inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~eecs151

EECS151 : Introduction to Digital Design and ICs

Lecture 21 – Dividers, Latches

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Pentium FDIV Bug (from Wikipedia)

The Pentium FDIV bug is a hardware bug affecting the floating-point unit (FPU) of the early Intel Pentium processors. Because of the bug, the processor would return incorrect binary floating point results when dividing certain pairs of high-precision numbers. The bug was discovered in 1994 by Thomas R. Nicely, a professor of mathematics at Lynchburg College. Missing values in a lookup table used by the FPU's floating-point division algorithm led to calculations acquiring small errors. While these errors would in most use-cases only occur rarely and result in small deviations from the correct output values, in certain circumstances the errors can occur frequently and lead to more significant deviations

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Review

- Binary multipliers have three blocks:
  - Partial-product generation (NAND or Booth)
  - Partial-product compression (ripple-carry array, CSA or Wallace)
  - Final adder
- Multipliers are often pipelined
- Constant multipliers can be optimized for size/speed
- Shifters and crossbars are common building blocks in digital systems
  - Often require customization

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Dividers

3

Pencil-And-Paper Division

	1512	quotient
3 |	4537	dividend
divisor	3000	divisor*q_i*10^i
	1537	partial remainder
	1500	
	0037	
	0030	
	0007	
	0006	
	0001	remainder

Division is an iterative process:

$$r(i) = r(i+1) - q_i * D * 10^i$$

We usually 'guess' q_i

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Restoring Divider

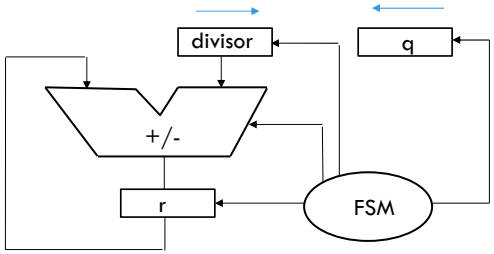
- Assume $q_i = 1$
- Subtract divisor from r; check if r(i) >= 0
  - if r(i) > 0, guess was good ($q_i = 1$)
  - if r(i) < 0, restore the value by adding divisor, $q_i = 0$
- Shift divisor to right
- Repeat *n* times

n shifts

n subtractions

n/2 restorations

More efficient to shift the reminder right



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Non-Restoring Divider

- Doesn't restore if r(i) < 0
- Instead, adds the divisor in the next iteration
  - *n* shifts
  - *n* additions/subtractions

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Faster Dividers

- Divide in a higher radix than 2 (typically 4, i.e. guess $q_i q_{i+1}$)
- Keep the partial remainders in redundant form
- Sweeney-Robertson-Tocher (SRT) algorithm
  - Used in many processors

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Timing

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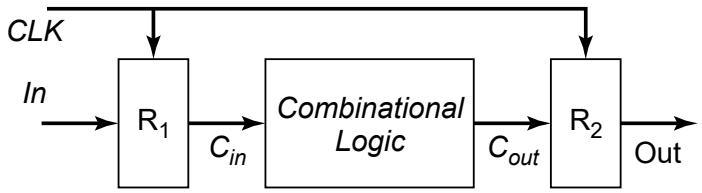
Synchronous Timing: Review



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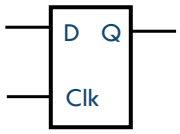
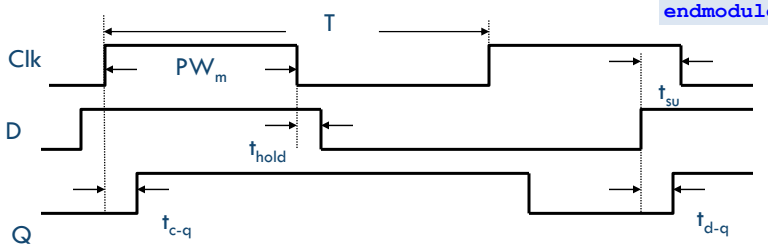
Latch Parameters

- Latch is transparent high or low

```
module latch
(
   input clk,
   input d,
   output reg q
);

  always @(clk or d)
  begin
    if ( clk )
      q <= d;
  end
endmodule
```





