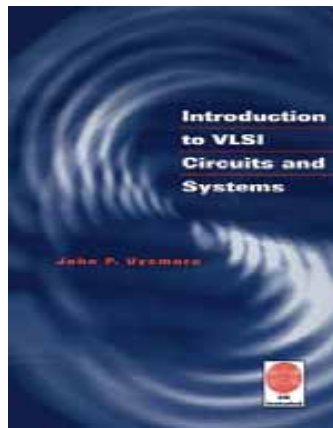National Chin-Yi University of Technology

Introduction to VLSI Circuits and Systems
積體電路概論

Chapter 13
Memory and Programmable Logic

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Dept. of Electronic Engineering

National Chin-Yi University of Technology

Fall 2007

Outline

- **The Static RAM**
- SRAM Arrays
- Dynamic RAM
- ROM Arrays
- Logic Arrays

Static Random Access Memory, SRAM

□ SRAM : cells use a simple bi-stable circuit to hold a data bit

    » Three states: hold, write, and read operations
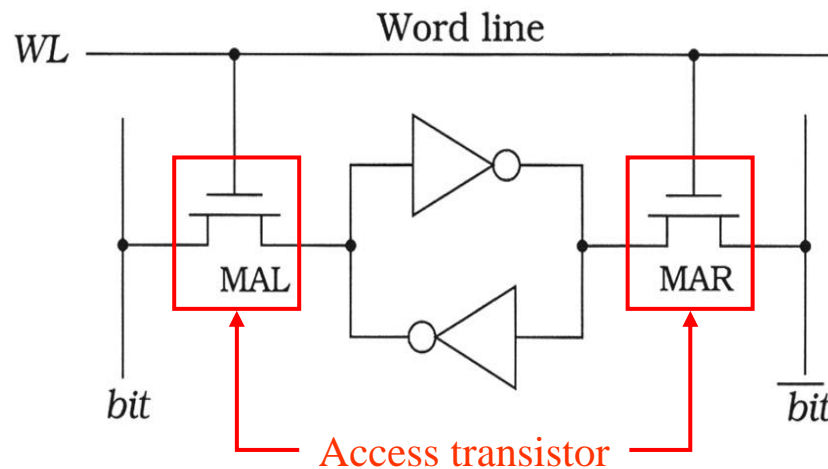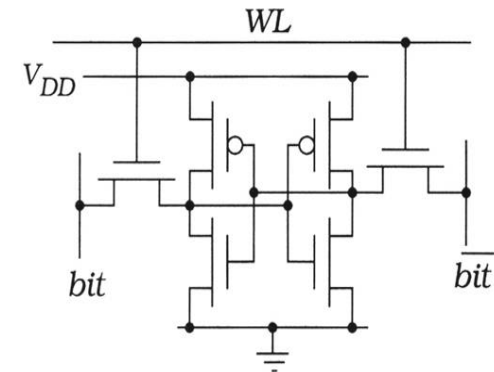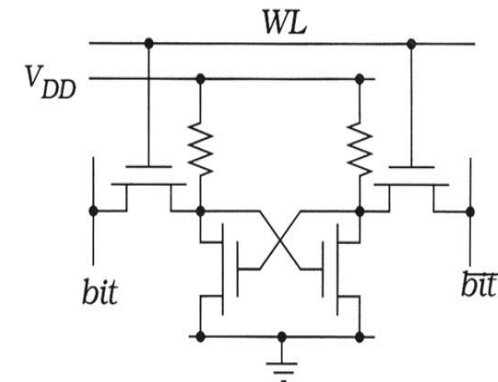
    » Access transistors (NMOS) provide *W/R* operations

(a) 6T cell

Figure 13.1 General SRAM cell

(b) 4T cell with poly resistors

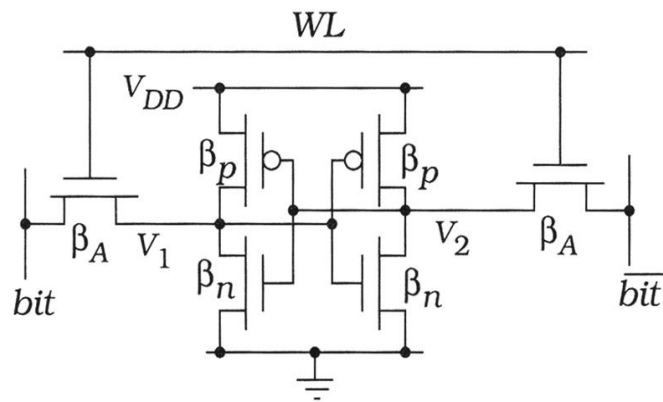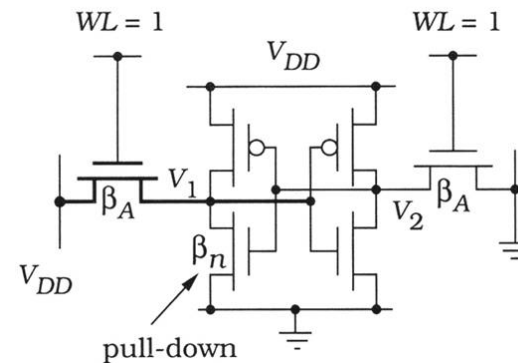Figure 13.2 CMOS SRAM circuits

SRAM (1/2)

Figure 13.3 6T SRAM cell design parameters

(a) Write 1 operation

Write 1: in worst case, $V_1 = 0$, $V_2 = V_{DD}$
$\rightarrow$ ($\beta_A / \beta_n = 2$) Why??

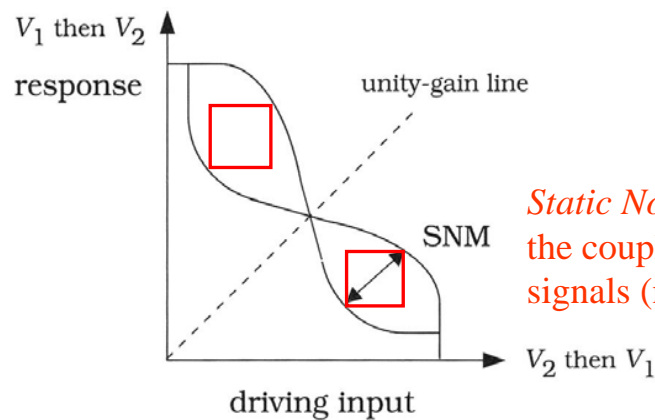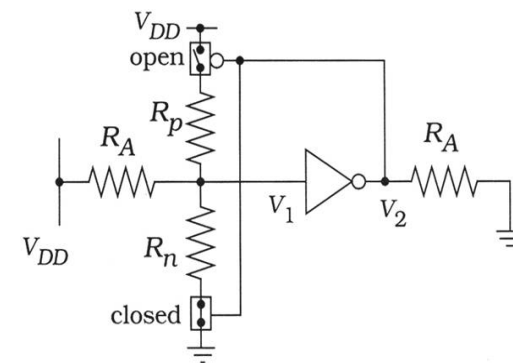$$\frac{(W/L)_{nA}}{(W/L)_n} \qquad (13.1)$$

Figure 13.4 Butterfly plot

Static Noise Margin: immunity the coupled electromagnetic signals (noise)

