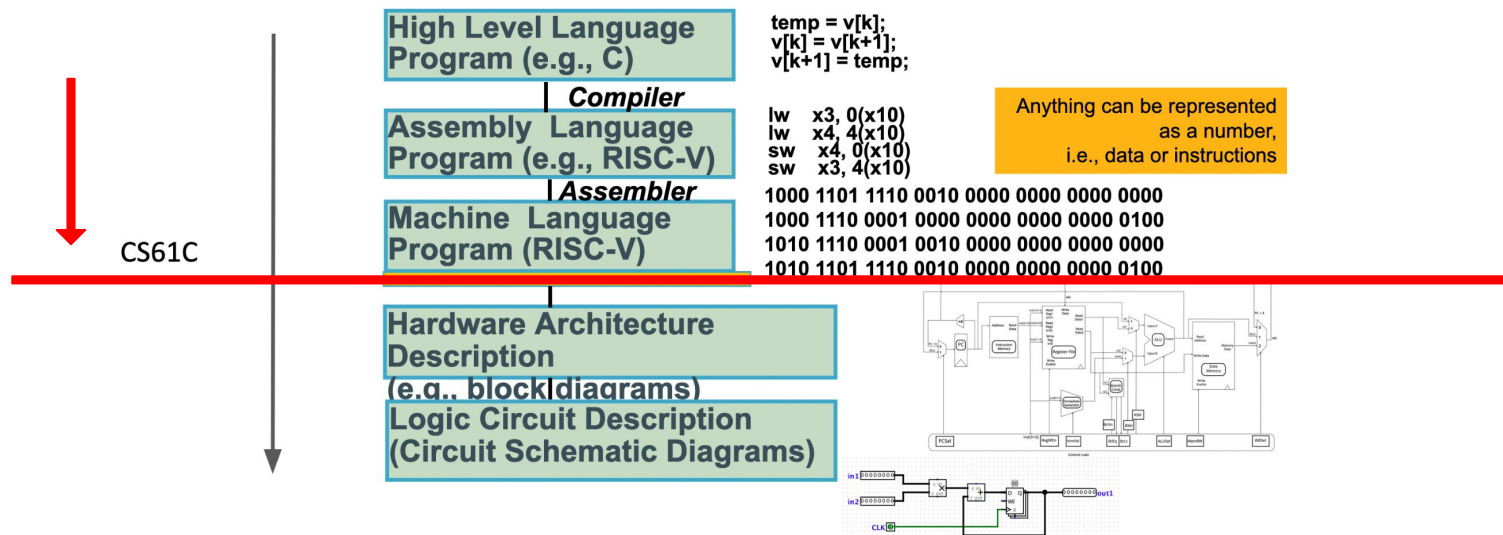
Instructors: Rosalie Fang, **Charles Hong**, Jero Wang

# Announcements

- Midterm Friday! Logistics on Ed/the course website.
  - Review sessions Tuesday 5-7pm, Thursday 3-5pm (different content - see Ed for details)
  - Additional conceptual OH M/W 5-6pm in Soda 411
- Extensions
  - 7 day limit
- OH clarification
  - No lab tickets in OH on Tuesdays/Thursdays
- Labs 3 and 4 due tomorrow (Tuesday), Homework 3 due Wednesday (long!)

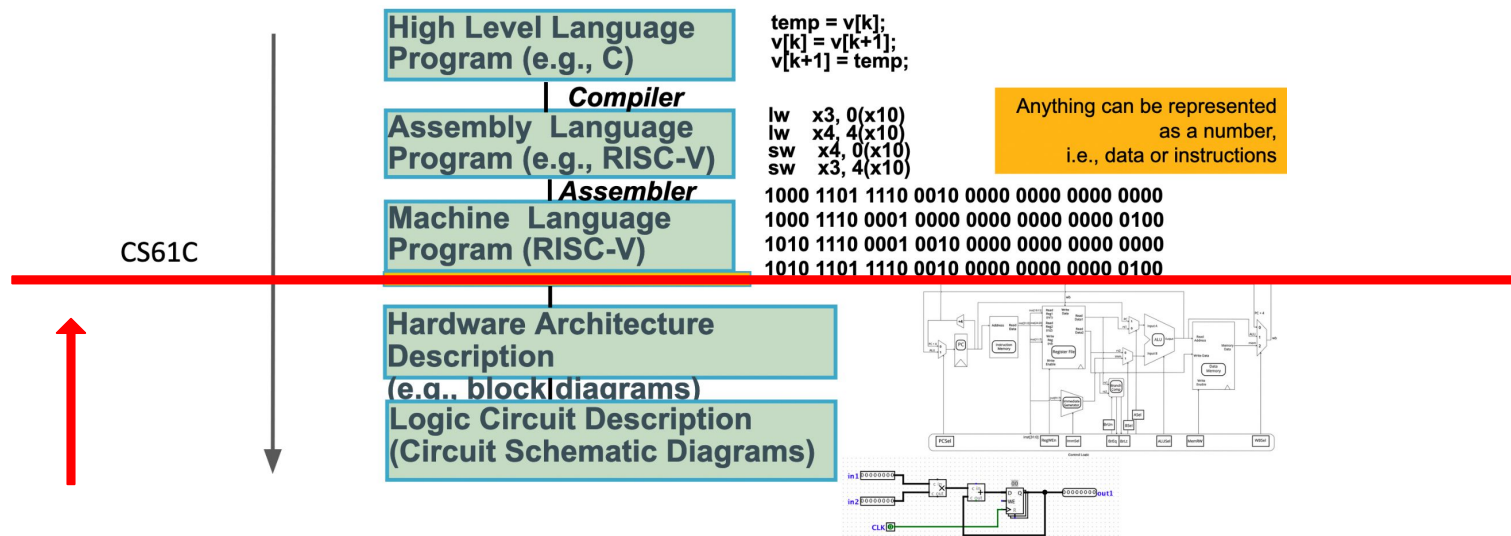
# So far...

- C, RISC-V generally exist on the software side of the stack
  - Nuance: the ISA does determine much of how a processor is implemented
- We built our way down from C to machine code



# Next 5-ish lectures:

- How a modern processor is built, starting with basic elements as building blocks



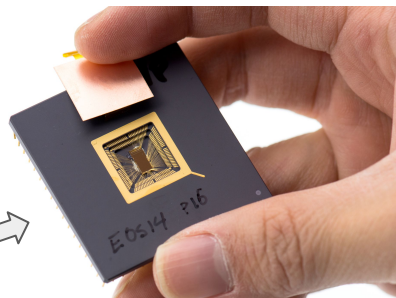
# Another way to put it...

Previously:

How do we run this code:

```
#define SPOCK 1701
int KIRK = 1701;
int sulu(int scotty) {
    return scotty * scotty;
}
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int *chekov = malloc(sizeof(int) * 1701);
    if (chekov) free(chekov);
    sulu(SPOCK); // ← snapshot just before it returns
    return 0;
}
```

On this piece of metal?



Today:

What's in this thing?

# Why study hardware?

## 1. The cliché:

- To really understand how computers work and become a better performance programmer.

## 2. Understand capabilities and limitations of HW in general and processors in particular.

- Why is my computer so slow? Why does my battery run down?
- Someday, you may need to decide between different hardware platforms, or even design custom HW for extra performance.

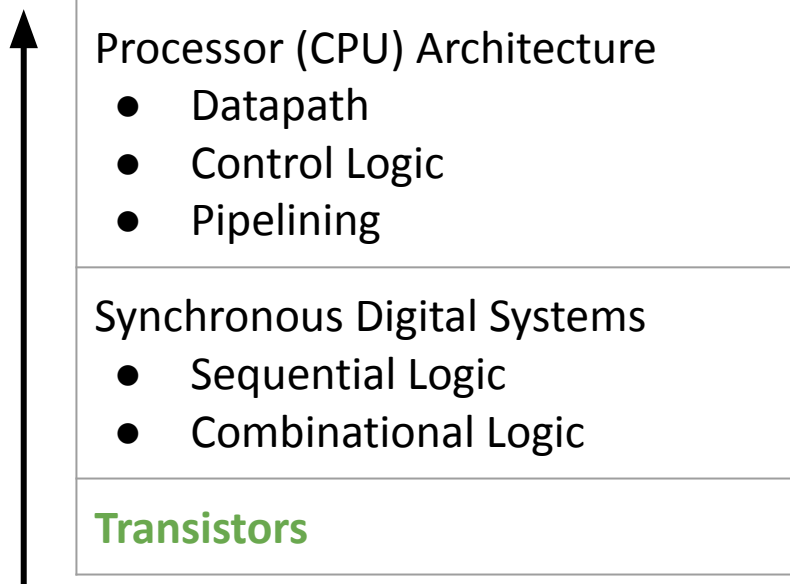
## 3. \$\$\$\$

- In addition to hardware companies like Apple, Intel, or NVIDIA, traditionally software companies Google, Amazon, Meta do their own hardware design! Even some financial firms employ hardware engineers.

## 4. Background for more in-depth HW courses (EECS 151, CS 152)

- More fun!

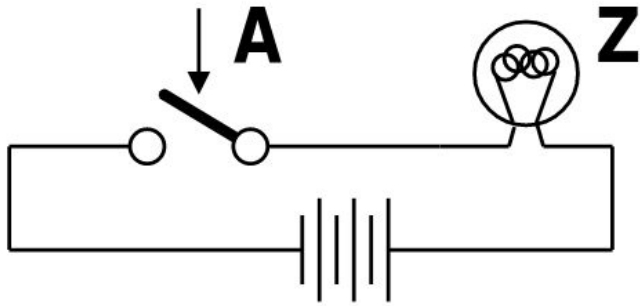
# CS 61C Hardware Roadmap



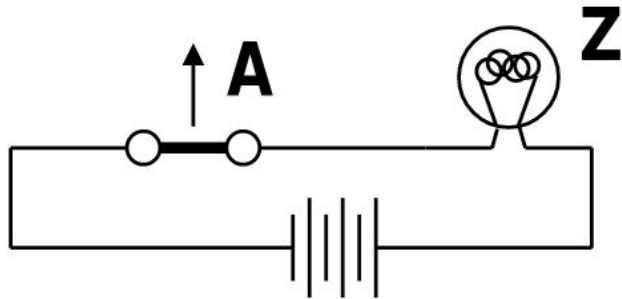
# Transistors



# Switches

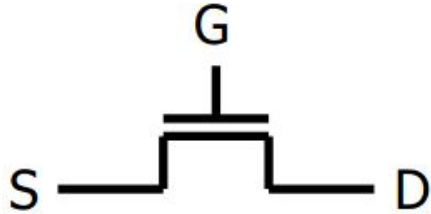


When the switch is open, the light bulb isn't on.