Delays can be different for rising and falling data transitions

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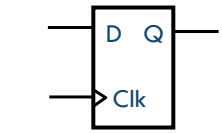
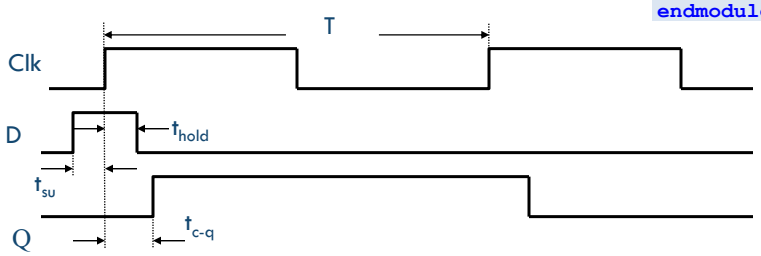
Flip-Flop Parameters

- Flip-flop is edge-triggered

```
module flipflop
(
   input clk,
   input d,
   output reg q
);

  always @(posedge clk)
  begin
    q <= d;
  end
endmodule
```





Delays can be different for rising and falling data transitions

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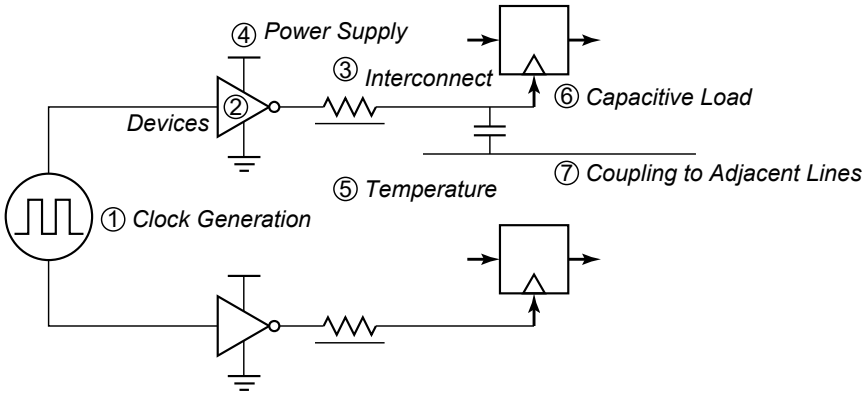
Clock Uncertainties

- Clock arrival time varies in space and time



Sources of clock uncertainty

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Clock Nonidealities

- Clock skew
  - Spatial variation in temporally equivalent clock edges; deterministic + random, t_{SK}
- Clock jitter
  - Temporal variations in consecutive edges of the clock signal; modulation + random noise
  - Cycle-to-cycle (short-term) t_{JS}
  - (there also exists long-term jitter t_{JL})
- Variation of the pulse width
  - Important for level sensitive clocking with latches

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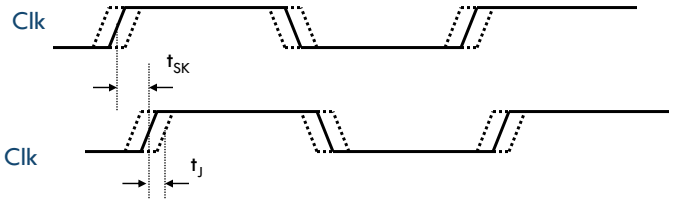
Clock Skew and Jitter

- Both skew and jitter affect the effective cycle time
- Only clock distribution skew affects the race margin



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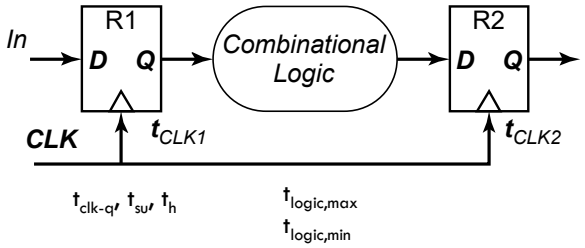
Timing Constraints

- First flip-flop launches data on the first clock edge, the second one captures on the second clock edge



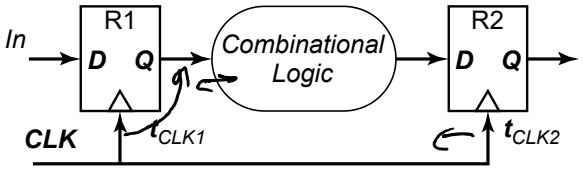
Minimum cycle time is set by the longest logic path:

$T - t_{sk} - t_j = t_{c-q} + t_{su} + t_{logic,max}$

Worst case is when receiving edge arrives early

Timing Constraints

- Launching flip-flop shoudn't contaminate its own data



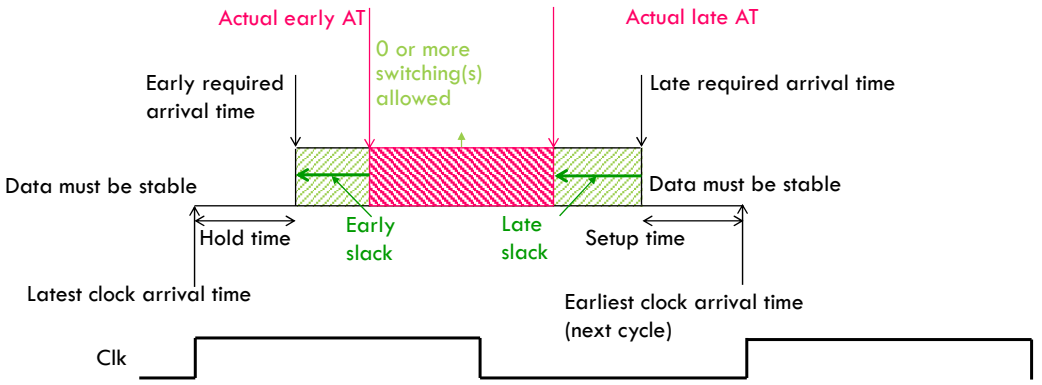
Hold time constraint:

$t_{c-q} + t_{logic,\ min} > t_{hold} + t_{sk}$

Worst case is when receiving edge arrives late
Race between data and clock

Slack

- Visualizing arrival times



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Timing Analysis

- Report timing

```
Startpoint: dig_agc_0/int_term_reg_0_
              (rising edge-triggered flip-flop clocked by clk_agc)
  Endpoint: dig_agc_0/int_term_reg_0_
            (rising edge-triggered flip-flop clocked by clk_agc)

Point                                                 Fanout  Derate  Incr       Path      Voltage
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
clock clk_agc (rise edge)                                      0.00       0.00
clock source latency                                           3.13       3.13 r
timing_control_0/C1276/Y (AND2X3)                              0.00       3.13 r    3.00
timing_control_0/o_clk_agc (net)                    2          0.00       3.13 r
dig_agc_0/BUFX8_G6B1I2/A (BUFX8)                               0.00 &     3.13 r    3.00
dig_agc_0/o_clk_agc_G6B1I2 (net)                    15         0.00       3.91 r
dig_agc_0/int_term_reg_0_/CP (SDFFCQX2)                        0.01 &     3.92 r    3.00
…

clock reconvergence pessimism                                  0.00       3.92
clock uncertainty                                                      0.10       4.02
dig_agc_0/int_term_reg_0_/CP (SDFFCQX2)                        0.00       4.02 r
library hold time                                             -0.48       3.54
data required time                                                       3.54
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
data required time                                                       3.54
data arrival time                                                       -5.57
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
slack (MET)                                                              2.03
```


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Administrivia

- Midterm 2 scores released
  - Final can clobber either midterm!
- Homework 9 posted on Friday, due 11/15
  - One more homework before Thanksgiving
- Project checkpoints #2 this week
- Thursday is a holiday (Veterans' Day)

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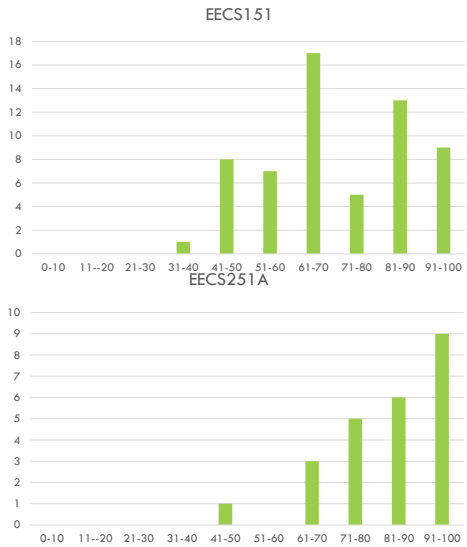
Midterm 2

- EECS151
  - Max: 60.5/61
  - Average: 42.7/61 (70%)
- EECS251A
  - Max: 71/71
  - Average: 59.2/71 (83%)



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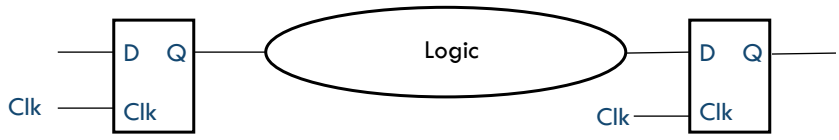
Latch-Based Timing