(b) Resistor model
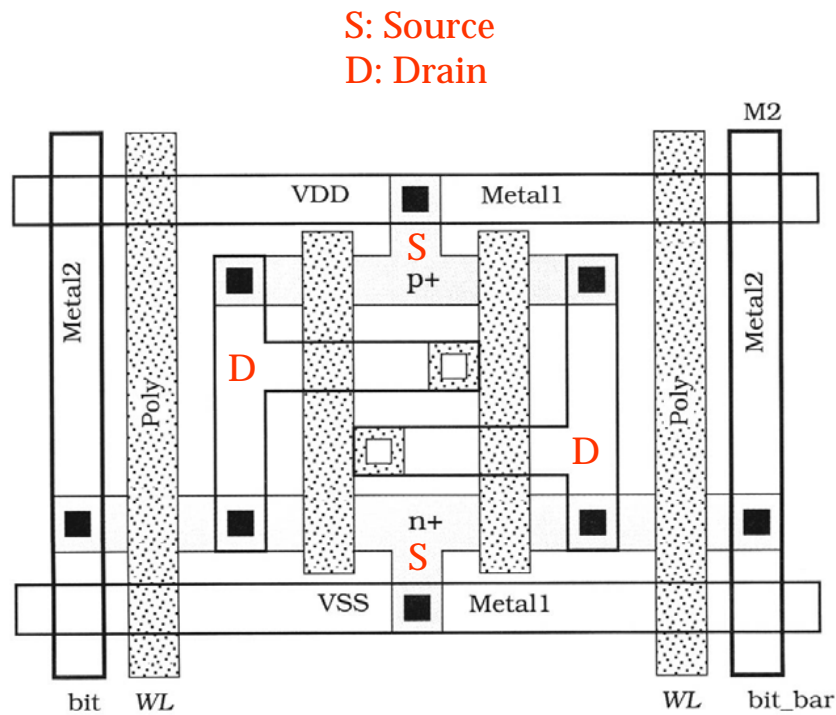
Figure 13.5 Writing to an SRAM

SRAM (2/2)

S: Source
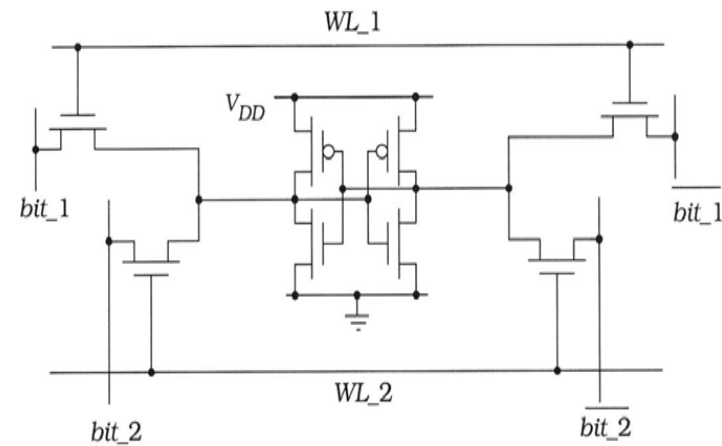D: Drain

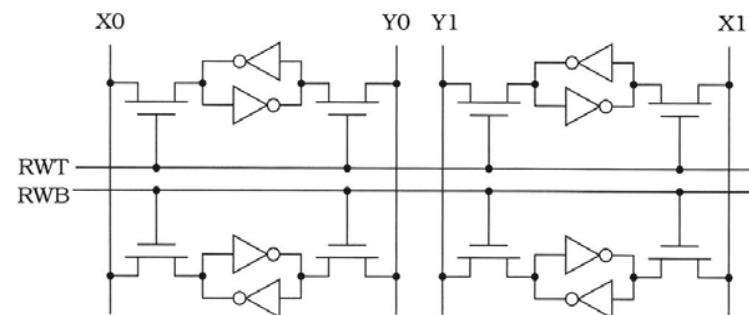Figure 13.6 Example of a basic 6-T SRAM cell layout

Figure 13.7 A 2-port CMOS SRAM cell

Figure 13.8 4-cell SRAM group

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Outline

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SRAM Arrays (1/4)
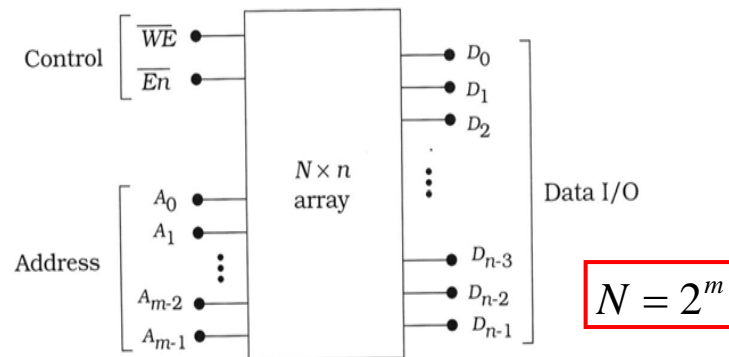
Figure 13.9 High-level view of an SRAM
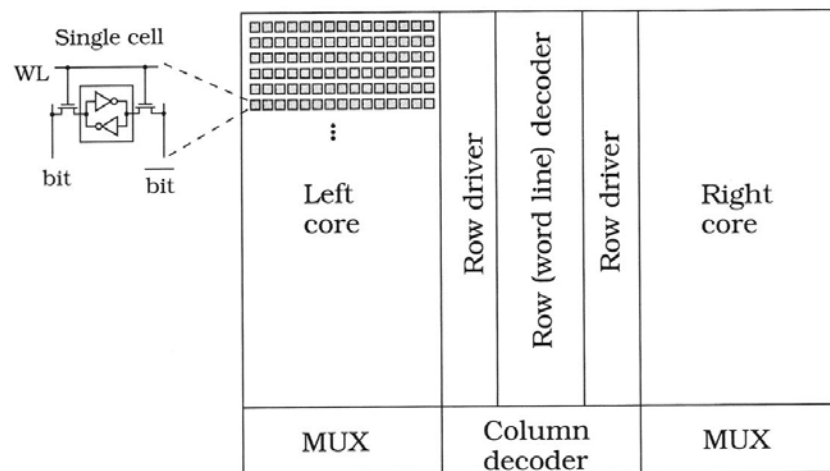
$$N = 2^m$$

Figure 13.11 Cell arrangement in a core region

Figure 13.10 Central SRAM block architecture
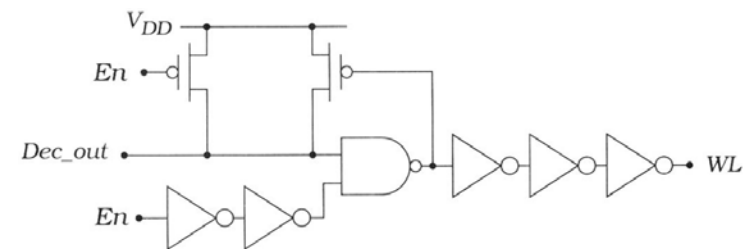
Figure 13.12 Row driver circuit

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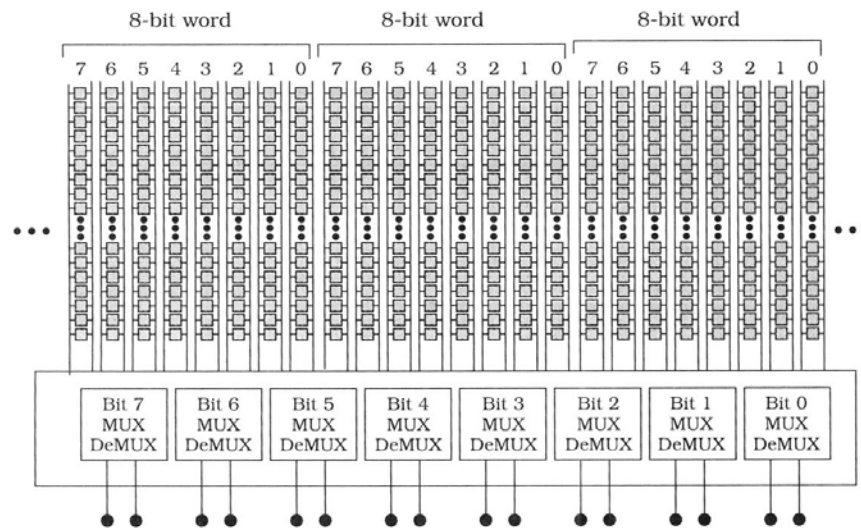
SRAM Arrays (2/4)