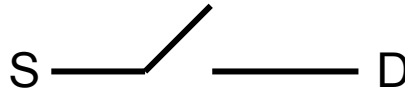
When the switch is closed, the light bulb is on.

# Transistors: n-type



An n-type transistor is drawn like this.

Drain, Gate, and Source are terminals with some voltage value (let's say 0 to 1).

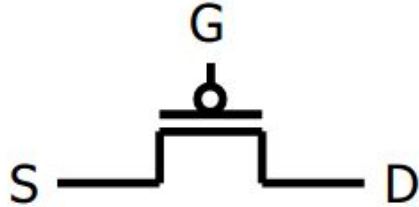


If  $G \leq S$ , then the switch is open.  
e.g.  $G=0$ ,  $S=0$



If  $G > S$ , then the switch is closed.  
e.g.  $G=1$ ,  $S=0$

# Transistors: p-type

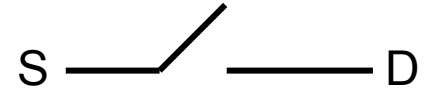


A p-type transistor is drawn like this.

Drain, Gate, and Source are terminals with some voltage value (let's say 0 to 1).

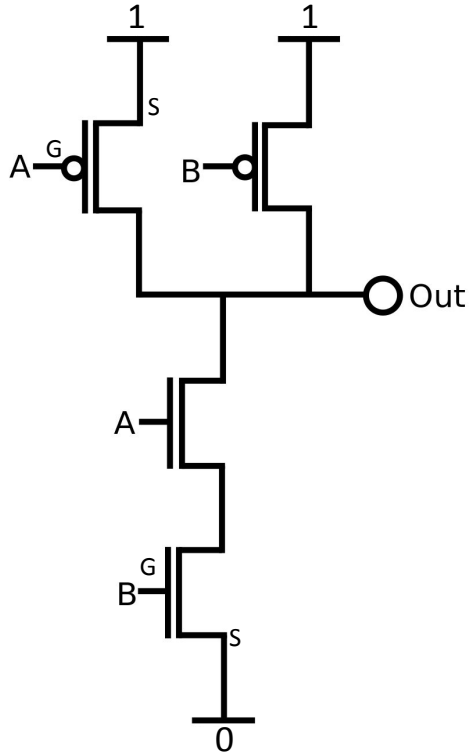


If  $G < S$ , then the switch is closed.  
e.g.  $G=0$ ,  $S=1$



If  $G \geq S$ , then the switch is open.  
e.g.  $G=1$ ,  $S=1$

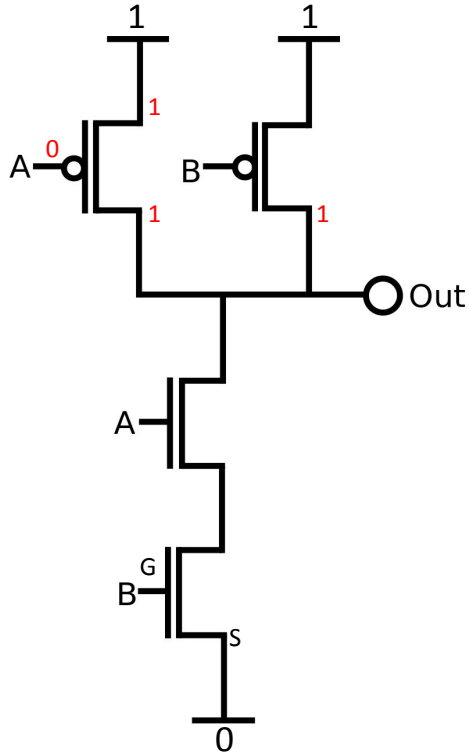
# Transistors: CMOS



What's the out voltage if A is low, and B is low?

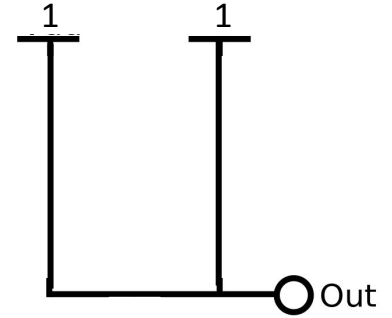
A	B	Out
0	0	
0	1	
1	0	
1	1	

# Transistors: CMOS

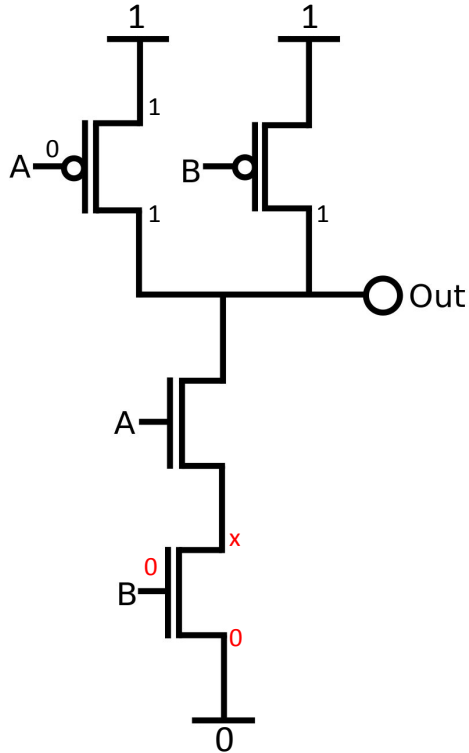


What's the out voltage if A is low, and B is low?

A	B	Out
0	0	
0	1	
1	0	
1	1	

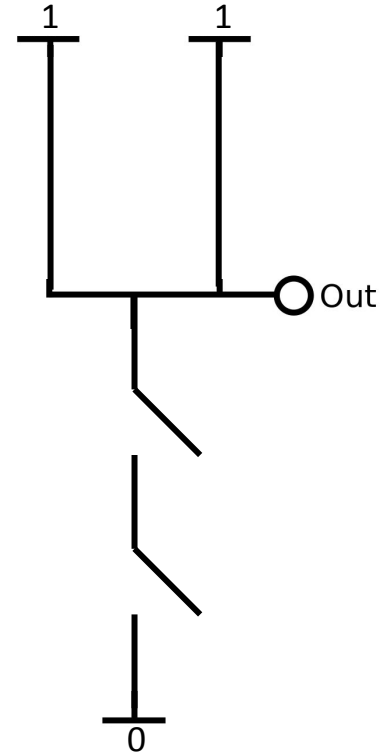


# Transistors: CMOS

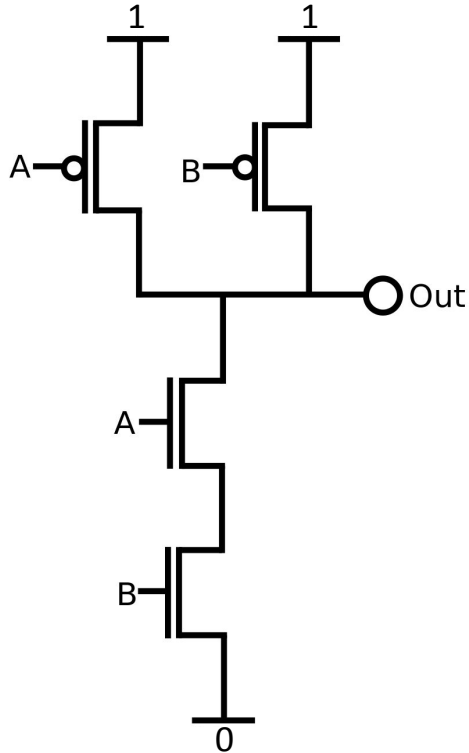


What's the out voltage if A is low, and B is low?

A	B	Out
0	0	
0	1	
1	0	
1	1	

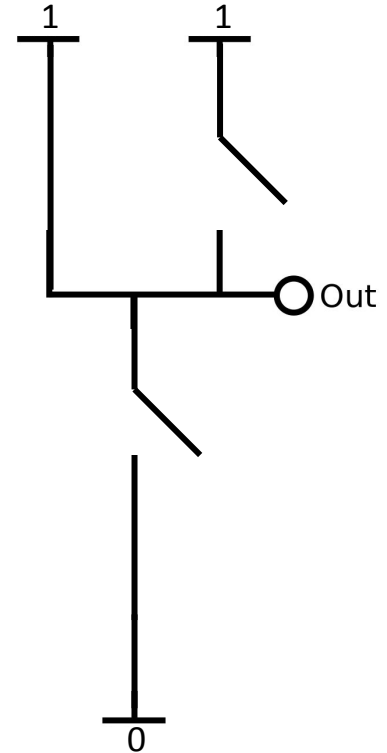


# Transistors: CMOS

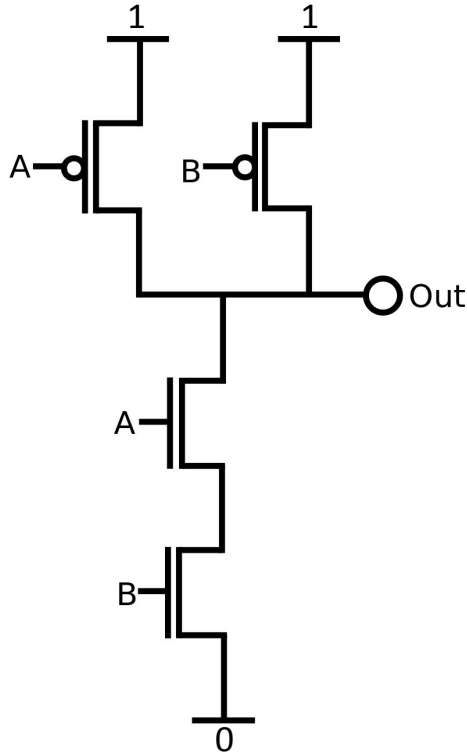


What's the out voltage if A is low, and B is high?