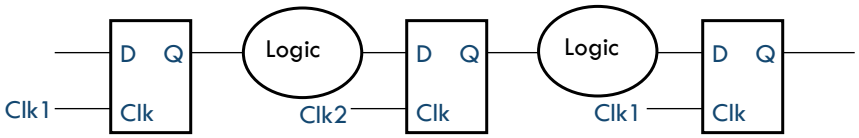
Latch-Based Timing

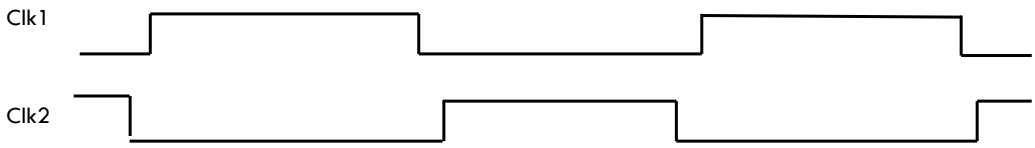
- Is there a possible timing problem in this path?



Latch-Based Timing

- Two clock phases





- Two consecutive latches are never transparent at the same time
  - Conservative

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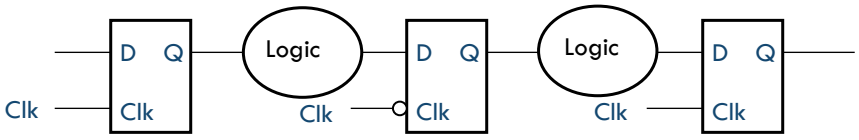
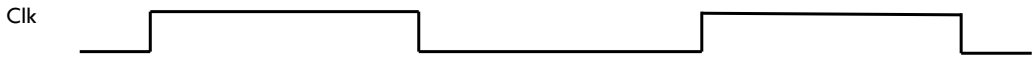
Latch-Based Timing

- Single clock phase





- Possibility of a race condition
  - Needs timing analysis (EE241B/EECS251B)

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Latches

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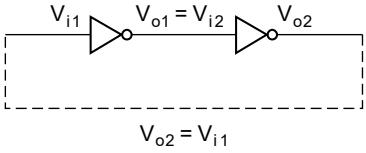
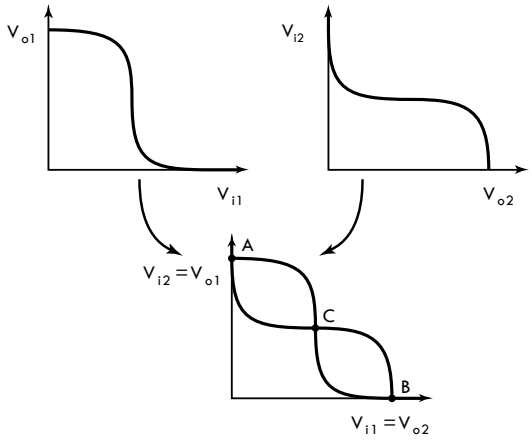
Cross-Coupled Inverter

- Positive feedback stores the data





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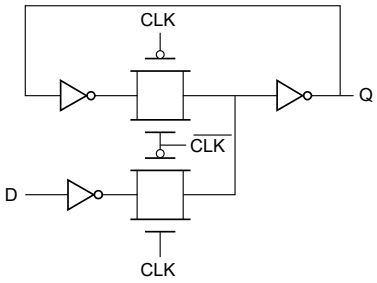
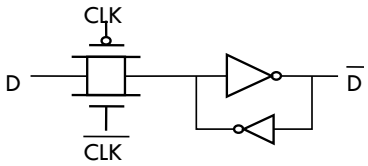
Writing into a Static Latch

Use the clock as a control signal (to break the positive feedback), that distinguishes between the transparent and opaque states



Converting into a MUX



Forcing the state (functionality depends on sizing)

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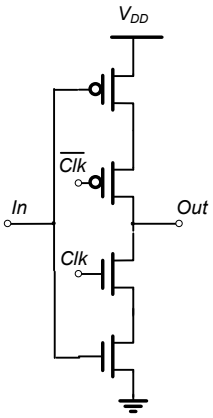
Tri-State Inverter

- Out is Z when Clk=0
- Latch



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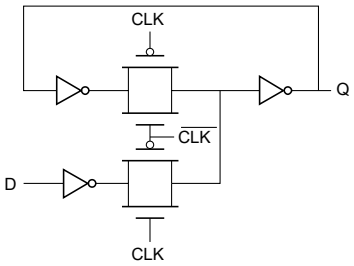
Clk-Q Delay