Figure 13.13 Column MUX/DeMUX network for 8-bit words

Figure 13.15 Basic addressing scheme
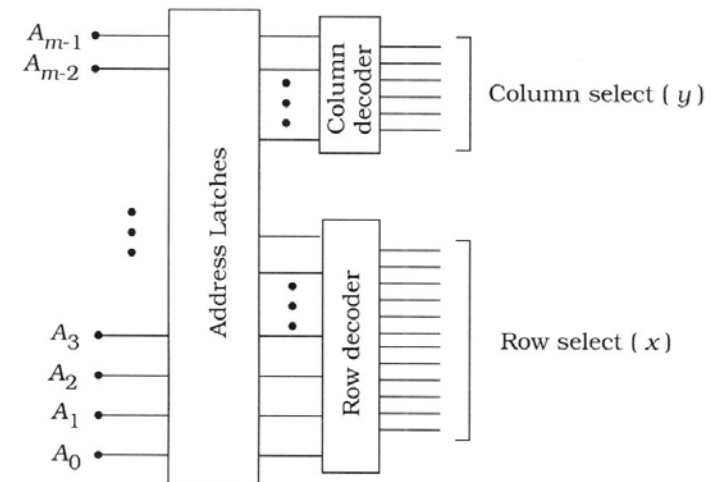
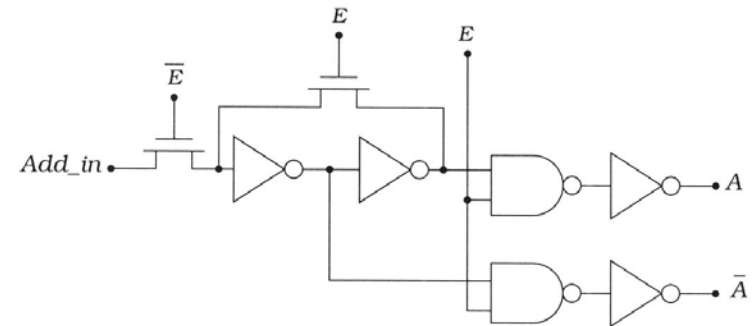

Figure 13.14 Logic 1 column driver

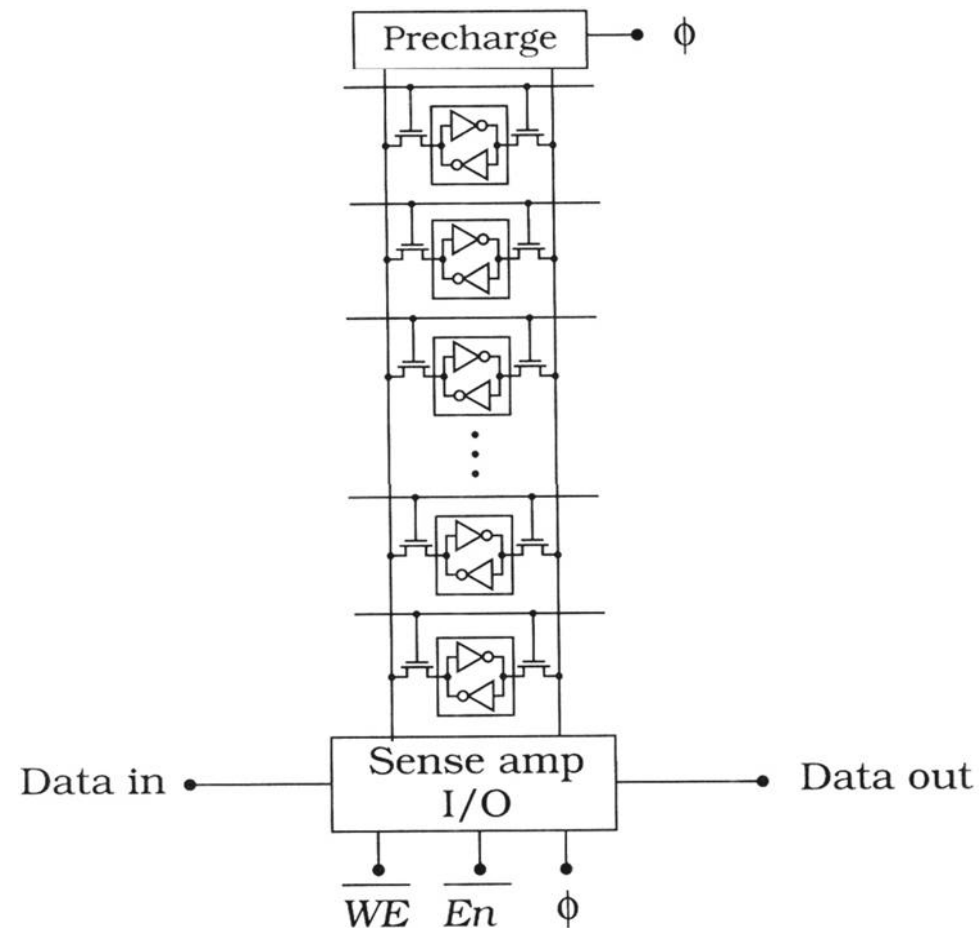Figure 13.16 Address latch circuit

SRAM Arrays (3/4)

Figure 3.17 Pre-charge and I/O circuit for a single column
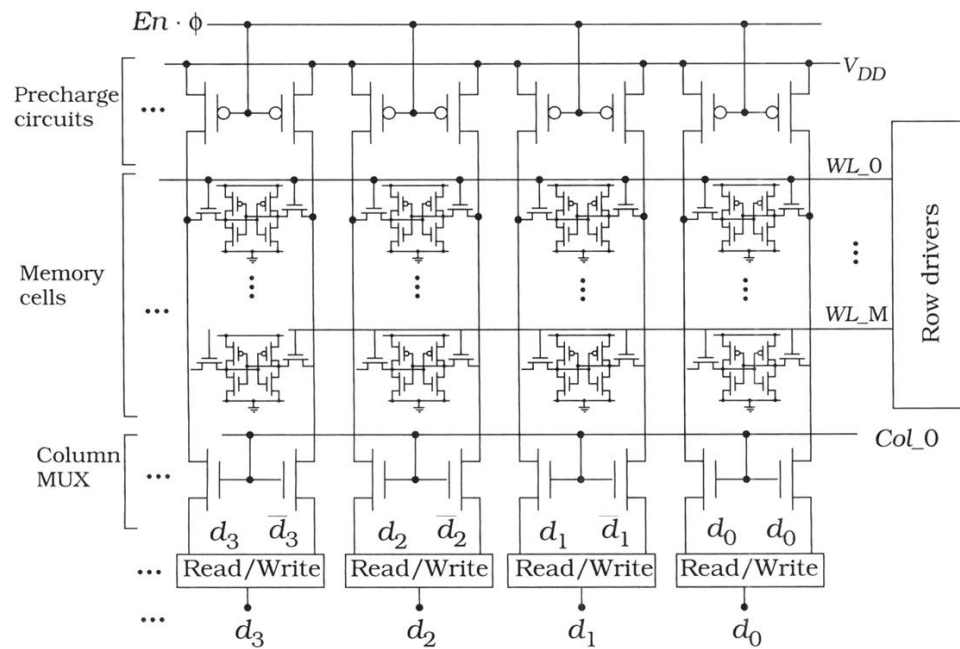
SRAM Arrays (4/4)
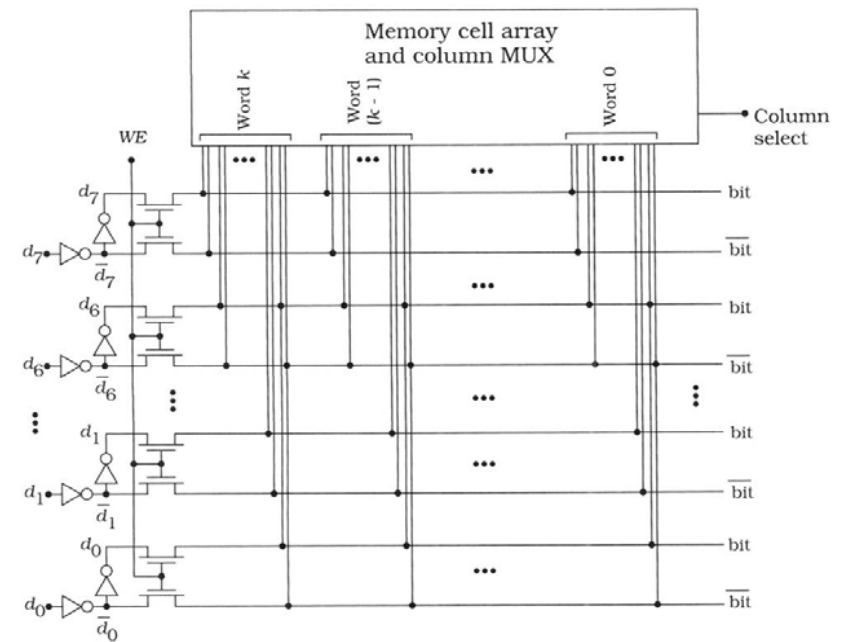

