EE 330
Lecture 42

Digital Circuits

- Propagation Delay With Multiple Levels of Logic
- Optimally driving large capacitive loads
- Logic Effort

Review from Last Time

Recall:

Device Sizing

Equal Worst Case Rise/Fall

(and equal to that of ref inverter when driving C_{REF})

Multiple Input Gates: 2-input NOR

(n-channel devices sized same, p-channel devices sized the same)

Assume $L_n=L_p=L_{min}$ and driving a load of C_{REF}

W_n=?

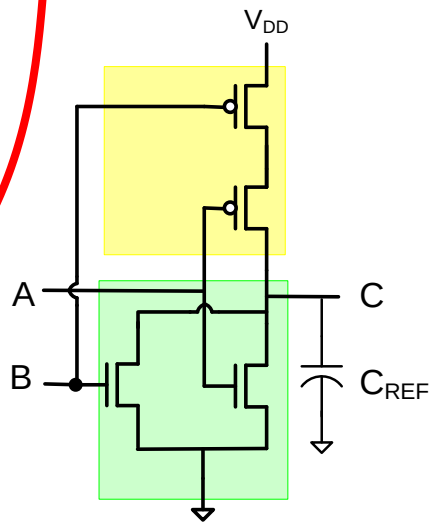
DERIVATIONS

W_p=?

Input capacitance = ?

FI=?

t_{PROP}=? (worst case)



One degree of freedom was used to satisfy the constraint indicated

$W_n=W_{MIN}$

$W_p=6W_{MIN}$

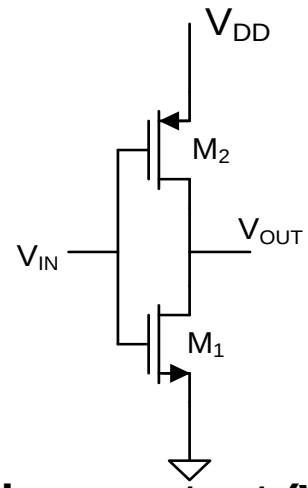
Other degree of freedom was used to achieve equal rise and fall times

$$C_{INA}=C_{INB}=C_{OX}W_{MIN}L_{MIN}+6C_{OX}W_{MIN}L_{MIN}=7C_{OX}W_{MIN}L_{MIN}=\left(\frac{7}{4}\right)4C_{OX}W_{MIN}L_{MIN}=\left(\frac{7}{4}\right)C_{REF}$$

$$FI=\left(\frac{7}{4}\right)C_{REF} \quad or \quad FI=\frac{7}{4}$$

$t_{PROP} = t_{REF}$ (worst case)

Overdrive Factors



Scaling widths of ALL devices by constant (W_{scaled}=WxOD) will change "drive" capability relative to that of the reference inverter but not change relative value of t_{HL} and t_{LH}

$$R_{PD}=\frac{L_1}{\mu_n C_{OX} W_1 (V_{DD}-V_{Tn})} \rightarrow R_{PDOD}=\frac{L_1}{\mu_n C_{OX} [OD \bullet W_1](V_{DD}-V_{Tn})}=\frac{R_{PD}}{OD}$$

$$R_{PU}=\frac{L_2}{\mu_p C_{OX} W_2 (V_{DD}+V_{Tp})} \rightarrow R_{PUOD}=\frac{L_2}{\mu_p C_{OX} [OD \bullet W_2](V_{DD}+V_{Tp})}=\frac{R_{PU}}{OD}$$