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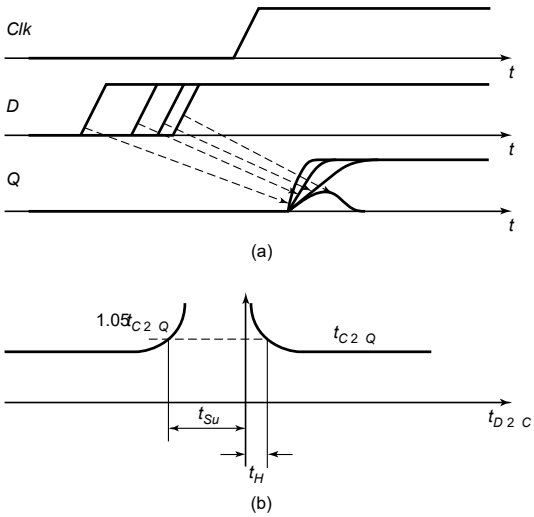
Setup and Hold Times



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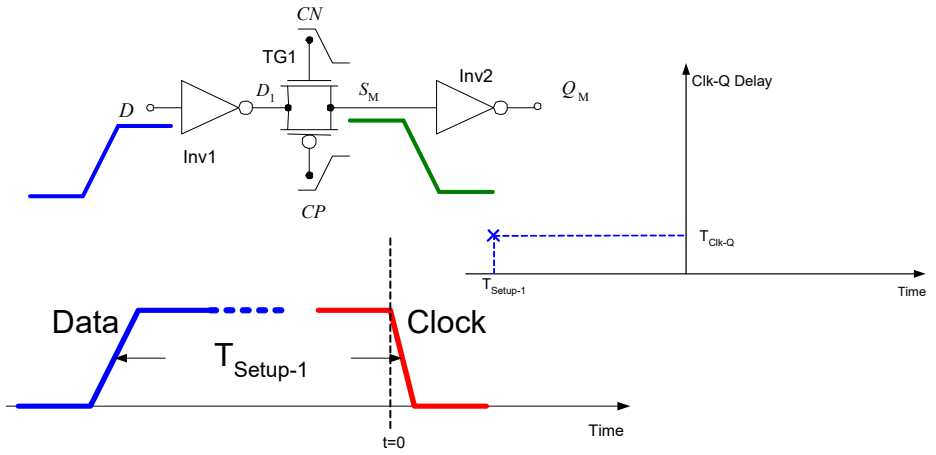
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Circuit before clock arrival (Setup-1 case)



Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

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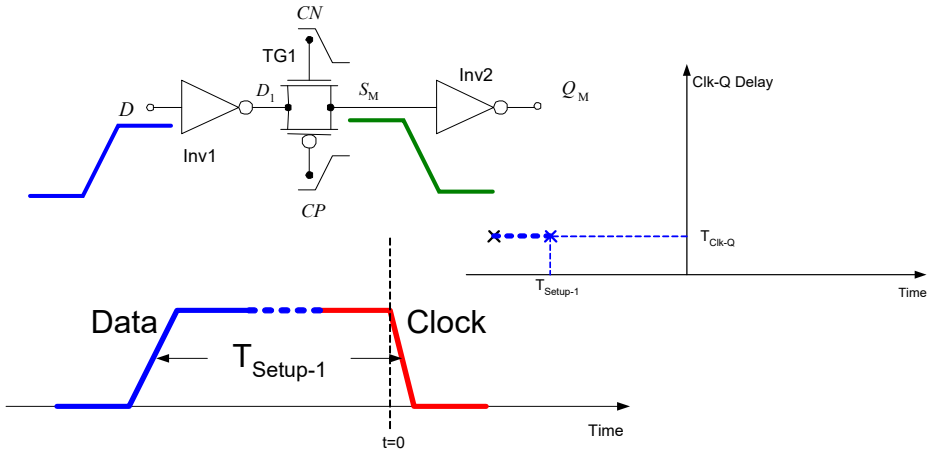

Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

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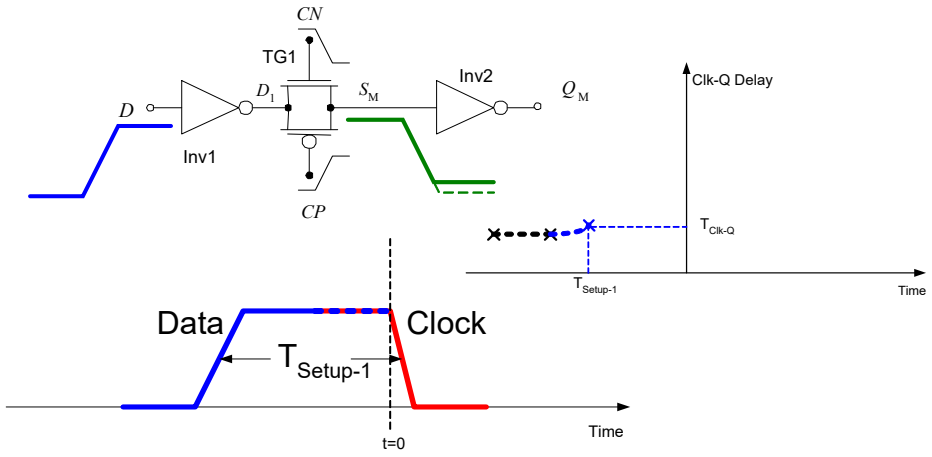

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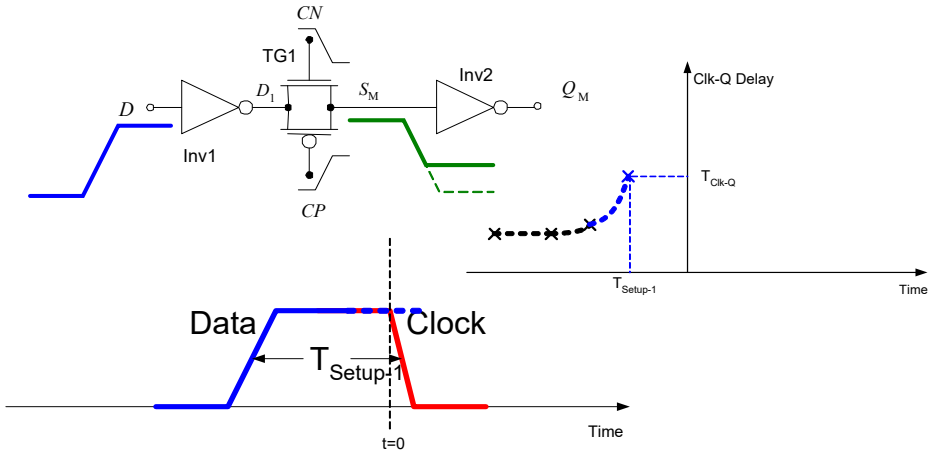
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Circuit before clock arrival (Setup-1 case)



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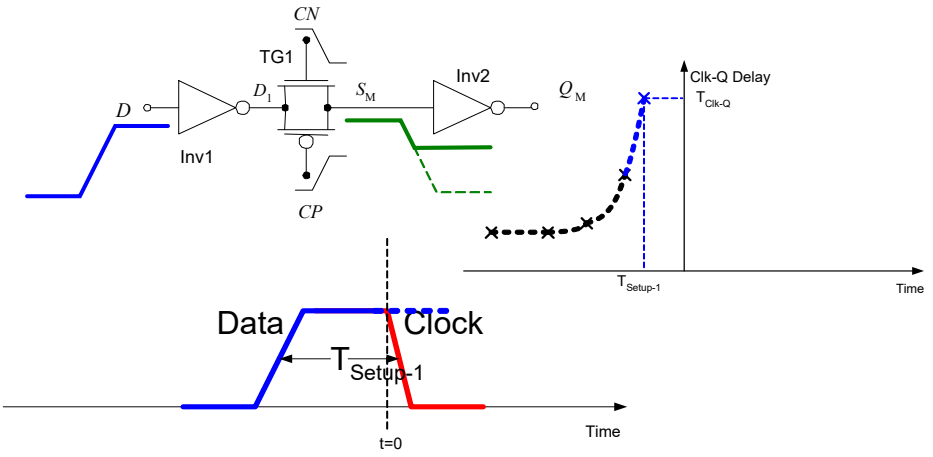
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Circuit before clock arrival (Setup-1 case)