A	B	Out
0	0	1
0	1	
1	0	
1	1	

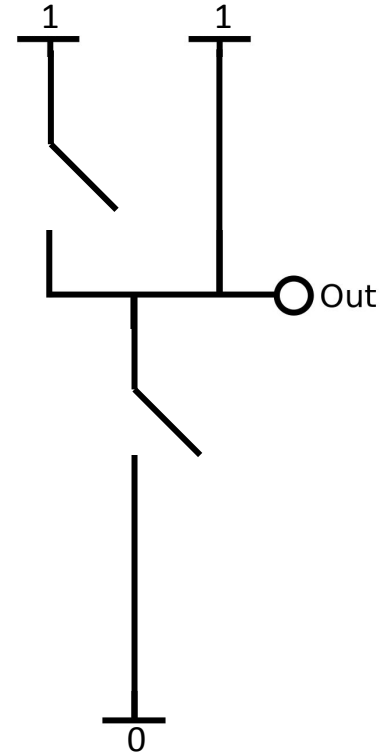


# Transistors: CMOS



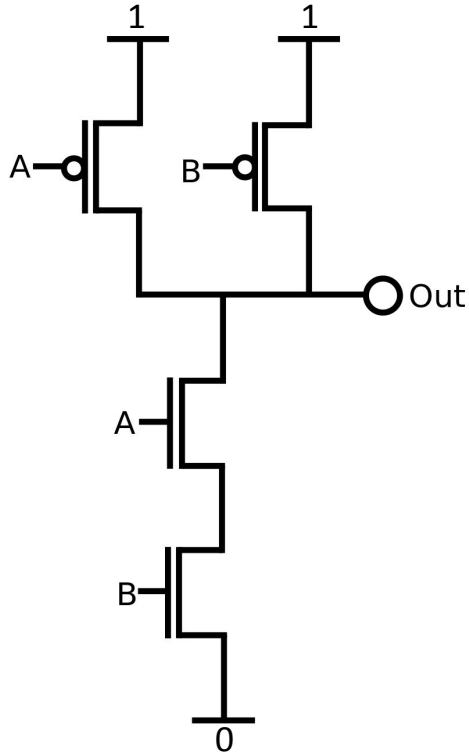
What's the out voltage if A is high, and B is low?

A	B	Out
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	
1	1	



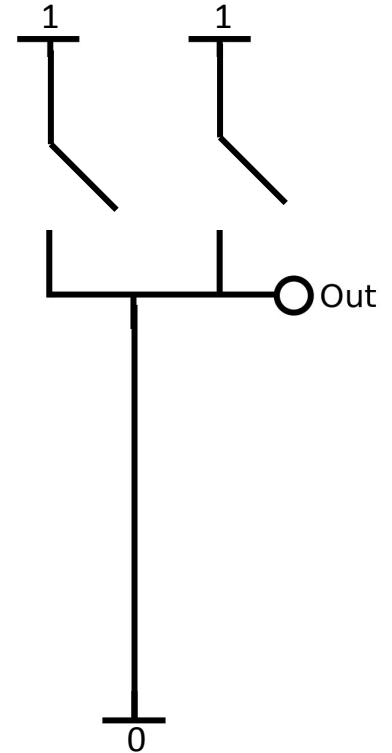


# Transistors: CMOS

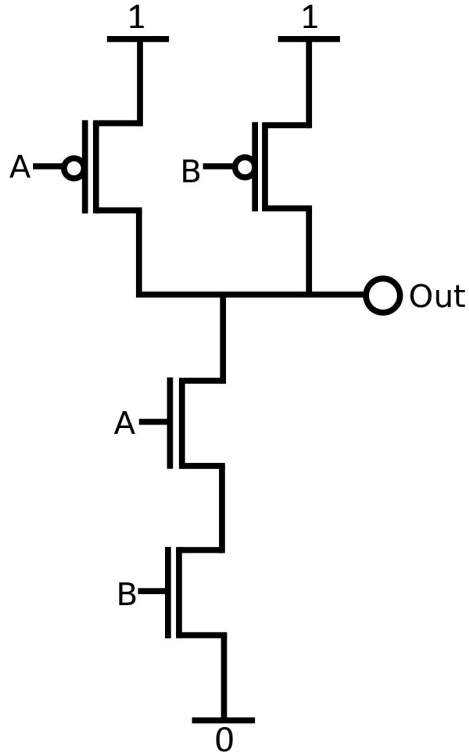


What's the out voltage if A is high, and B is high?

A	B	Out
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	



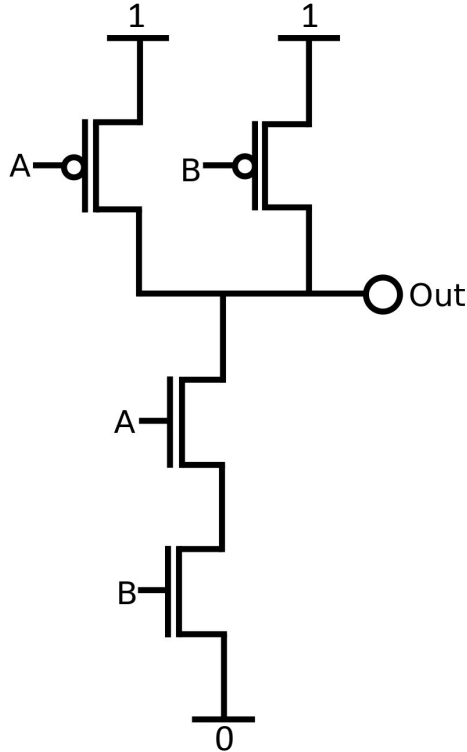
# Transistors: CMOS



A	B	Out
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

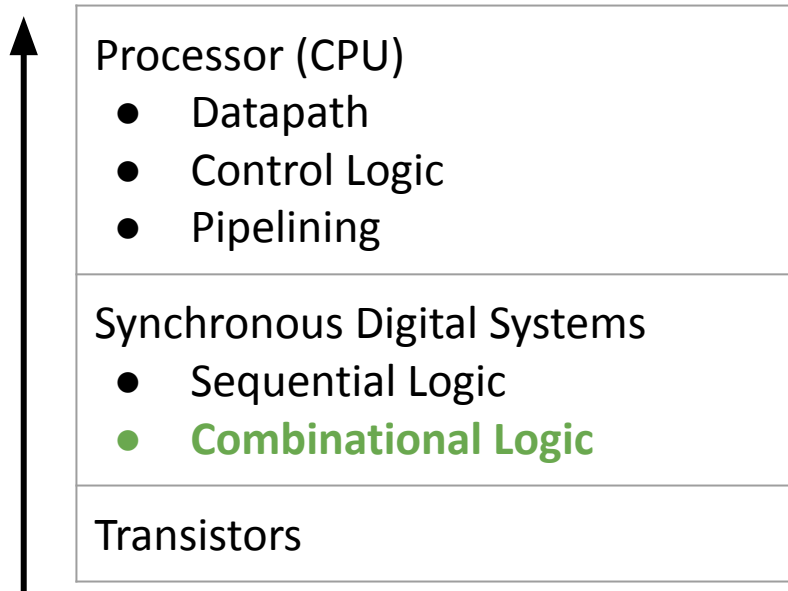
We just built a logic gate out of transistors!

# Transistors: CMOS



C = Complementary.  
We use p-type and  
n-type transistors  
together to build  
logic.

# CS 61C Hardware Roadmap



Note: Transistors will not be in scope for exams.

# Basic Logic Gates

# Logic Gates

- Operators with:
  - One or more 1-bit inputs
  - One 1-bit output
- Can be built out of transistors
- Can be represented as:
  - A block in a circuit diagram
  - A truth table, listing the output for every possible input
  - A Boolean algebra expression
- Used to perform bitwise operations
  - Recall: We saw bitwise operations (NOT, OR, AND, XOR) in C and RISC-V

# NOT

- One 1-bit inputs, labeled A
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out
- Can be represented as:



A diagram

$$\text{Out} = \neg A$$

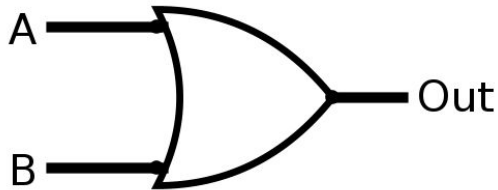
An algebraic expression

A	Out
0	1
1	0

A truth table

# OR

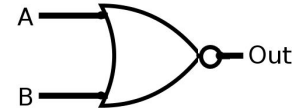
- Two 1-bit inputs, labeled A and B
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out
- Can be represented as:



A diagram

$$\text{Out} = A + B$$

An algebraic expression



NOR gate looks like this.

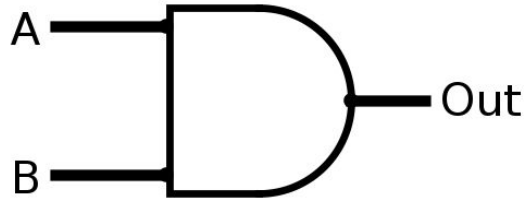
A	B	Out
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

A truth table



# AND

- Two 1-bit inputs, labeled A and B
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out
- Can be represented as:



A diagram

$$\text{Out} = AB$$

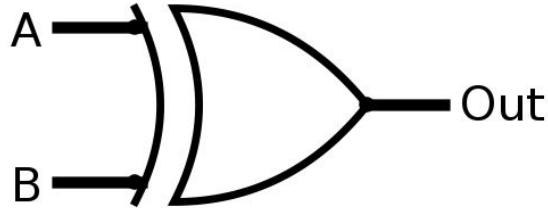
An algebraic expression

A	B	Out
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

A truth table

# XOR

- Two 1-bit inputs, labeled A and B
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out
- Can be represented as:



A diagram

$$\text{Out} = A \oplus B$$

An algebraic expression

A	B	Out
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

A truth table

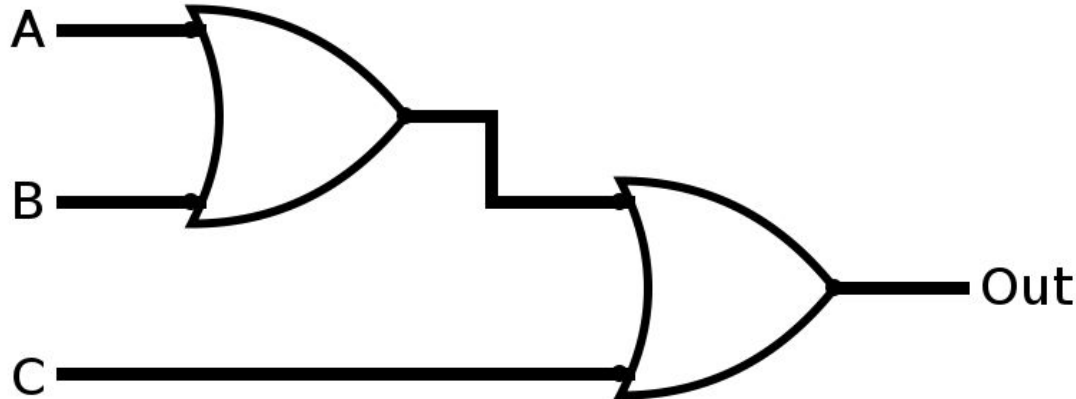
# Combinational Logic

# Combinational Logic

- We can combine logic gates to make larger circuits
  - One or more inputs
  - One or more outputs
  - Perform more complicated logic operations
- These circuits can also be represented as
  - A block in a circuit diagram
  - A truth table, listing the output for every possible input
  - A Boolean algebra expression