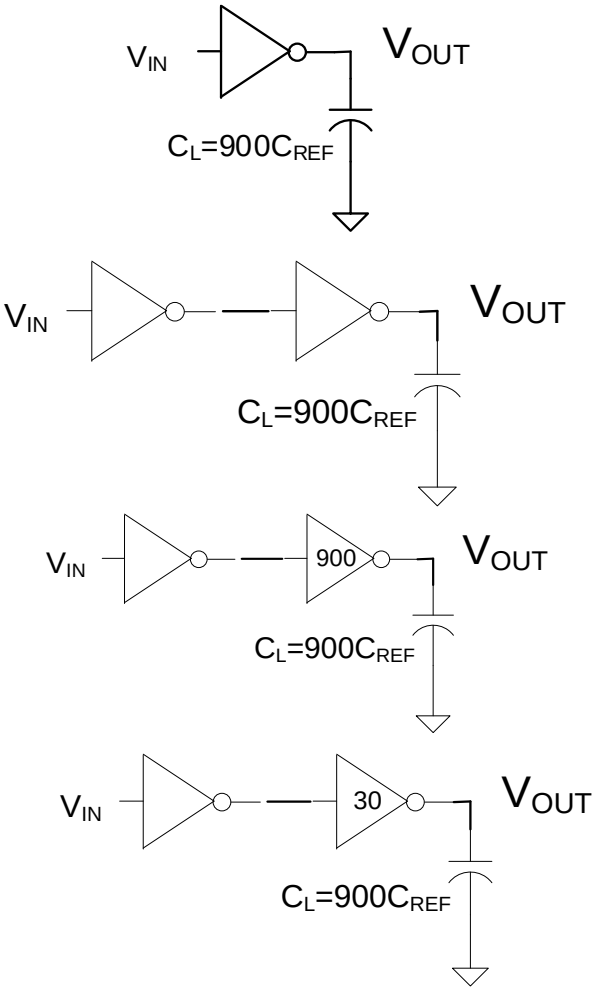
Scaling widths of ALL devices by constant will change FI by OD

$$C_{IN}=C_{OX}(W_1 L_1+W_2 L_2) \rightarrow C_{INOD}=C_{OX}([OD \bullet W_1]L_1+[OD \bullet W_2]L_2)=OD \bullet C_{IN}$$

Propagation Delay with Over-drive Capability

Example

Compare the propagation delays. Assume the OD is 900 in the third case and 30 in the fourth case. Don't worry about the extra inversion at this time.



$$t_{PROP} = 900t_{REF}$$

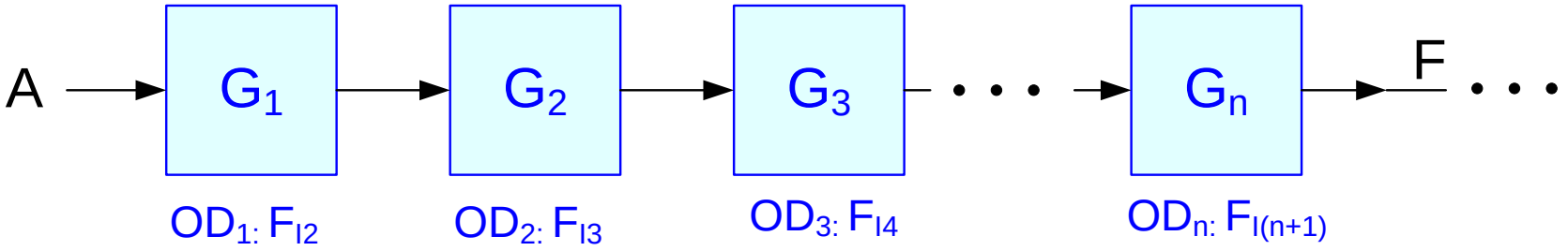
$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} + 900t_{REF} = 901t_{REF}$$

$$t_{PROP} = 900t_{REF} + t_{REF} = 901t_{REF}$$

$$t_{PROP} = 30t_{REF} + 30t_{REF} = 60t_{REF}$$

Note: Dramatic reduction in t_{PROP} is possible
Will later determine what optimal number of stages and sizing is