Figure 3.18 Expanded view of column circuitry

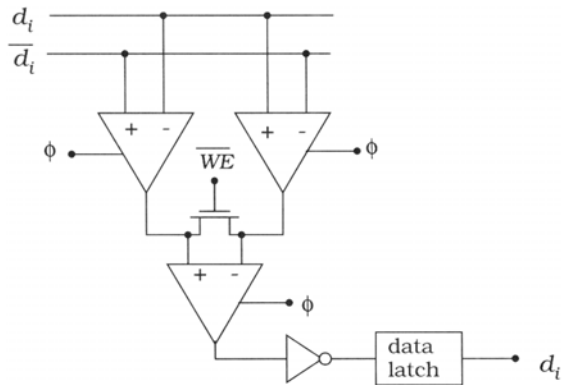
Figure 13.19 Write circuitry example

Sensing Operation

Figure 3.20 Example of a sensing scheme for the read operation

(a) Circuit diagram   (b) Current flow

Figure 3.21 Single-ended differential amplifier

$$v_d = (v^+ - v^-) \qquad (13.5)$$

$$v_{out} = Av_d = A(v^+ - v^-) \qquad (13.6)$$

$$I_{SS} = I_{D1} + I_{D2} \qquad (13.7)$$
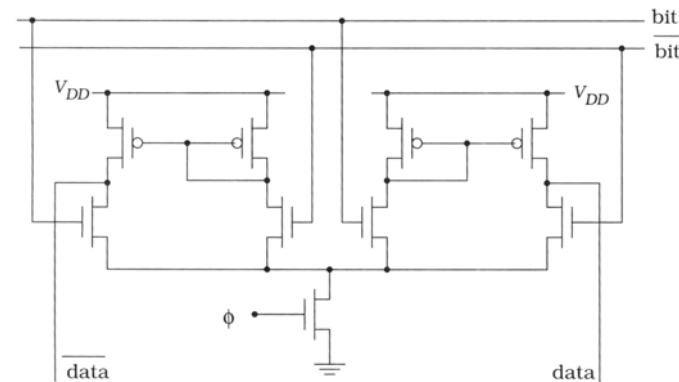
Figure 3.22 Dual-amplifier scheme for the sense amplifier network

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An example: A Drowsy SRAM

in3
in2
in1
in0

WE

pre_clk

drowsy0

WL0
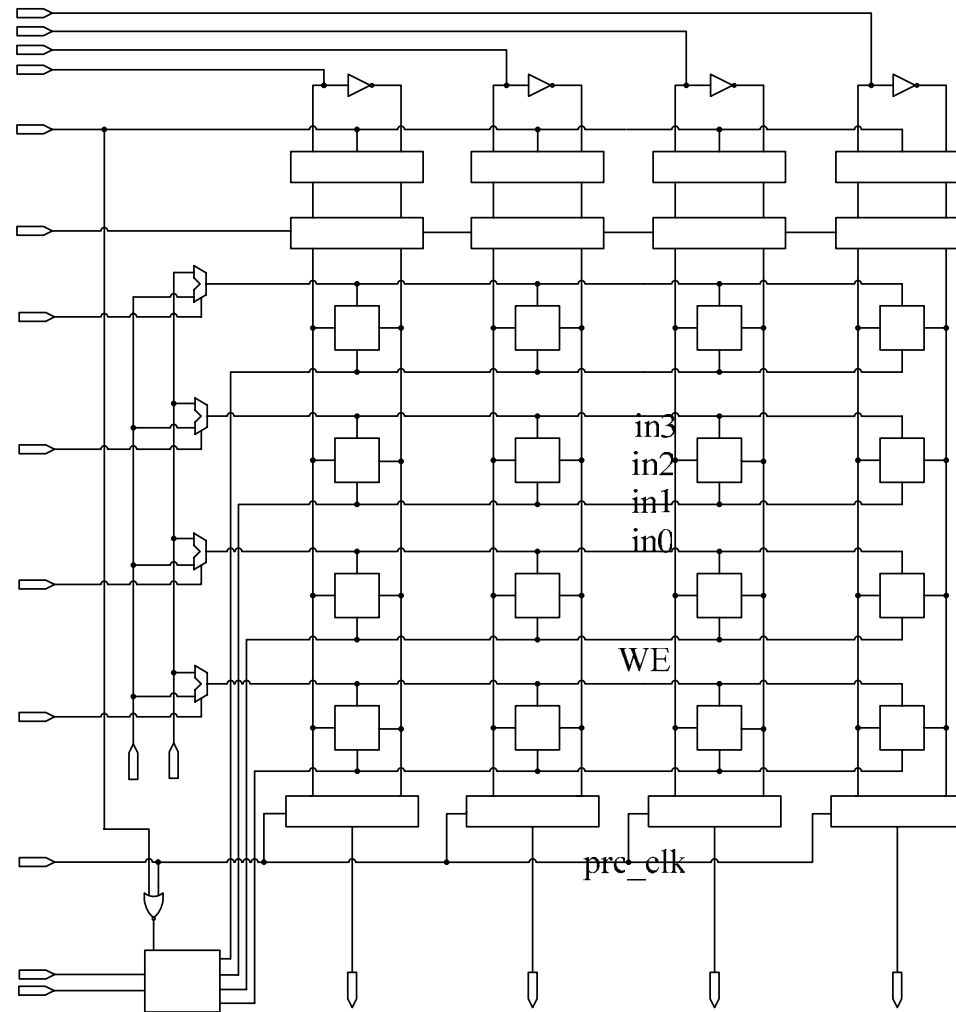
Write Circuit

BL0   BL0'

Precharge

$V_{dd}0$

cell

Outline

- The Static RAM
- SRAM Arrays
- Dynamic RAM
- ROM Arrays
- Logic Arrays

DRAM (1/3)

□ Dynamic RAM (DRAM)

  » Smaller than SRAM cells

  » Higher density storages arrays

  » As the central system memory in microcomputer systems
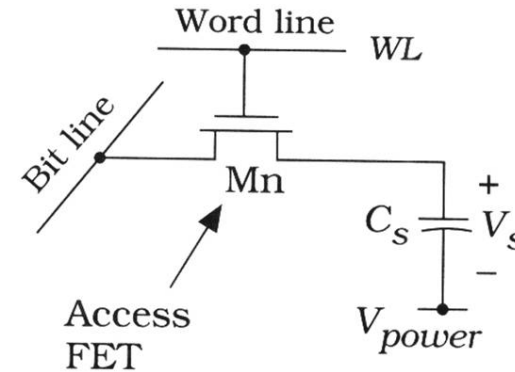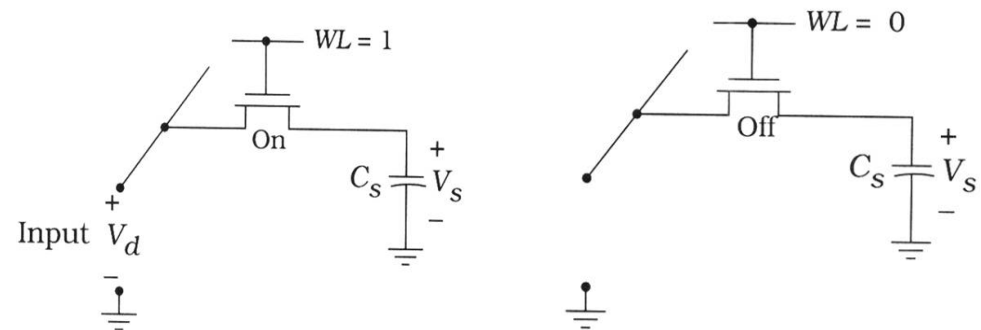
  » Require more peripheral circuitry