# Mystery Circuit #1

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

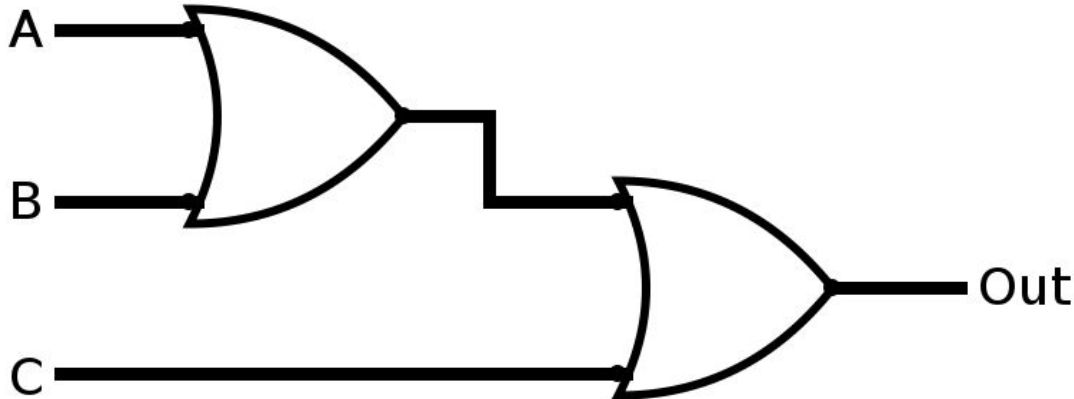


Let's try to write the truth table from the circuit diagram.

How many rows are in the truth table?  
(Hint: How many unique inputs are there?)

# Mystery Circuit #1

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

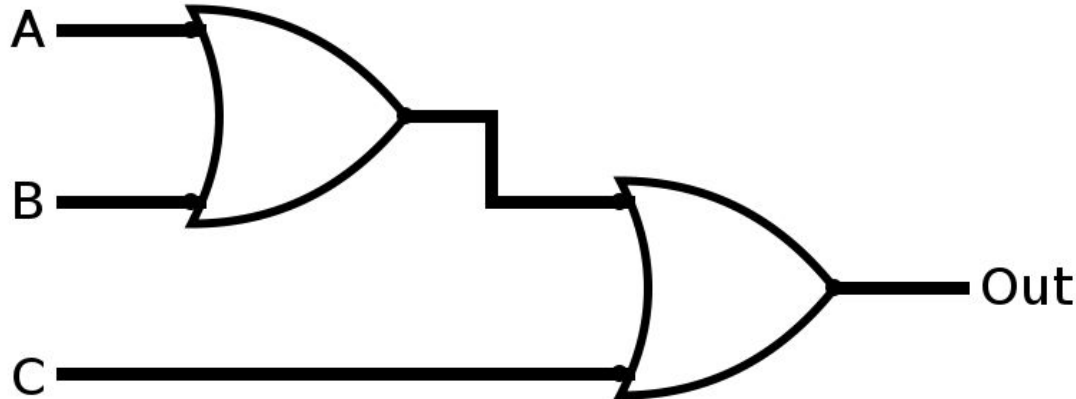


A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	
0	0	1	
0	1	0	
0	1	1	
1	0	0	
1	0	1	
1	1	0	
1	1	1	

Try inputs on the circuit  
to fill out the truth table!

# Mystery Circuit #1

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

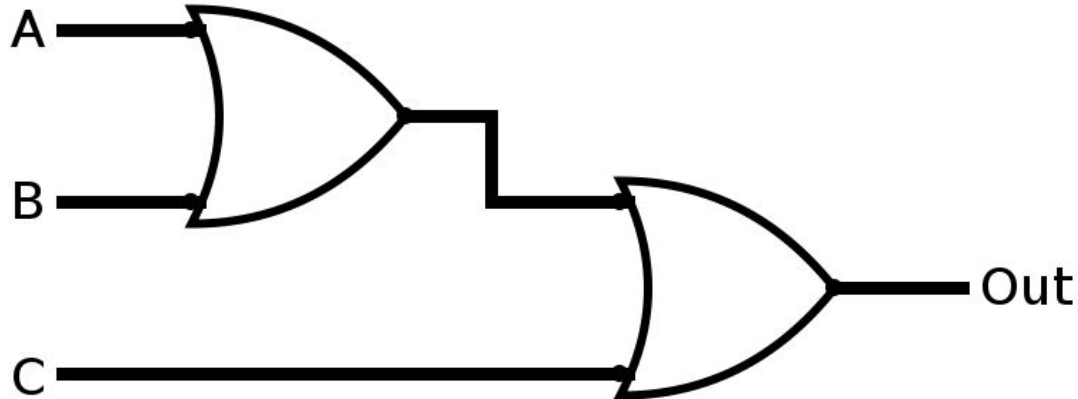


A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

Let's write the algebraic expression from the circuit.

# Mystery Circuit #1

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out



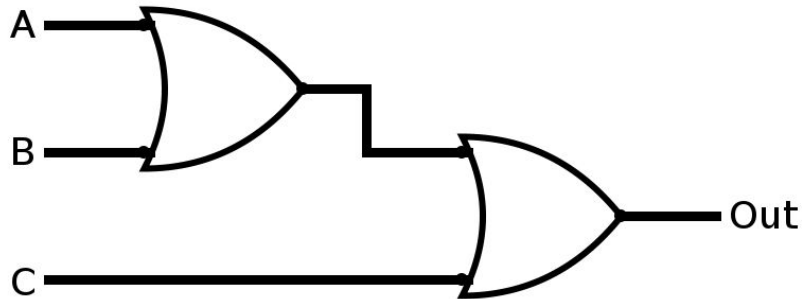
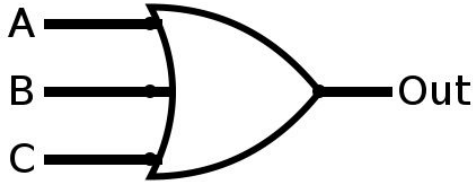
A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

$$\text{Out} = (A + B) + C$$



# Mystery Circuit #1: 3-way OR

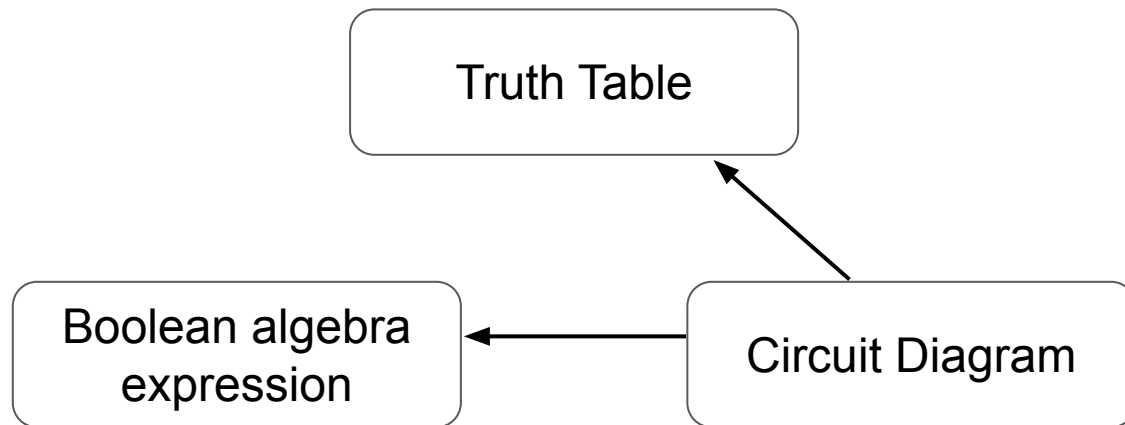
- Intuitively: Outputs 1 when at least one of the inputs is 1
- Sometimes drawn like this:



A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

$$\text{Out} = (A + B) + C$$

# Converting Between Representations



We converted a circuit diagram to a truth tables and algebraic expression.

Can we convert between the other representations too?

## Mystery Circuit #2

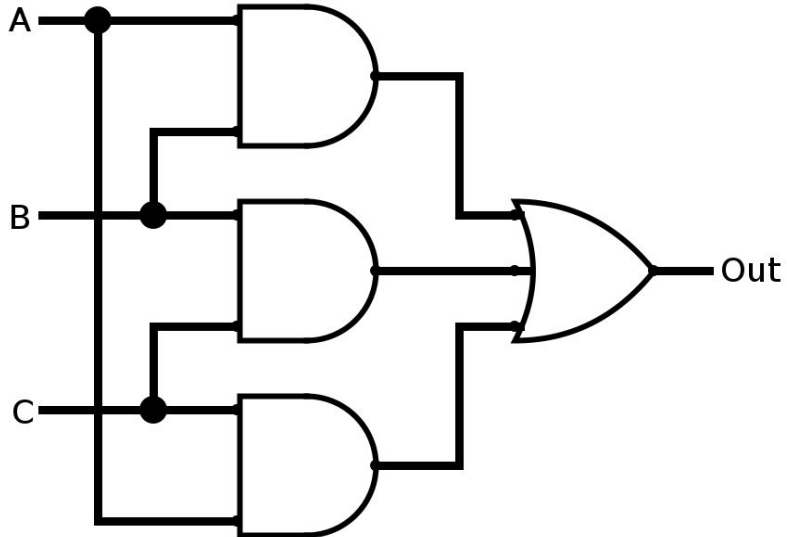
- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

Given the algebraic expression, let's draw the circuit diagram.

$$\text{Out} = AB + BC + AC$$

## Mystery Circuit #2

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out



$$\text{Out} = AB + BC + AC$$

## Mystery Circuit #2

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

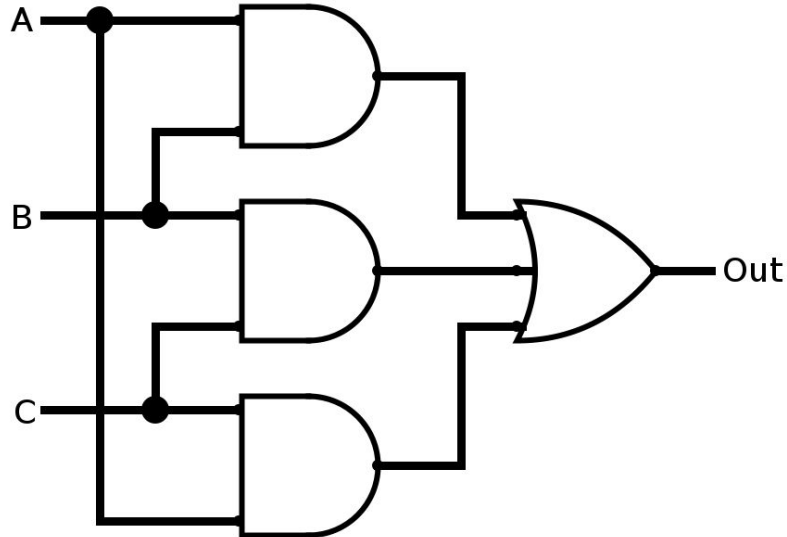
Given the algebraic expression, let's write the truth table.