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading



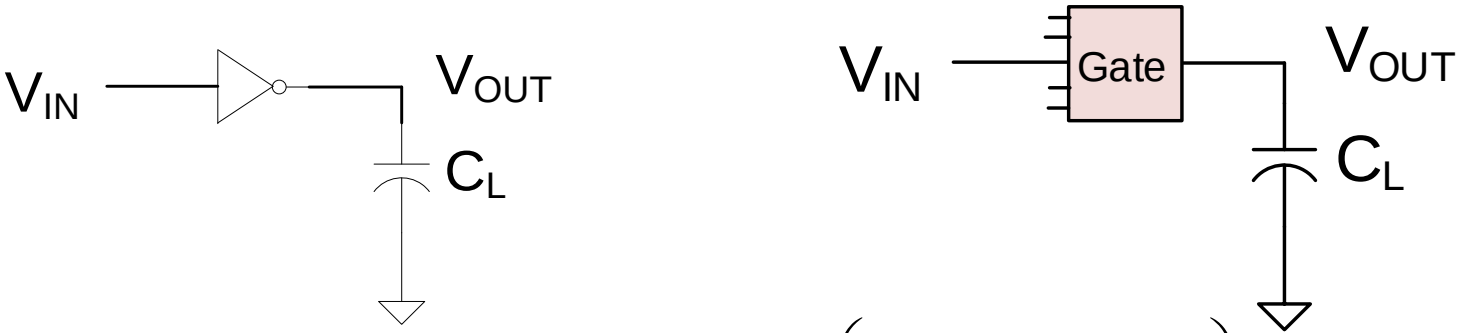
F_{Ik} denotes the total loading on stage k which is the sum of the F_I of all loading on stage k

Summary: Propagation delay from A to F:

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$$

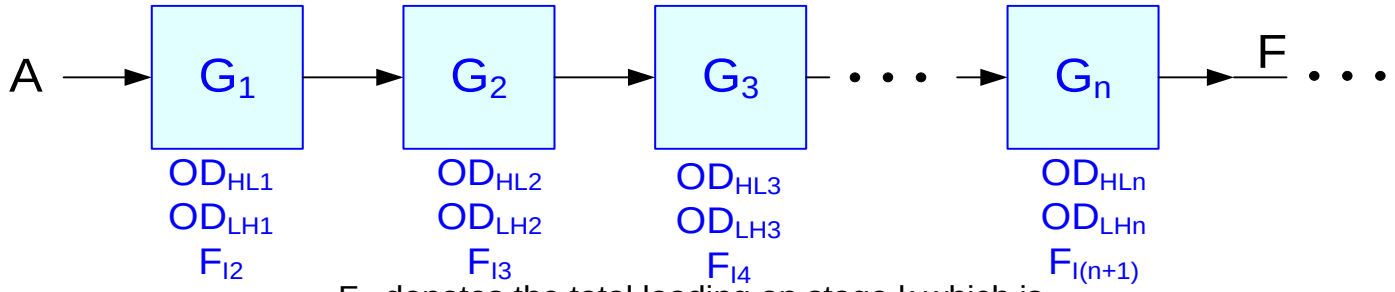
Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Asymmetric Overdrive



$$t_{PROP} = t_{HL} + t_{LH} = \frac{1}{2} t_{REF} F_{IL} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HL}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LH}} \right)$$

When propagating through n stages:



F_{Ik} denotes the total loading on stage k which is the sum of the F_I of all loading on stage k

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Will consider an example with the five cases

- **Equal rise/fall (no overdrive)**
- **Equal rise/fall with overdrive**
- **Minimum Sized**
- **Asymmetric Overdrive**
- **Combination of equal rise/fall, minimum size and overdrive**

