

1. Comparators

- a. See if two binary numbers are equal, output a 1 if true, 0 otherwise
- b. For an n bit comparison, use n 2-bit XNOR gates to compare if digits are equal
 - i. XNOR outputs a 1 if both are equal
- c. AND the results of all XNORs together to get final answer
- d. Example: 2 bit comparator

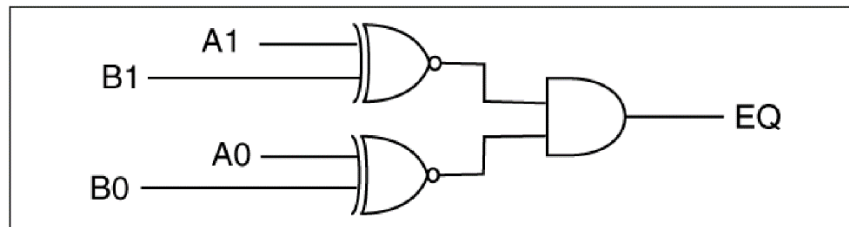


Figure 11.10: The final circuit for the 2-bit comparator as equation (e) in Figure 11.9.

2. Arithmetic logic unit (ALU)

- a. One unit that can perform multiple operations
 - i. Example: do ADD, NOT, AND, OR, XOR, equality check, so forth
- b. Each cell of the ALU has one of each type of gate in it
 - i. Performs operation on corresponding bits
 - ii. Use MUX to select which operation is chosen
 - iii. Control/select bits determine what operation is done
 - iv. Perform all operations at all time, discard results of operations not done
 1. Sounds wasteful, but it's cheaper to discard the results than attempt to disable/enable the unused pieces

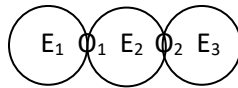
3. Error detection and correction

- a. Error types
 - i. Hard failure – permanent physical defect
 - ii. Soft error – random non-destructive event that causes an error
 1. Example – voltage spike
 2. [Mario 64 upwarp glitch](#) – thought to be a soft error (bit flip)
 - iii. More common now that components are smaller
- b. Will focus on errors that involve bits changing value
- c. Measure of size of error – Hamming distance between original and final values
- d. Three possible outcomes
 - i. No errors detected
 - ii. Error detected, and location specified, so we can correct it
 - iii. Error detected, and location unspecified, so we can't correct it
- e. Will look at SECDED – Single Error Correction Double Error Detection
 - i. If the number of bits changed in a set is large enough, *any* error detection system will fail

4. Parity

- a. Errors with a Hamming distance of 1 can be detected, but not located, with parity
- b. *Even parity* – count the number of 1s in the data
 - i. Set or clear an additional bit so that the number of 1s is even (including the parity bit)
 - ii. *Odd parity* – set or clear an additional bit so that the number of 1s is odd
 1. We'll be using even parity for the rest of these examples
 - iii. One type of XOR gate produces a 1 whenever the number of 1s input is odd, so perfect for this use case
 - iv. Example for even parity
 1. C denotes the position of the check bit
 2. C1001 -> 01001
 3. C1101 -> 11101

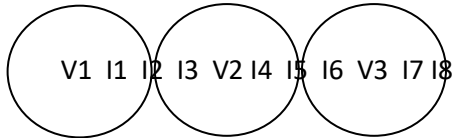
- v. Even parity creates valid code words that have a Hamming distance of 2 between them
 - 1. Need valid and invalid code words so we know when something goes wrong
 - 2. Invalid code words in this case are the odd parity numbers



Circles have a radius of one Hamming distance.

c. Two bit errors

- i. To allow detection, need valid code words with at least a Hamming distance of 3 away



Circles have a radius of two Hamming distance.

- ii. All one Hamming distance errors are associated with exactly one valid code word
- iii. Errors with two bits will still be detected, but may be associated with another valid code word
 - 1. I2 above could either be associated with V1 or V2
- iv. What happens with three-bit errors?