A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	
0	0	1	
0	1	0	
0	1	1	
1	0	0	
1	0	1	
1	1	0	
1	1	1	

$$\text{Out} = AB + BC + AC$$

## Mystery Circuit #2

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

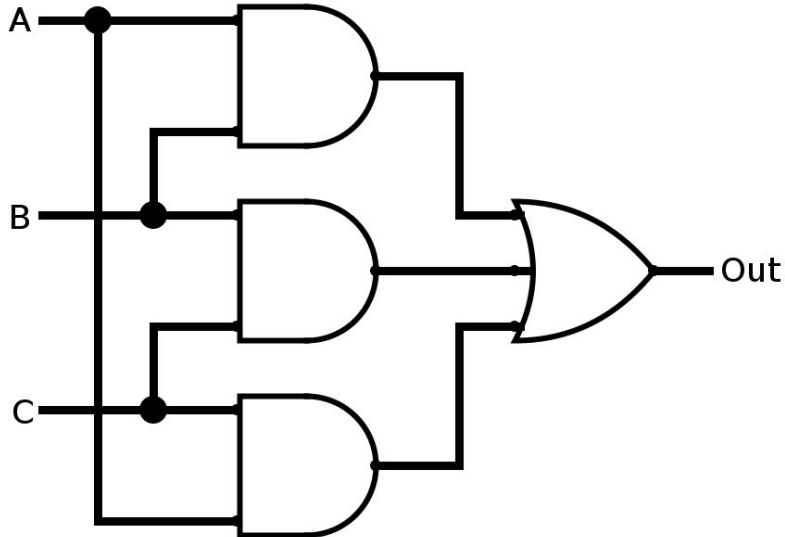


A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

$$\text{Out} = AB + BC + AC$$

## Mystery Circuit #2: Majority Circuit

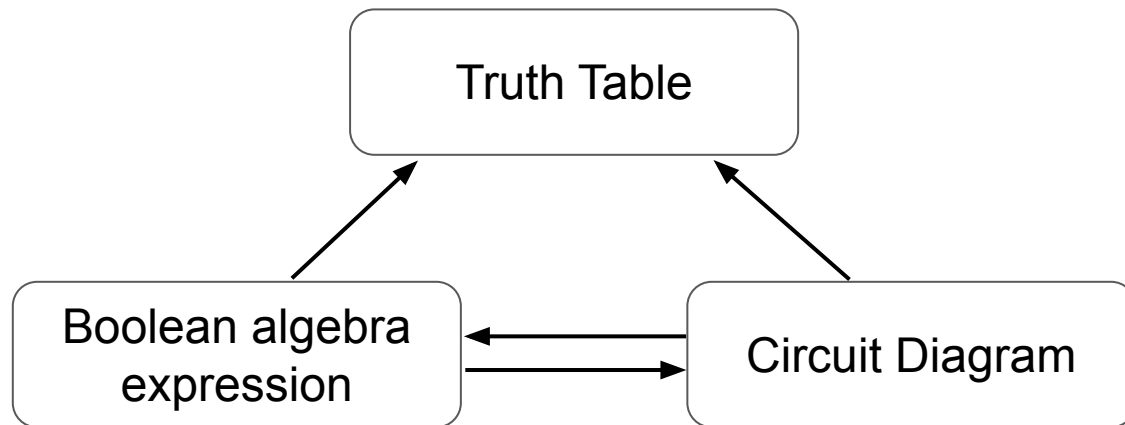
- Intuitively: Outputs the most common value (0 or 1) among the three inputs



A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

$$\text{Out} = AB + BC + AC$$

# Converting Between Representations



We just converted algebraic expressions to truth tables and circuit diagrams.

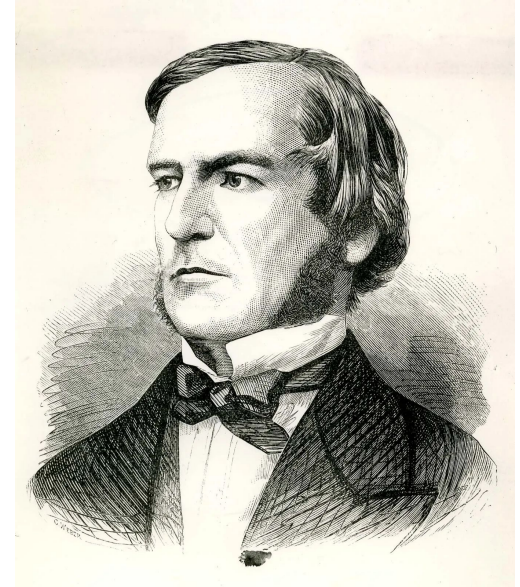
Before we see the next conversion, let's talk a bit more about Boolean algebra.



# Boolean Algebra

# History of Boolean Algebra

- Early computer designers built ad hoc circuits from switches
- Began to notice common patterns in their work: ANDs, ORs, ...
- Master's thesis (by Claude Shannon, 1940) made link between work and 19th Century mathematician George Boole
- Called it “Boolean Algebra” in his honor



# Boolean Algebra Operations

- Recall the Boolean algebra operations from earlier
  - We saw these operations in C and RISC-V
  - We can compute these operations with logic gates

Operation	Notation
A and B	$AB$
A or B	$A + B$
not A	$\neg A$
A xor B	$A \oplus B$

Note: There are a variety of accepted symbols used for these operations.

# Simplifying Boolean Algebra

- Given a complicated Boolean algebra expression, we can use some rules to simplify them
  - Useful way to simplify circuits: convert to Boolean algebra, simplify, and convert back
  - Simplifying circuits = less hardware

# Laws of Boolean Algebra

$(x)(\neg x) = 0$	$x + \neg x = 1$	Complementarity
$(x)(0) = 0$	$x + 1 = 1$	Laws of 0s and 1s
$(x)(1) = x$	$x + 0 = x$	Identities
$(x)(x) = x$	$x + x = x$	Idempotent law
$xy = yx$	$x + y = y + x$	Commutative law
$(xy)z = x(yz)$	$(x + y) + z = x + (y + z)$	Associativity
$x(y + z) = xy + xz$	$x + yz = (x + y)(x + z)$	Distribution
$xy + x = x$	$(x + y)x = x$	Uniting theorem
$\neg(xy) = \neg x + \neg y$	$\neg(x + y) = (\neg x)(\neg y)$	DeMorgan's Law

# Boolean Algebra Simplification Example

$$y = ab + a + c$$

$$= ab + a(1) + c \quad \text{Identity}$$

$$= a(b+1) + c \quad \text{Distribution}$$

$$= a(1) + c \quad \text{Law of 1s}$$

$$= a + c \quad \text{Identity}$$

# Sum-of-Products

- Given a truth table, how can we convert it to a Boolean algebra expression?
- Idea: Look for every row where the output is 1
  - For Out=1, we either have:
    - (A=0 and B=0 and C=1), or
    - (A=1 and B=0 and C=1), or
    - (A=1 and B=1 and C=1)
- In Boolean algebra:  $(\neg A)(\neg B)(C) + (A)(\neg B)(C) + (A)(B)(C)$
- This is called the sum-of-products form
  - For each row where Out=1, create one product (AND the inputs together)
  - Then take the sum of all the products (OR the products together)

A	B	C	Out
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1

## Mystery Circuit #3

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, S
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

Given the truth table,  
let's write the algebraic  
expression.

Strategy: Start with  
sum-of-products form,  
then simplify with  
Boolean algebra laws.

A	B	S	Out
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	1



## Mystery Circuit #3

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, S
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

$$\text{Out} = (a)(\neg b)(\neg s) + (a)(b)(\neg s) + (\neg a)(b)(s) + abs$$

$$= ((a)(\neg b) + ab)(\neg s) + ((\neg a)(b) + ab)s$$

$$= ((a)(\neg b + b))(\neg s) + ((\neg a + a)(b))s$$

$$= (a(1))(\neg s) + ((1)b)s$$

$$= a(\neg s) + bs$$

A	B	S	Out
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	1

## Mystery Circuit #3

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, S
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

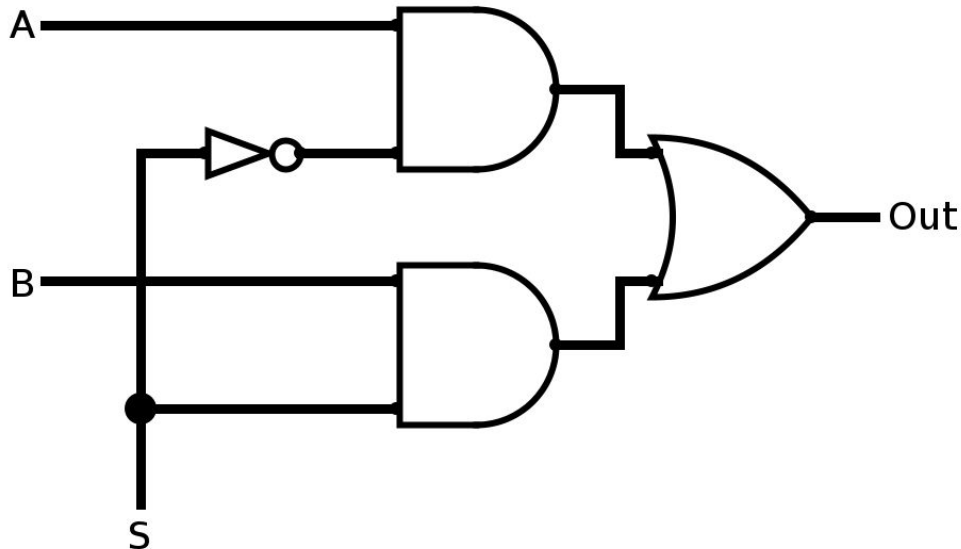
Given the simplified algebraic expression, we can draw a circuit diagram with fewer logic gates (compared to drawing a diagram from sum-of-products form).