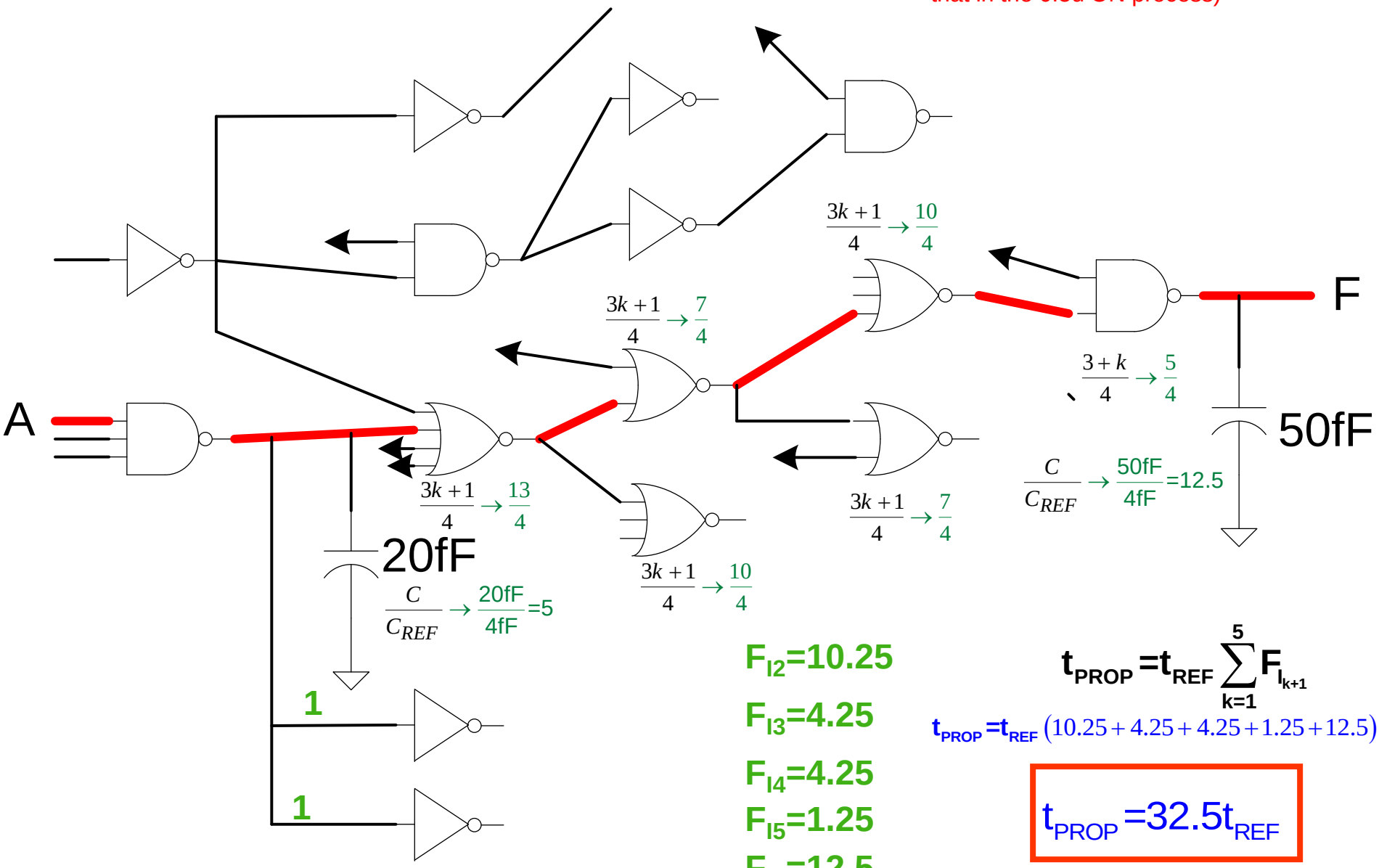
Will develop the analysis methods as needed

Review from Last Time

Equal rise-fall gates, no overdrive

In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF, R_{PDREF}=2.5K

(Note: This C_{OX} is somewhat larger than that in the 0.5u ON process)



