

1. **Clock Frequency Calculation** The approach uses the setup time constraint equation:
$$T_{clk} \geq T_{clock-Q_max} + T_{logic_max} + T_{setup_max} - T_{skew}$$

The values are,

- $T_{clock-Q_max} = 5 \text{ ns}$ (from the max column)
- $T_{NOR_max} = 3 \text{ ns}$ (logic delay)
- $T_{setup_max} = 1 \text{ ns}$ (given as T_{su_max})
- $T_{skew} = 1 \text{ ns}$

Therefore: $T_{clk} \geq 5 + 3 + 1 - 1 = 8 \text{ ns}$ **Maximum frequency** = $1/8 \text{ ns} = 125 \text{ MHz}$

Delay values:

- Clock-to-Q delays (min/typ/max): 3/4/5 ns
- NOR gate delays (min/typ/max): 1/2/3 ns
- Setup time: 1 ns
- Hold time: 2 ns
- Clock skew: 1 ns

Critical Path Delay Calculation:

- Path: D-flip-flop \rightarrow NOR \rightarrow D-flip-flop
- Maximum delay = $T_{clock-Q(max)} + T_{NOR(max)} + T_{setup(max)}$
- $= 5 + 3 + 1 = 9 \text{ ns}$

Minimum Path Delay Calculation:

- Path: D-flip-flop \rightarrow NOR
- Minimum delay = $T_{clock-Q(min)} + T_{NOR(min)}$
- $= 3 + 1 = 4 \text{ ns}$

2. **Hold Time Analysis** The hold time check is also correct: $T_{clock-Q_min} + T_{logic_min} - T_{skew} \geq T_{hold_max}$

Values:

- $T_{clock-Q_min} = 3 \text{ ns}$
- $T_{NOR_min} = 1 \text{ ns}$

- $T_{\text{skew}} = 1 \text{ ns}$
- $T_{\text{hold_max}} = 2 \text{ ns}$

$$3 + 1 - 1 \geq 2$$

$$3 \geq 2$$

No hold time violations possible

Final answers:

- Maximum clock frequency: 125 MHz
- No hold time violations possible