A	B	S	Out
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	1

$$\text{Out} = (A)(\neg S) + (B)(S)$$

## Mystery Circuit #3

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, S
- One 1-bit output, labeled Out

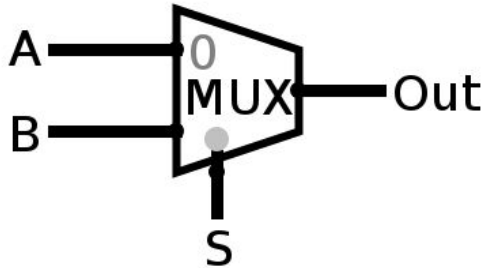


A	B	S	Out
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	1

$$\text{Out} = (A)(\neg S) + (B)(S)$$

# Mystery Circuit #3: Multiplexer (MUX)

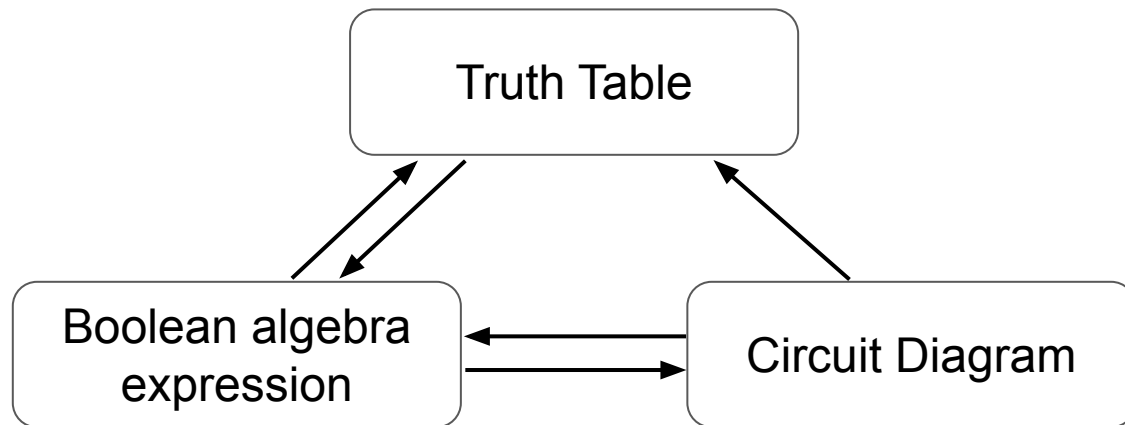
- Intuitively:
  - If S is 0, output the value in A.
  - If S is 1, output the value in B.
  - S is the “select” bit
- Usually drawn like this:



A	B	S	Out
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	1	1	1

$$\text{Out} = (A)(\neg S) + (B)(S)$$

# Converting Between Representations



Now, we can convert truth tables to algebraic expressions.

# Adders

# 32-bit Adder

- Inputs:
  - 32-bit input A
  - 32-bit input B
- Outputs:
  - 32-bit output Sum
- How many rows in the truth table?
  - $2^{32}$  possible inputs for each of A and B
  - $2^{64}$  possible inputs in total
- Can we build this more efficiently?
  - Yes - connect smaller building blocks together!

# 1-bit Adder

How do we add binary numbers by hand?

$$\begin{array}{rcccc} & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ + & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



# 1-bit Adder

Consider the inputs and outputs in one column:

	(1)	(1)	(0)	
	0	0	1	0
+	0	1	1	1
<hr/>				
	1	0	0	1

Inputs:

- 0, 1: Bits being added
- (1): Carry-in bit

Outputs:

- 0: Sum
- (1): Carry-out bit

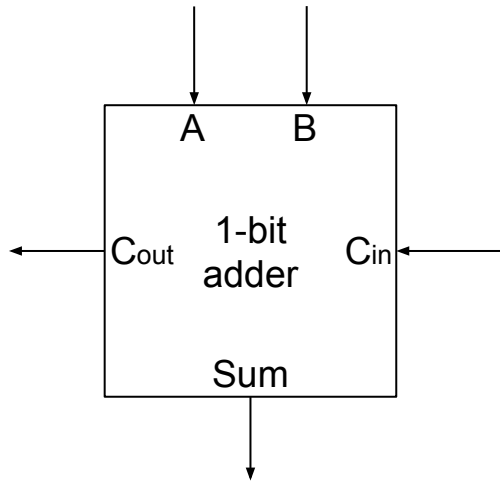
# 1-bit Adder

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C<sub>in</sub>
- Two 1-bit outputs, labeled Sum and C<sub>out</sub>

A	B	C <sub>in</sub>	Sum	C <sub>out</sub>
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1	1

# 1-bit Adder

- Three 1-bit inputs, labeled A, B, C<sub>in</sub>
- Two 1-bit outputs, labeled Sum and C<sub>out</sub>



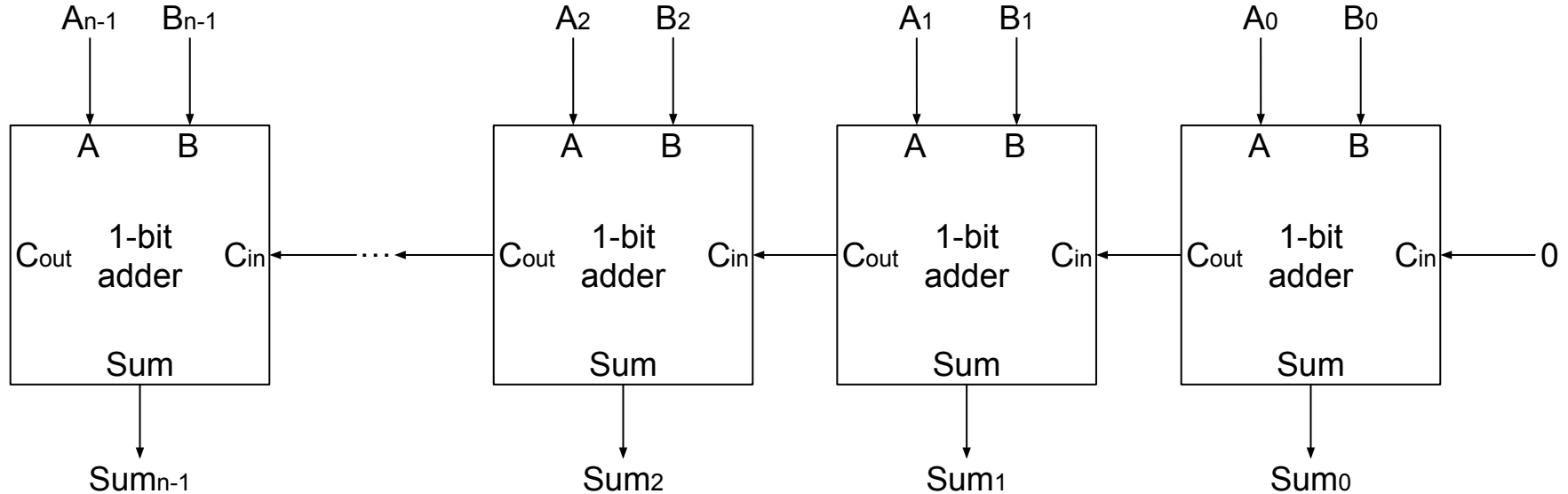
A	B	C <sub>in</sub>	Sum	C <sub>out</sub>
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1	1

$$C_{out} = BC_{in} + AC_{in} + AB$$

$$Sum = A \oplus B \oplus C_{in}$$

# $n$ -bit Adder

- Idea: Chain  $n$  1-bit adders together to add  $n$ -bit numbers together



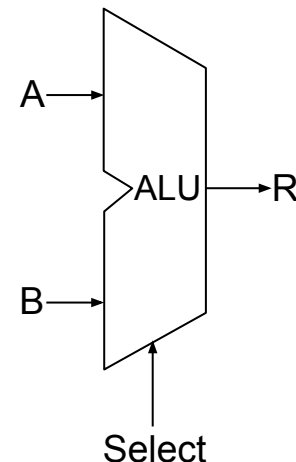
# Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)

# Why Build an ALU?

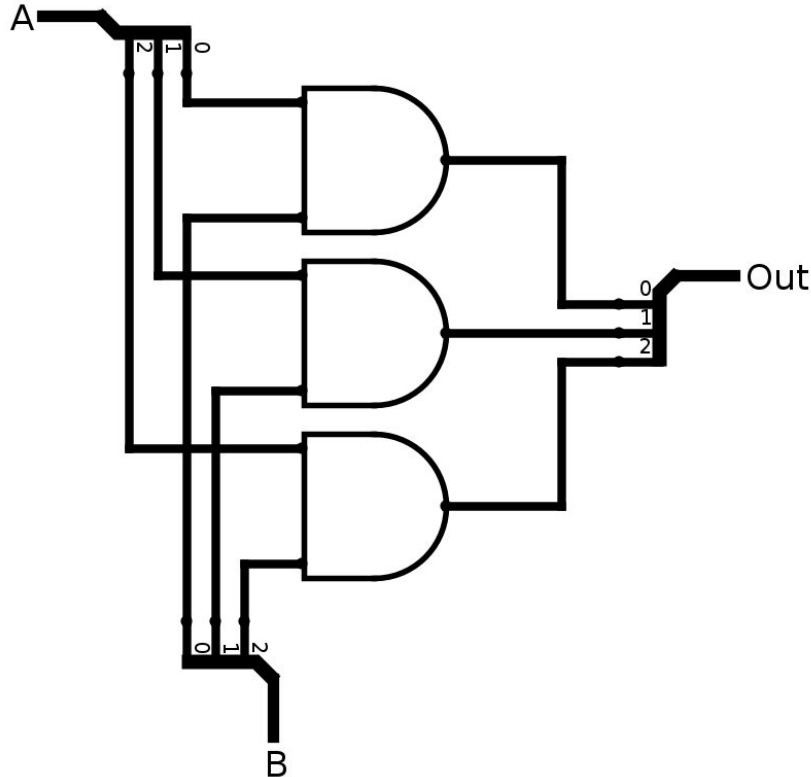
- Starting Wednesday, we'll be building a circuit to execute RISC-V instructions
- In that circuit, we need logic to compute arithmetic operations
  - Examples: Addition, subtraction, AND, OR, XOR, bit-shifting, etc.
- Today, we'll build a simplified circuit that computes four arithmetic operations:
  - Addition, AND, OR, XOR
  - Use a "select" input to choose which operation to perform
- In Project 3A, you'll build a circuit that performs all the arithmetic operations we need