Figure 13.23 1T DRAM cell

$$Q_s = C_s V_s \qquad (13.8)$$

For writing 1,

$$V_s = V_{max} = V_{DD} - V_{Tn} \qquad (13.9)$$

$$Q_{max} = C_s (V_{DD} - V_{Tn}) \qquad (13.10)$$

(a) Write operation   (b) Hold

Figure 3.24 Write and hold operations in a DRAM cell

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DRAM (2/3)

□ *Charge Leakage:* When $V_G < V_T$, a MOSFET is cutoff but still admits small leakage currents

Figure 3.25 Charge leakage in a DRAM cell

$$I_L = -\left(\frac{dQ_s}{dt}\right) \qquad (13.11)$$

$$I_L = -C_s\left(\frac{dV_s}{dt}\right) \qquad (13.12)$$

$$I_L \approx -C_s\left(\frac{\Delta V_s}{\Delta t}\right) \qquad (13.13)$$

$$t_h = |\Delta t| \approx \left(\frac{C_s}{I_L}\right)(\Delta V_s) \qquad (13.14) \quad \text{(hold time or retention time)}$$

$$t_h = \left(\frac{50 \times 10^{-15}}{1 \times 10^{-9}}\right)(1) = 0.5\,\mu s \quad (13.15) \quad (I_L=1 \text{ nA, } C_s=50 \text{ fF, and } V_s=1 \text{ V})$$

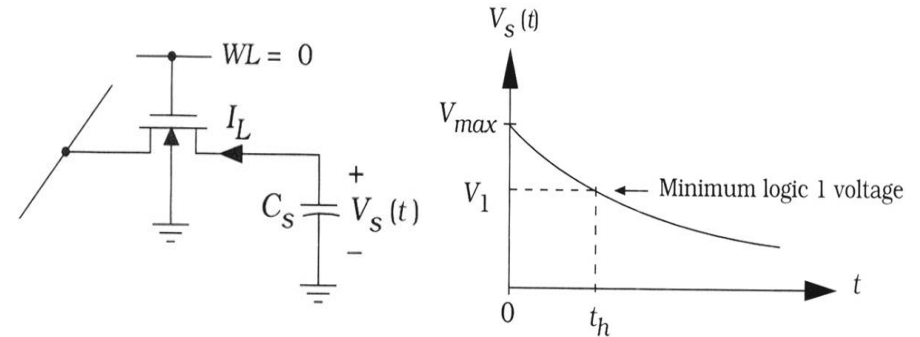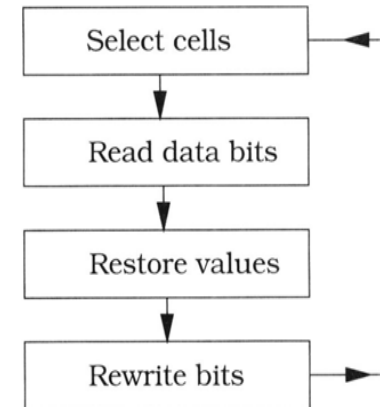$$f_{refresh} \approx \frac{1}{2t_h} \qquad (13.16) \quad \text{(refresh frequency)}$$

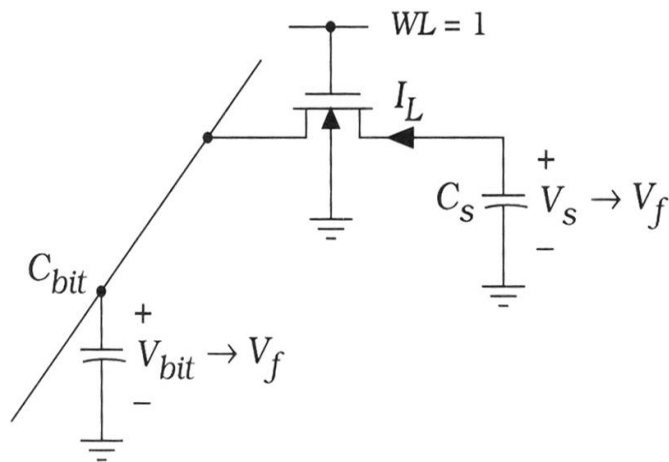Figure 3.26 Refresh operation summary

DRAM (3/3)

Figure 3.26 Read operation in a DRAM cell

$$Q_s = C_s V_s \qquad (13.17)$$

$$Q_s = C_s V_f + C_{bit} V_f \qquad (13.18)$$

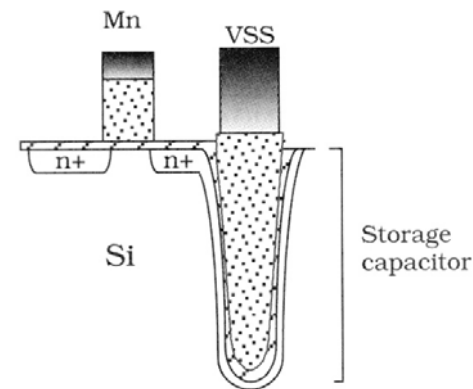$$V_f = \left(\frac{C_s}{C_s + C_{bit}} \right) V_s \qquad (13.19)$$
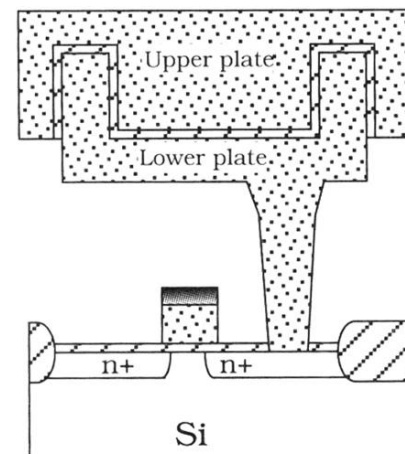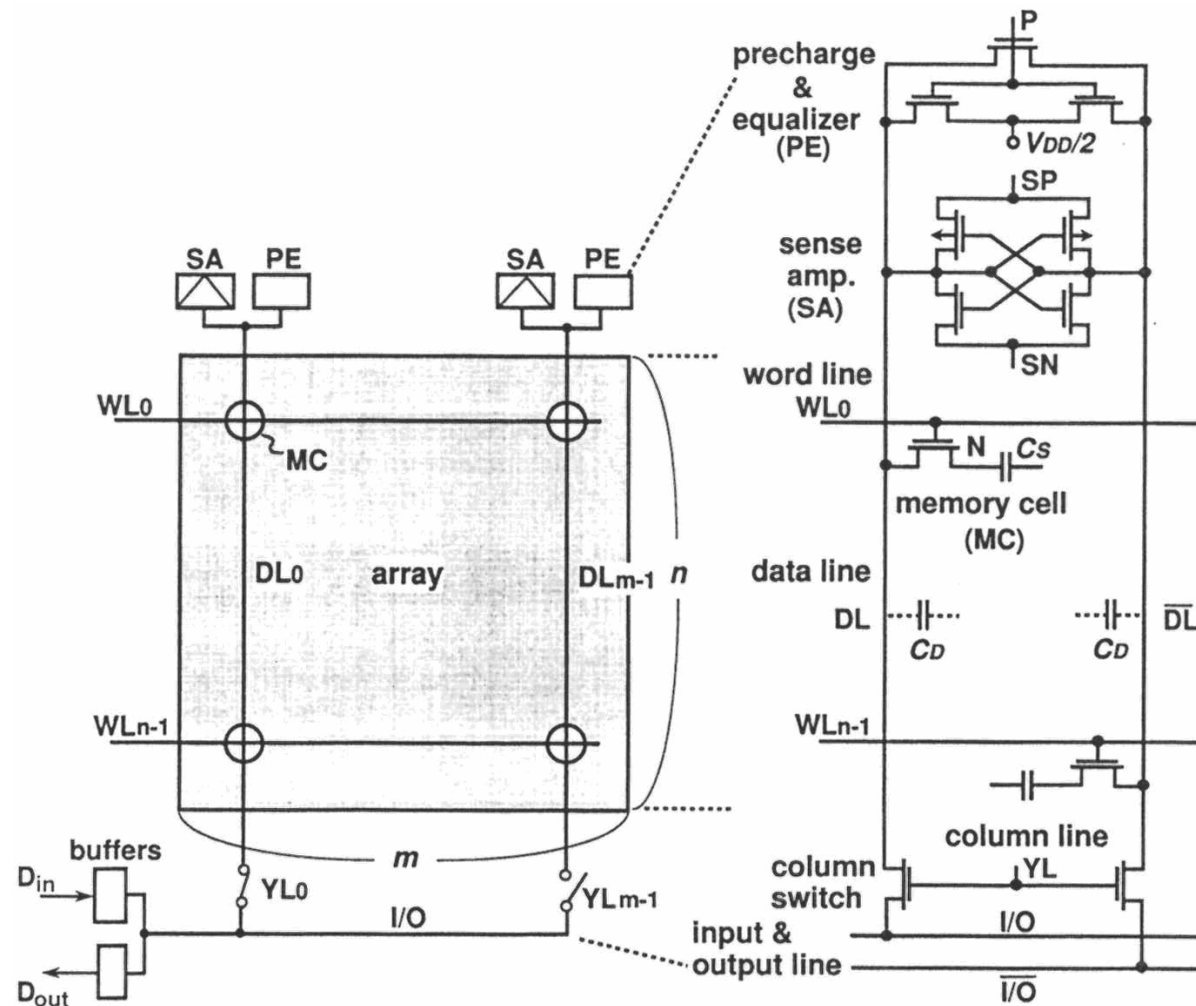