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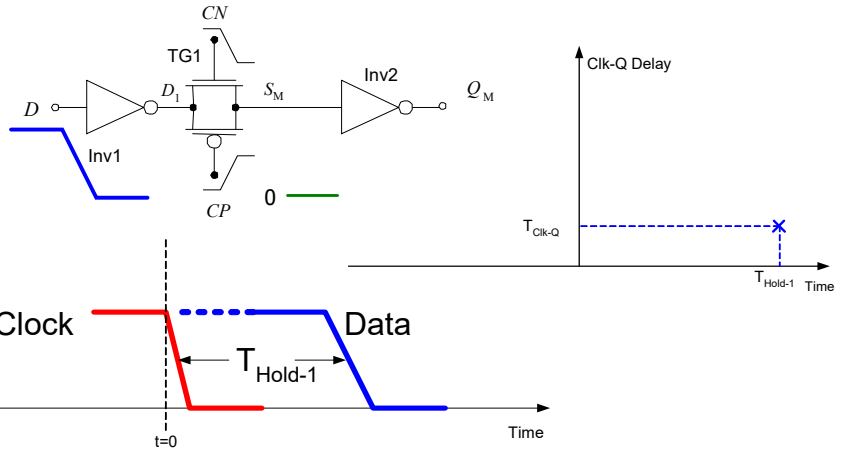
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Hold-1 case



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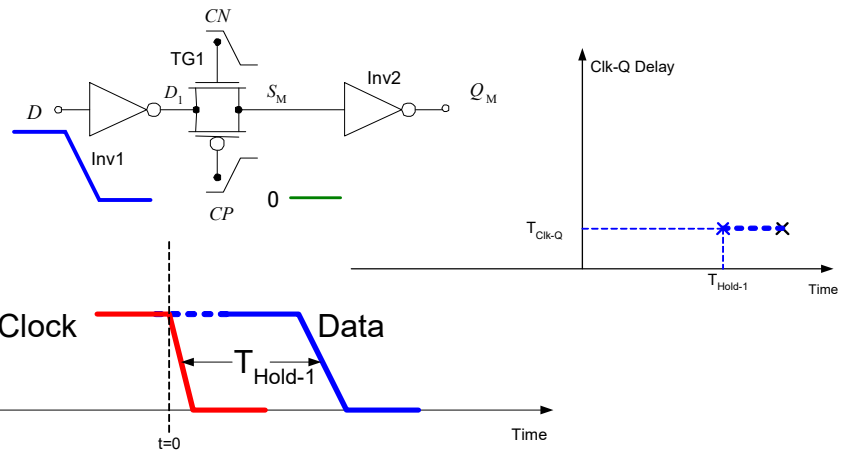
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Hold-1 case



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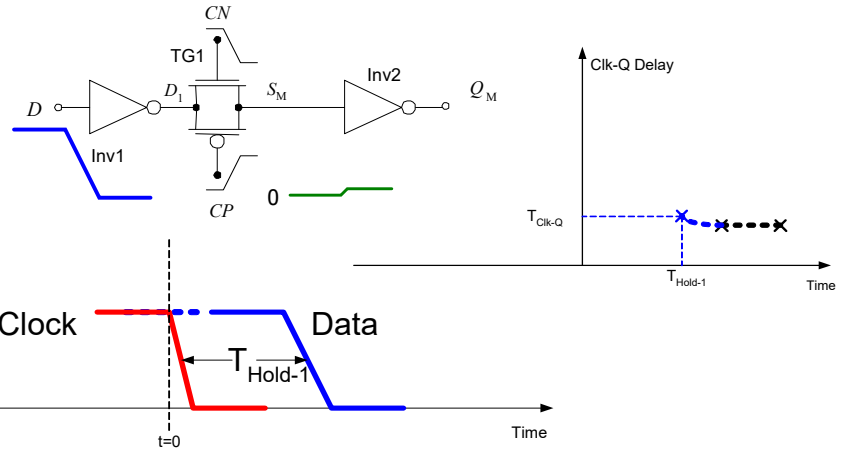
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Hold-1 case



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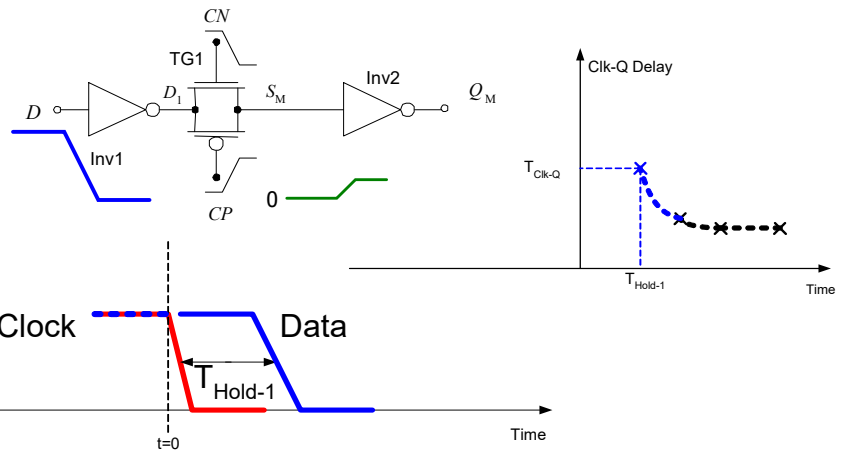
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Hold-1 case