# ALU Design Specifications

- Inputs:
  - 32-bit input A
  - 32-bit input B
  - 2-bit operation selector S
- Outputs:
  - 32-bit result R
- Behavior:
  - If  $S=0b00$ , set  $R=A+B$  (addition)
  - If  $S=0b01$ , set  $R=A \& B$  (bitwise AND)
  - If  $S=0b10$ , set  $R=A \mid B$  (bitwise OR)
  - If  $S=0b11$ , set  $R=A \wedge B$  (bitwise XOR)



## ALU Design: Splitting Bits



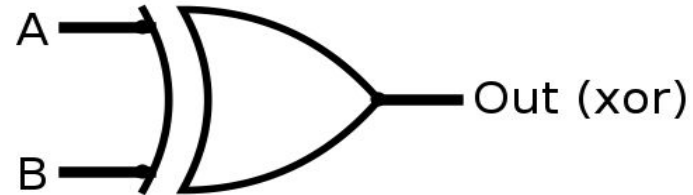
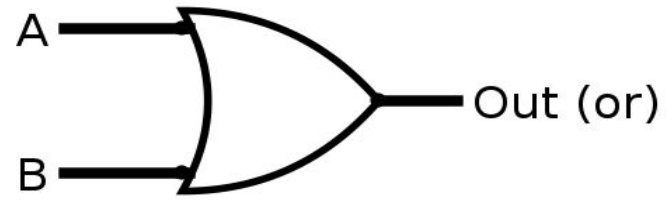
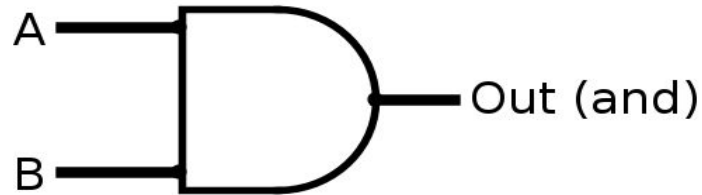
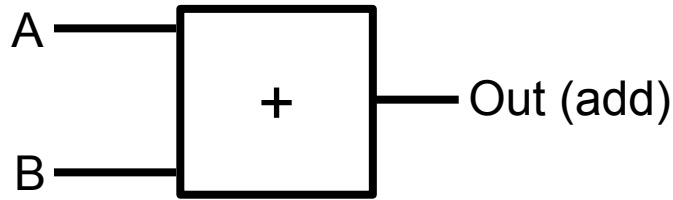
We can split longer inputs into smaller sets of bits to perform operations on.

Example: A and B are 3-bit inputs. We split them into individual bits to perform a 3-bit bitwise AND, then recombine the results for the output.

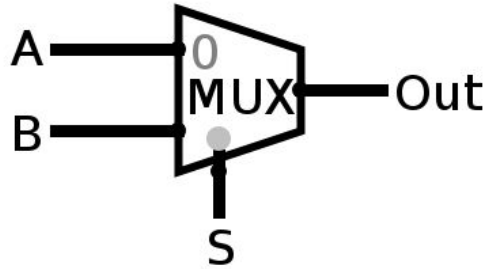


# ALU Design: Arithmetic Operations

- Use logic gates we've seen today to implement the four arithmetic operations
  - 32-bit adder: Chain 32 1-bit adders together
  - 32-bit AND, OR, XOR gates: Split input and perform bitwise operations on each bit



## ALU Design: Selecting Operations

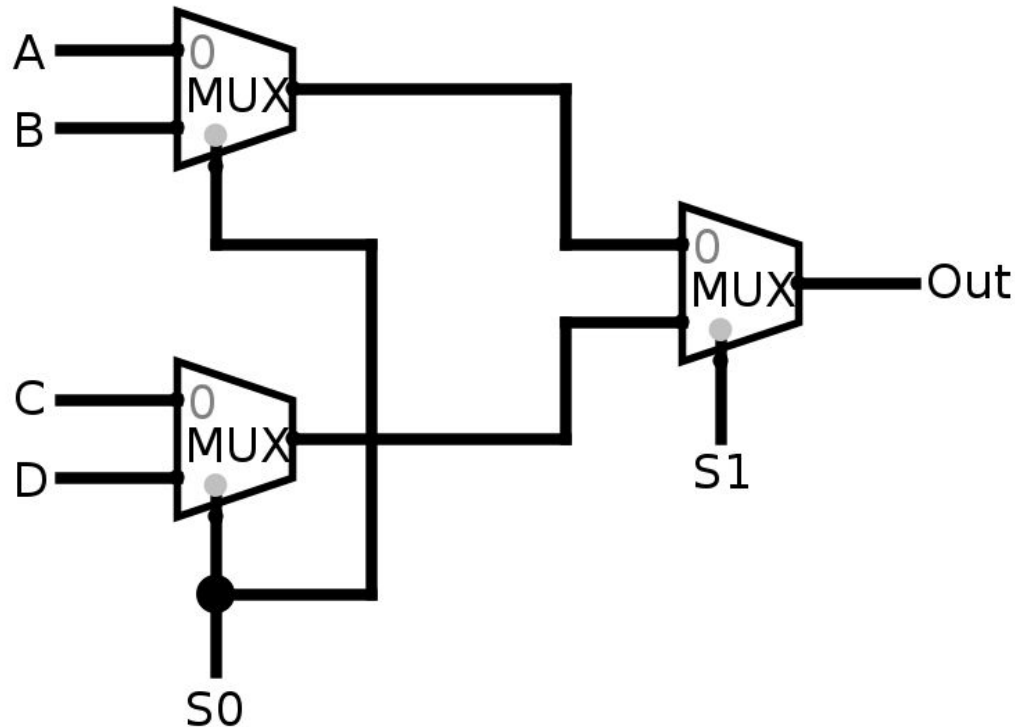


Recall the multiplexer (mux):  
select one of two inputs, based  
on a select bit.

How can we make a 4-to-1 mux  
(select one of four inputs)?

How many select bits do we  
need for a 4-to-1 mux?

## ALU Design: 4-to-1 mux



S = 0b00: Choose A

S = 0b01: Choose B

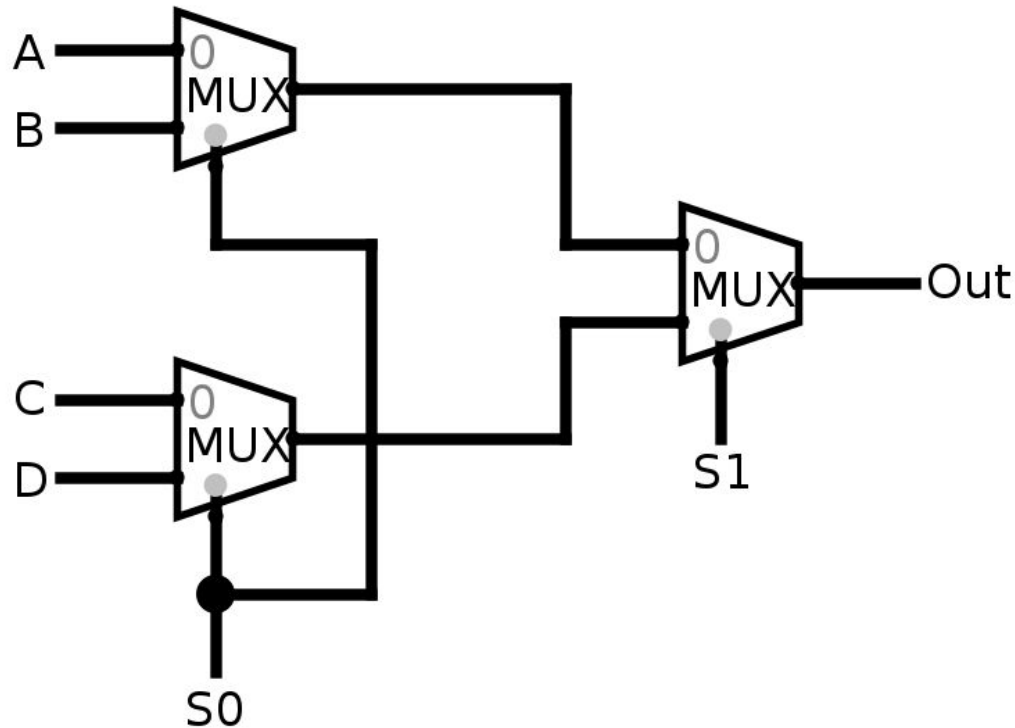
S = 0b10: Choose C

S = 0b11: Choose D

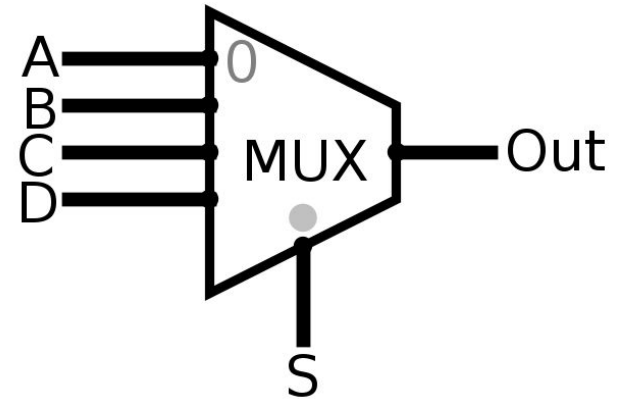
Lower bit of S (S0)  
chooses A/C or B/D.

Upper bit of S (S1)  
chooses A/B or C/D.