Figure 3.28 A DRAM cell using a trench capacitor

Figure 13.29 Visualization of stacked capacitor structure

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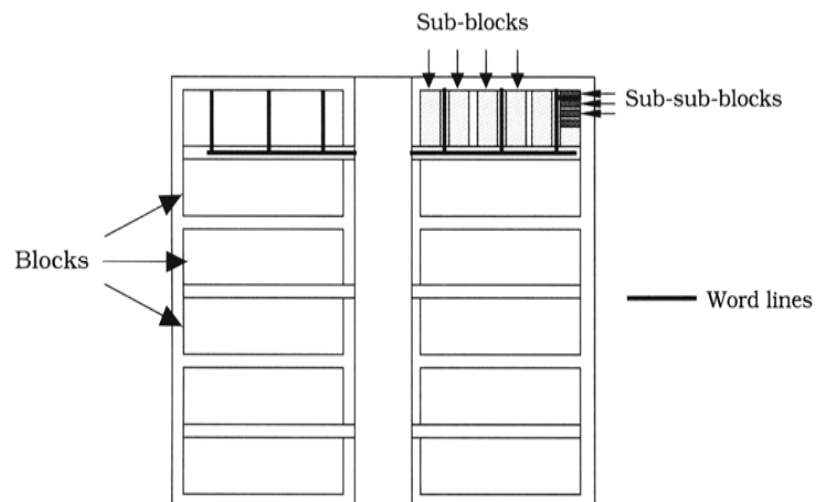# DRAM Array and Peripheral Circuit

Divided-Word Line Architectures

Figure 13.30 Basic for a divided-word
line architecture RAM layout
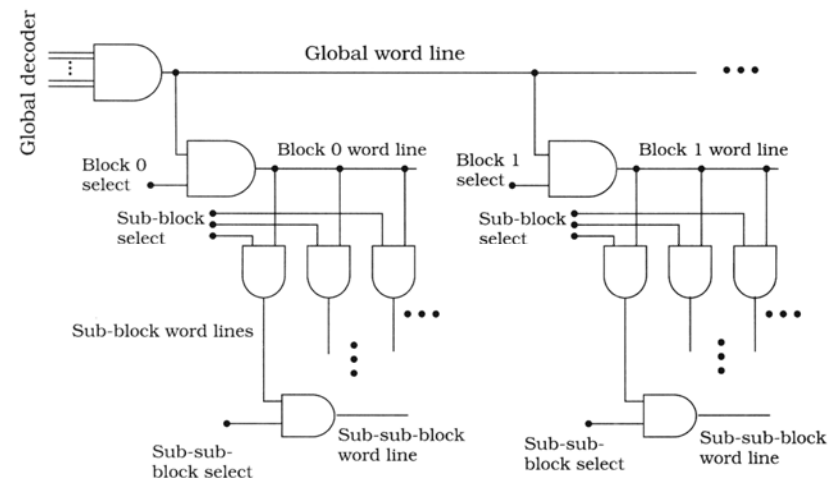

Figure 13.31 Logic for a DWL design

Outline

- The Static RAM
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- Logic Arrays

ROM
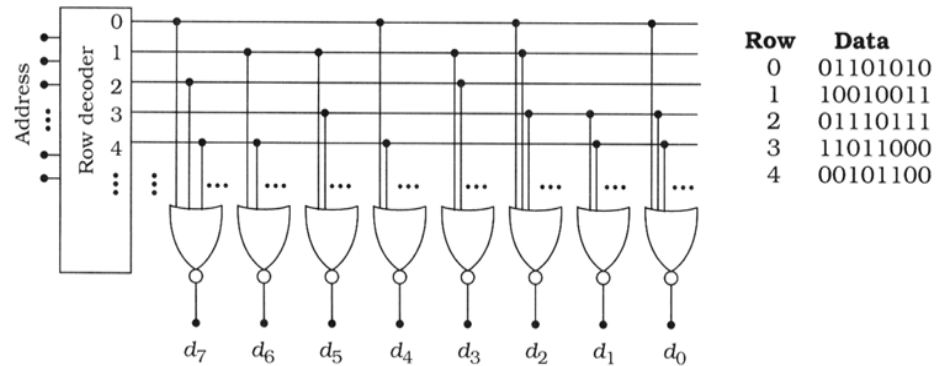

Figure 13.33 Logic diagram for a NOR-based ROM
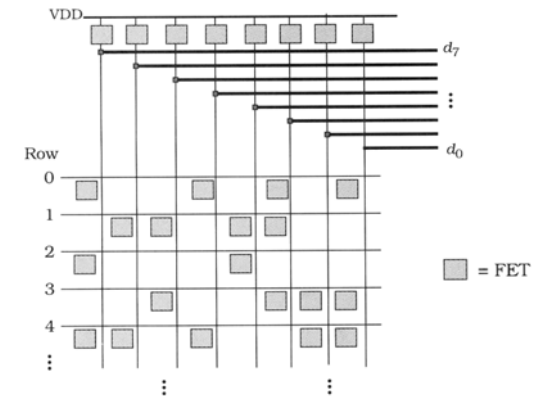
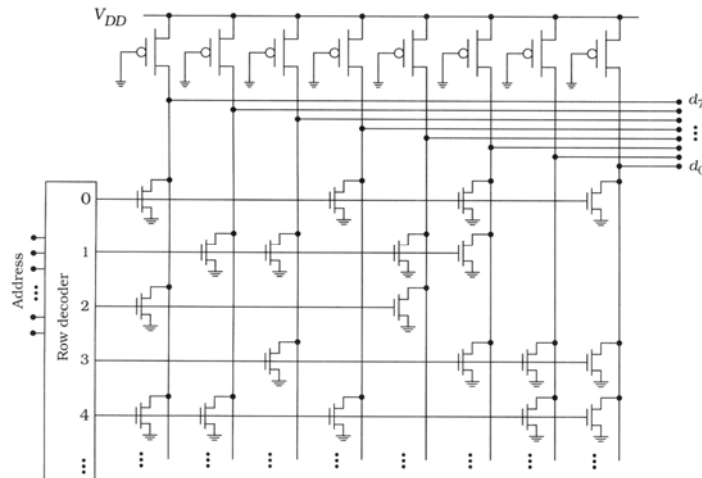| Row	Data
0	01101010
1	10010011
2	01110111
3	11011000
4	00101100