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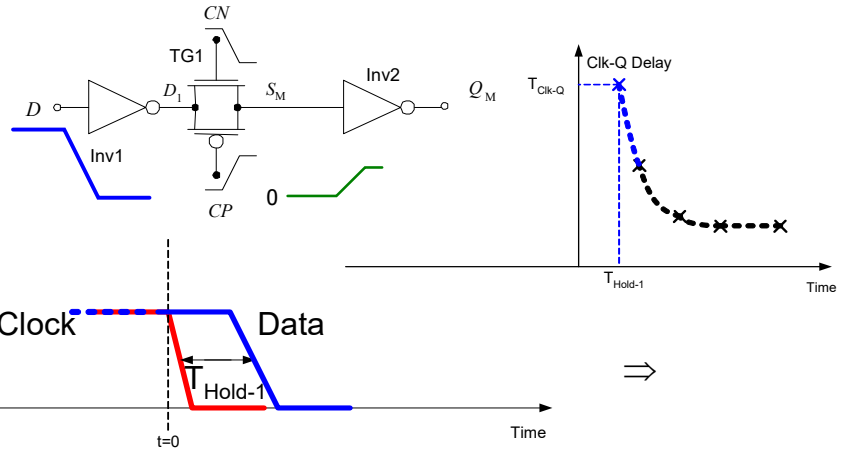
Setup-Hold Time Illustrations

Hold-1 case



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Flip-Flops

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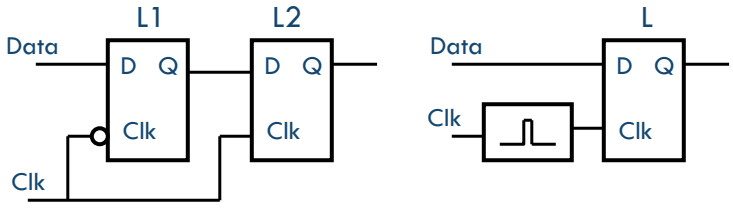
Types of Flip-Flops

Latch Pair
(Master-Slave)

Pulse-Triggered Latch



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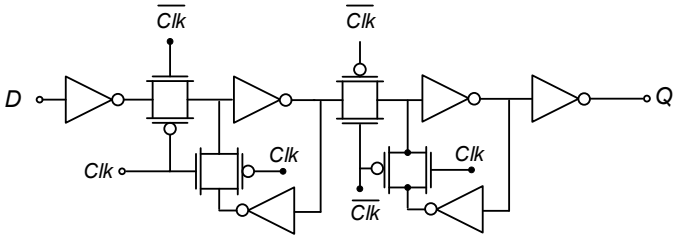
Transmission Gate Flip-Flop

- Two back-to-back latches



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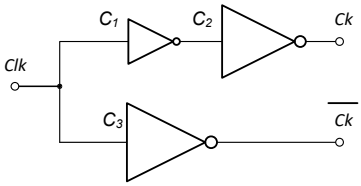
Aside: Inverter Fork

- Often found in flip-flops: equalize Ck, Ckb delays
  - Logical effort = ?



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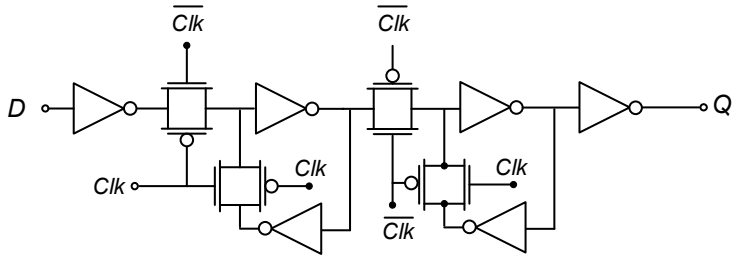
Clk-Q, Setup and Hold Times



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Review

- Binary division is a slow, iterative process
- Non-restoring division speeds it up
- SRT divider, higher radix, redundant number representation
- Timing analysis for early and late signal arrivals
- Flip-flop-based pipelines are a lot easier to analyze than latch-based ones
- Latches are based on positive feedback
- Clk-Q delay calculated similarly to combinational logic
- Setup, hold defined as D-Clk times that correspond to Clk-Q delay increases
- Flip-flop is typically a latch pair

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