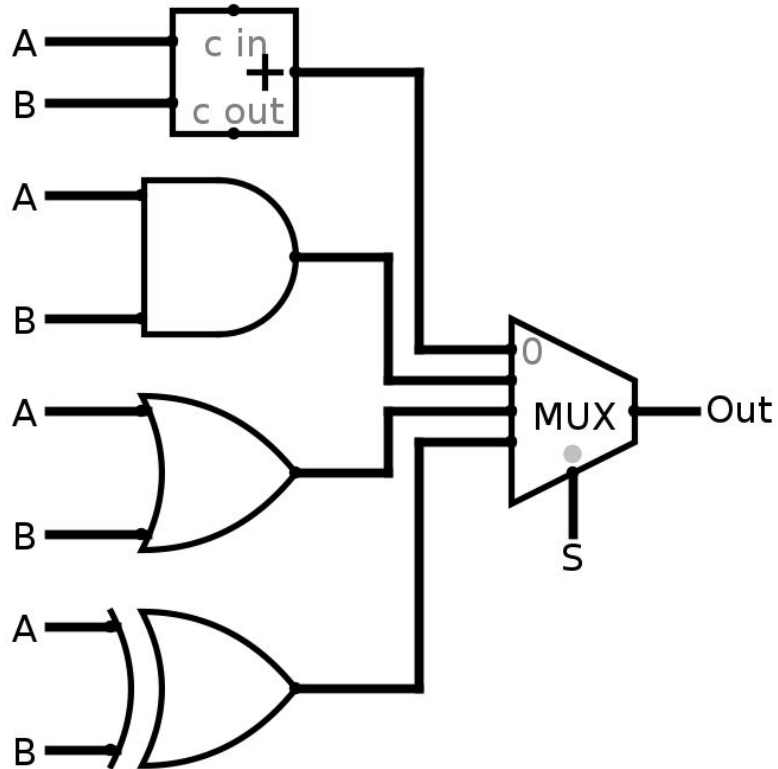
## ALU Design: 4-to-1 mux



Sometimes drawn like this:



# ALU Circuit



Idea: Compute all four operations, and use the mux to select one to output

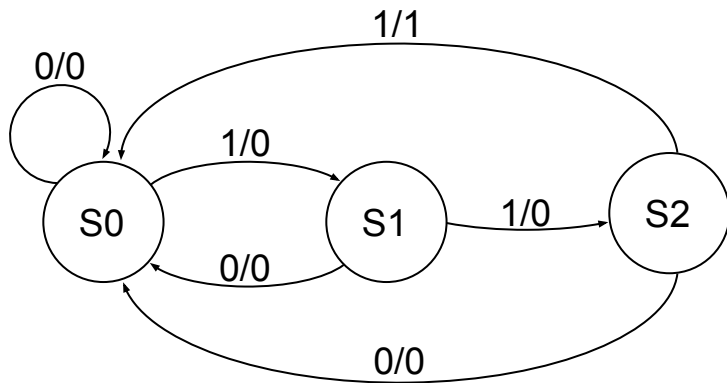
# Finite State Machines

# Finite State Machines (FSMs)

- An FSM consists of:
  - A set of states
  - A transition function:  $f(\text{current state, input}) \rightarrow \text{next state, output}$
- To run an FSM, repeat these steps:
  - Receive an input
  - Based on current state and input, move to the next state and generate an output

# FSM: State Transition Diagram

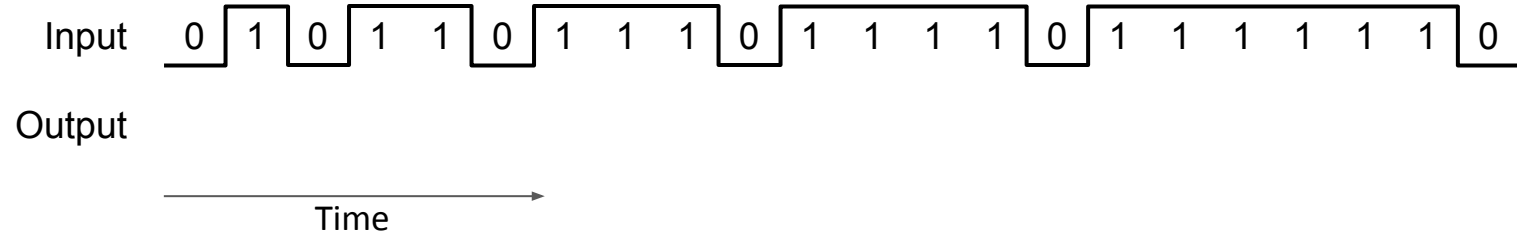
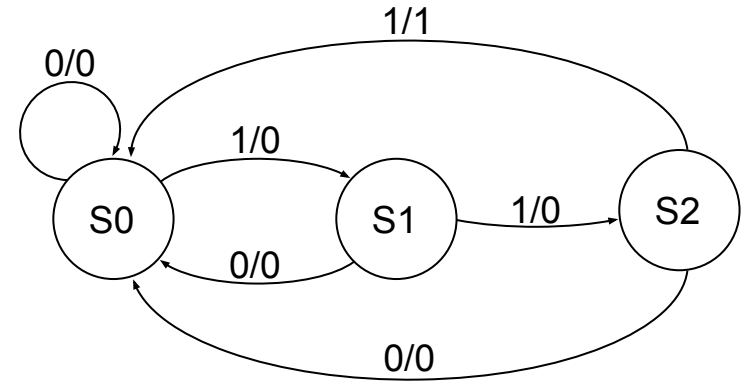
- S0, S1, S2 are the states
- Each arrow represents a transition
  - Arrow from current state to next state
  - Left label on arrow is the input
  - Right label on arrow is the output
- Example of arrow transition:
  - Arrow from S0 to S1, labeled 1/0
  - If you're at state S0 and receive input 1, then move to state S1, and output 0
- Example of arrow transition:
  - Arrow from S2 to S0, labeled 1/1
  - If you're at state S2 and receive input 1, then move to state S0, and output 1





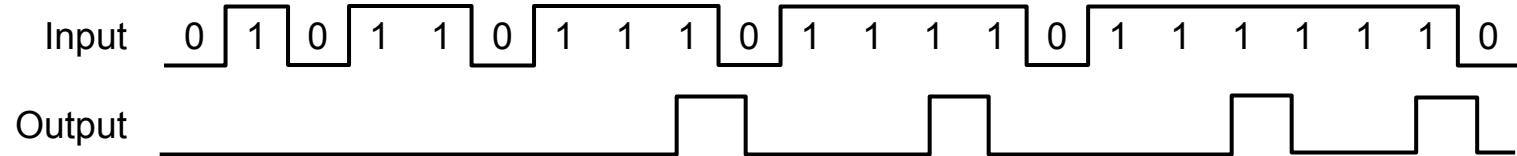
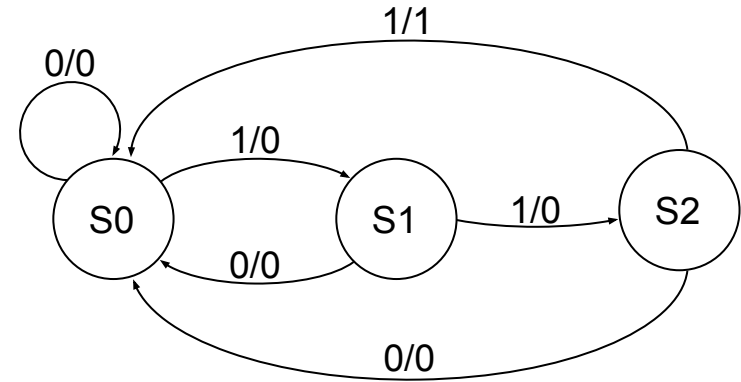
# FSM: Waveform

Given this state transition diagram and input signal, what is the output signal?



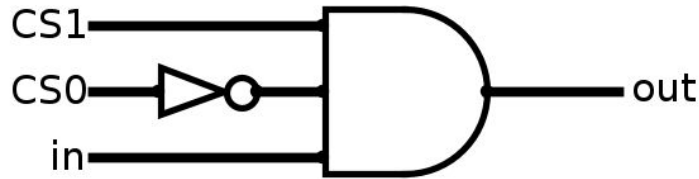
# FSM: Waveform

What pattern in the input is this FSM detecting?



# FSM: Transition Function Circuit

- Transition function is combinational logic with:
  - Two inputs: current state (CS) and input (in)
  - Two outputs: next state (NS) and output (out)
  - Each state is labeled with a unique binary number



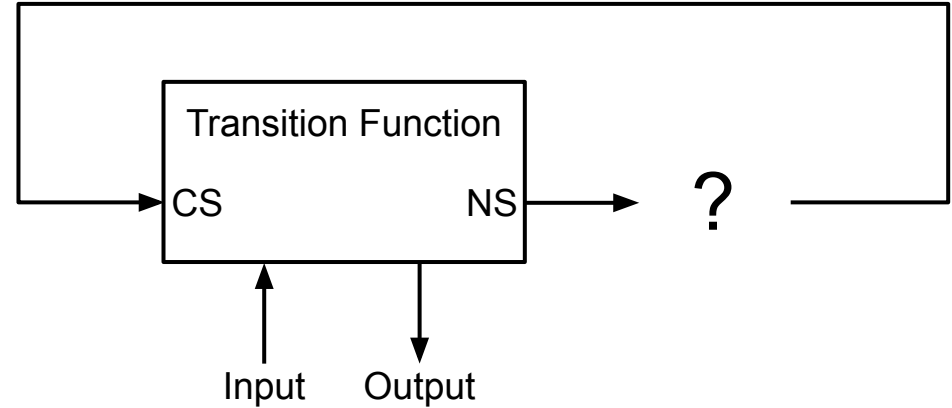
You can also derive a circuit and Boolean algebra expression for the other two outputs, NS0 and NS1.

CS	in	NS	out
00	0	00	0
00	1	01	0
01	0	00	0
01	1	10	0
10	0	00	0
10	1	00	1

$$\text{out} = (\text{CS1})(\neg\text{CS0})(\text{in})$$

# FSM: State

How do we differentiate  
between timesteps?  
How do we “save” which  
state we’re in?



# Summary

- Logic gates can be built out of transistors
  - Hardware implementation of bitwise operations
- More complicated circuits can be built out of logic gates
- Logic gates and circuits can be represented with:
  - Circuit diagrams
  - Truth tables
  - Boolean algebra expressions
- Manipulating Boolean algebra expressions
  - Laws of Boolean algebra
  - Sum-of-products representation
- Applications of circuits
  - Arithmetic logic unit (ALU)
  - Finite State Machines (FSMs)
- Next time: How do we store values in circuits?