Figure 13.35 Map for ROM layout

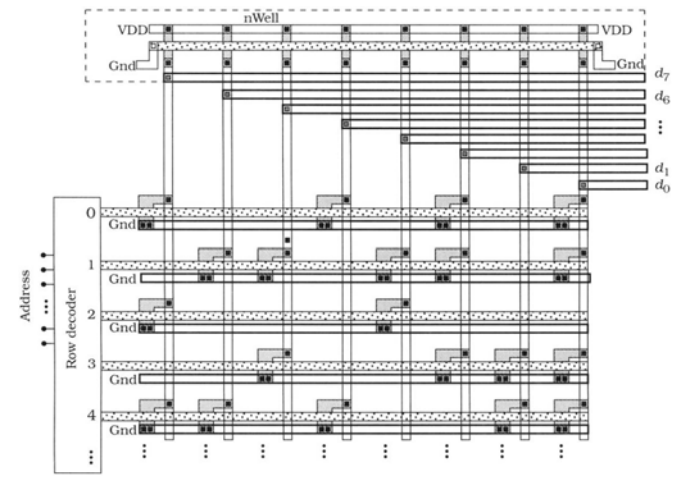Figure 13.34 ROM array using pseudo-nMOS circuitry

Figure 13.36 ROM layout based on FET map

User-Programmable ROMs

❒ Electrically-erasable EPROMs (E^{2}PROMs) are used to store the BIOS code in PC, and allow the user to update
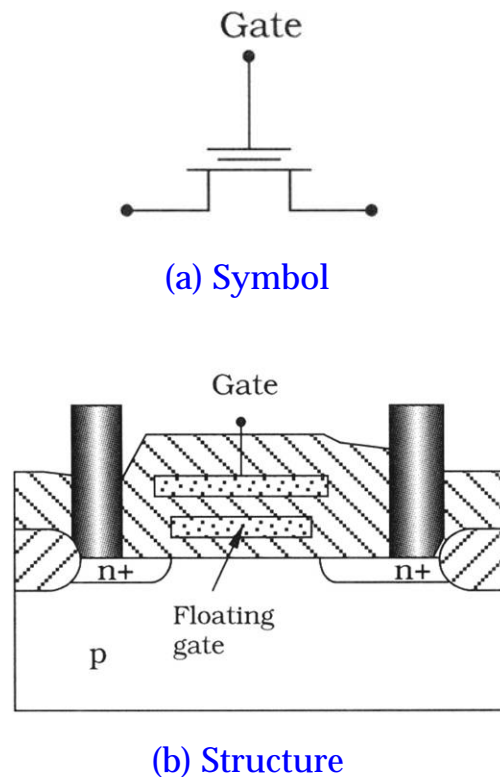
(a) Symbol

(b) Structure

Figure 13.37 Floating-gate MOSFET

(a) Normal V_{Tn} state

(b) Increased $V_{Tn,H}$ state

Figure 13.33 Logic diagram for a NOR-based ROM

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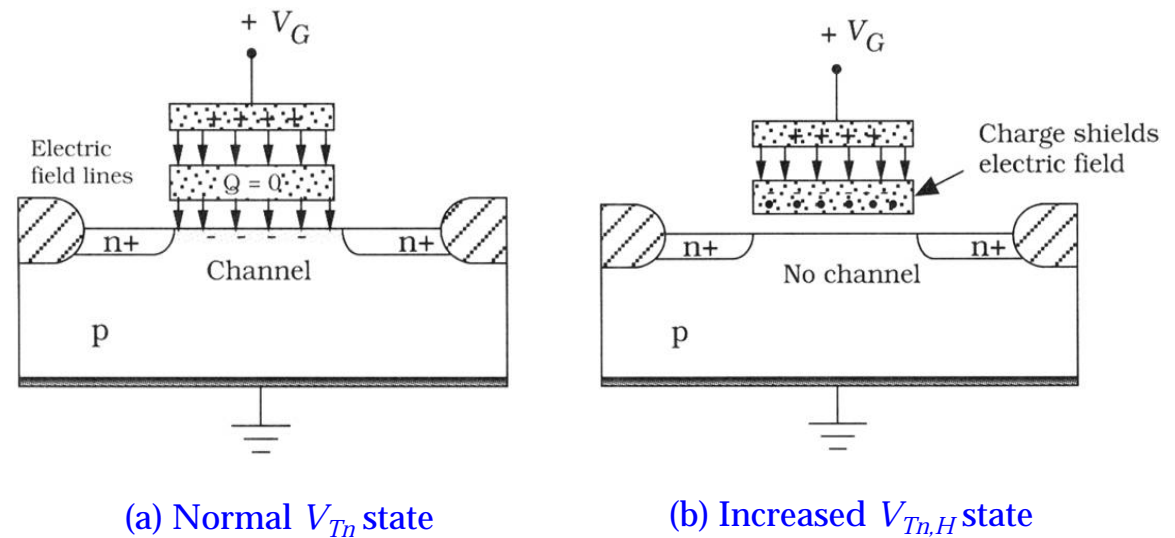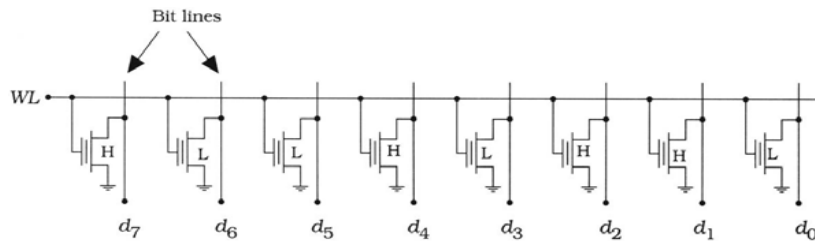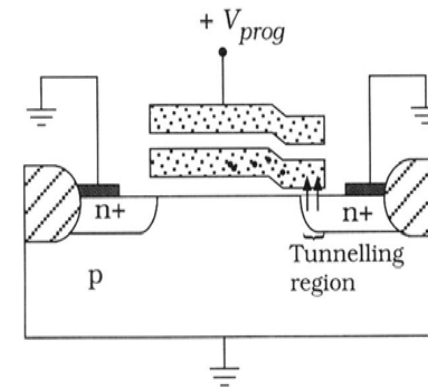
E²PROMs

Figure 13.39 A E²PROM word using floating-gate nFETs

Figure 13.41 Fowler-Nordheim tunnelling
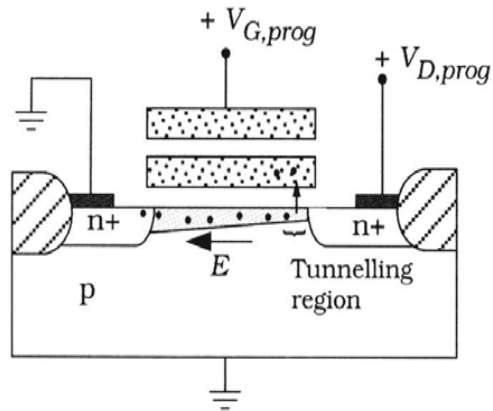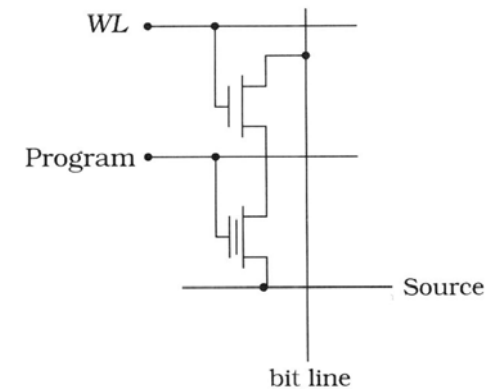

Figure 13.40 Programming a floating-gate FET

Figure 13.42 EEPROM cell with write line

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Outline

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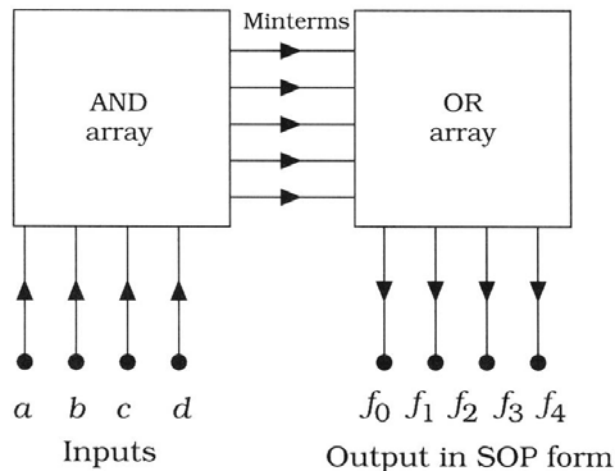# Programmable Logic Array, PLA (1/2)
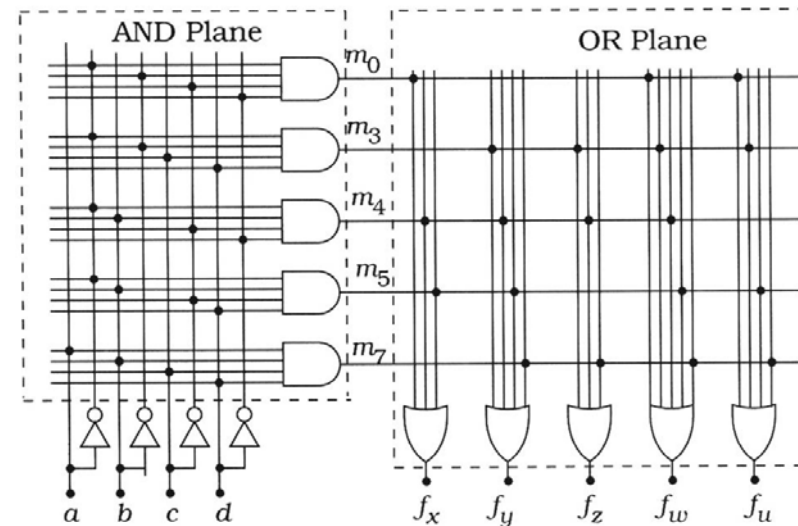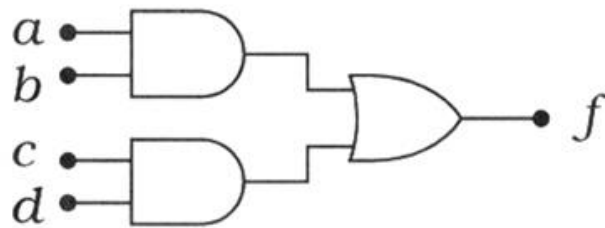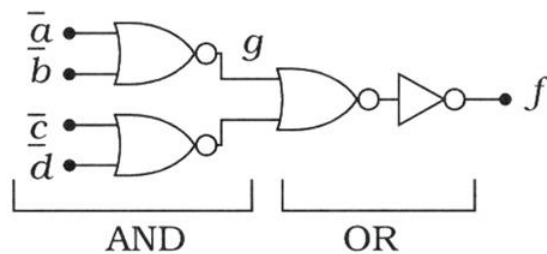

Figure 13.43 Structure of an AND-OR PLA

Figure 13.44 Logic gate diagram of the PLA

Programmable Logic Array, PLA (2/2)

(a) AND-OR logic

Figure 13.46 A dynamic CMOS PLA based on NOR gates

(b) NOR-based logic

Figure 13.45 NOR-gate PLA logic

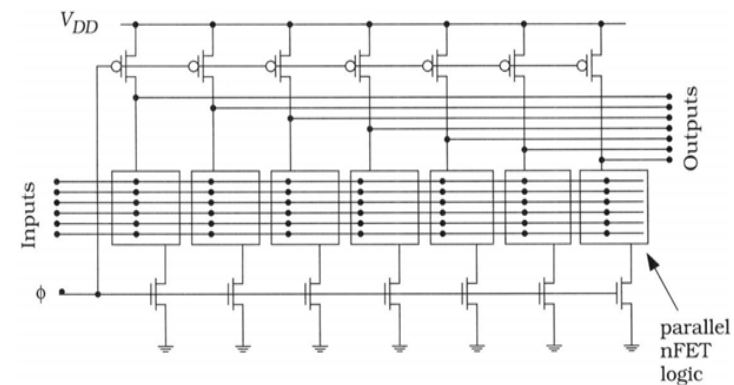Figure 13.47 Generic NOR-based logic plane

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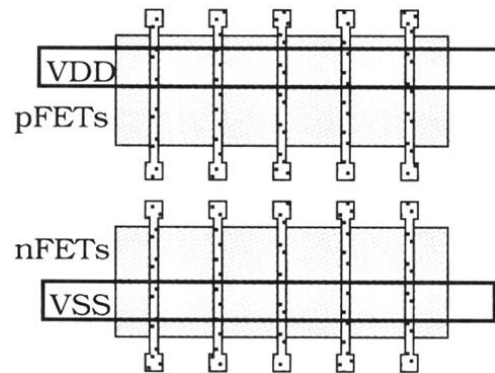
Gate Array

(a) Gate array based

(b) NOR3 gate wiring

Figure 13.48 Transistor arrangement in a gate array
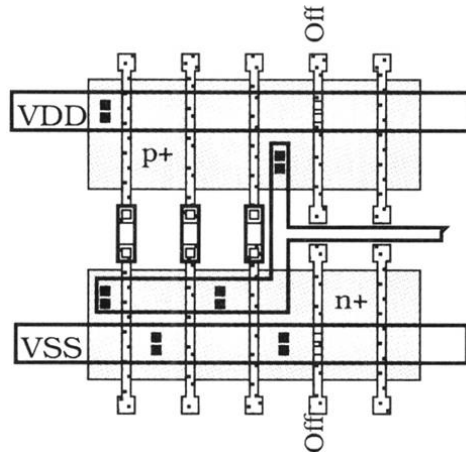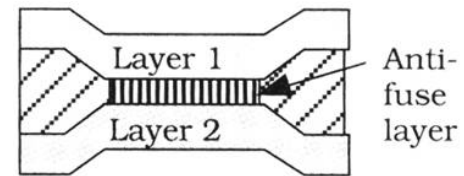
(a) Structure
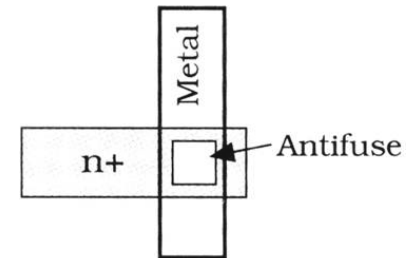
(b) Metal-active
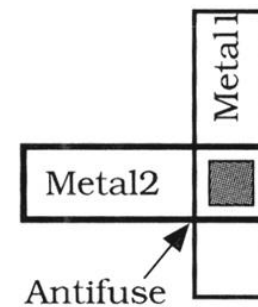
(c) Metal-metal

Figure 13.45 NOR-gate PLA logic

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