F_{I2}=10.25

F_{I3}=4.25

F_{I4}=4.25

F_{I5}=1.25

F_{I6}=12.5

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{5} F_{I_{k+1}}$$

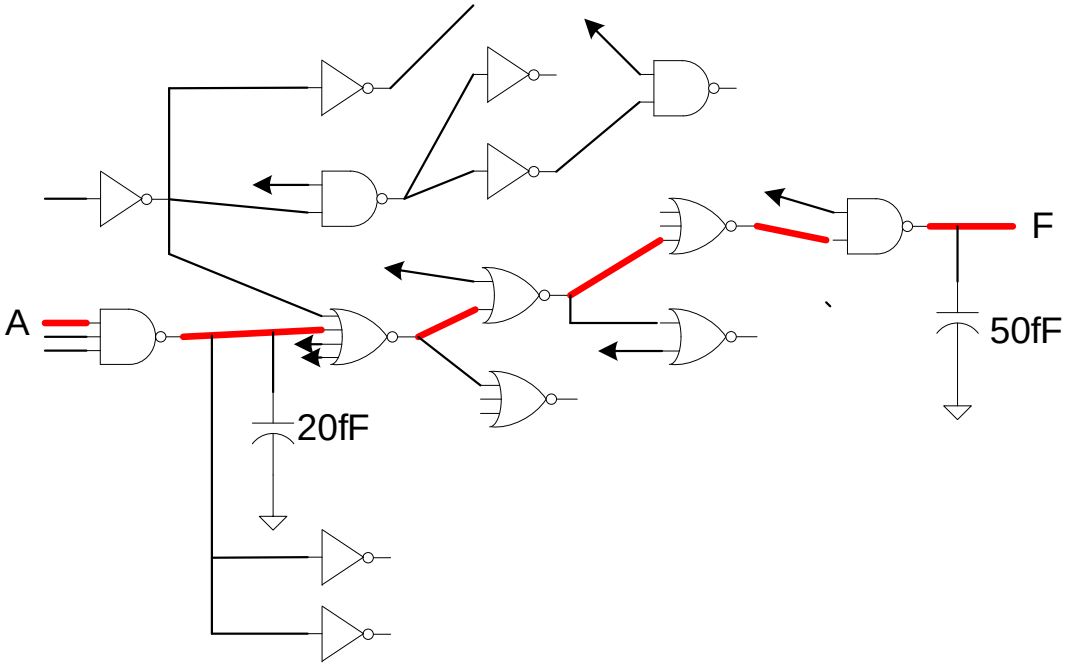
$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} (10.25 + 4.25 + 4.25 + 1.25 + 12.5)$$

$$t_{PROP} = 32.5 t_{REF}$$

Equal rise-fall gates, no overdrive

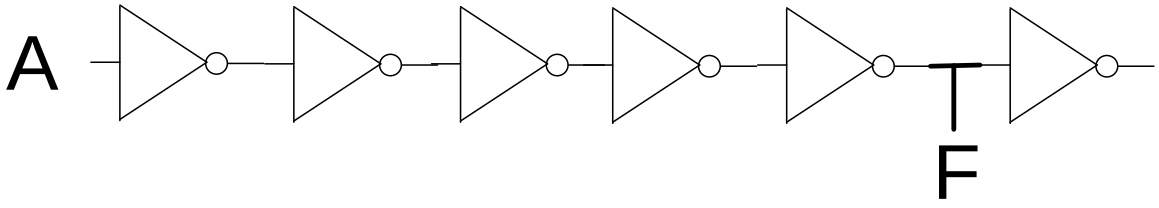
In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF,R_{PDREF}=2.5K

(Note: This C_{OX} is somewhat larger than that in the 0.5u ON process)



$t_{PROP}=32.5t_{REF}$

How does this propagation delay compare to that required for a propagation of a signal through 5-levels of logic with only reference inverters?

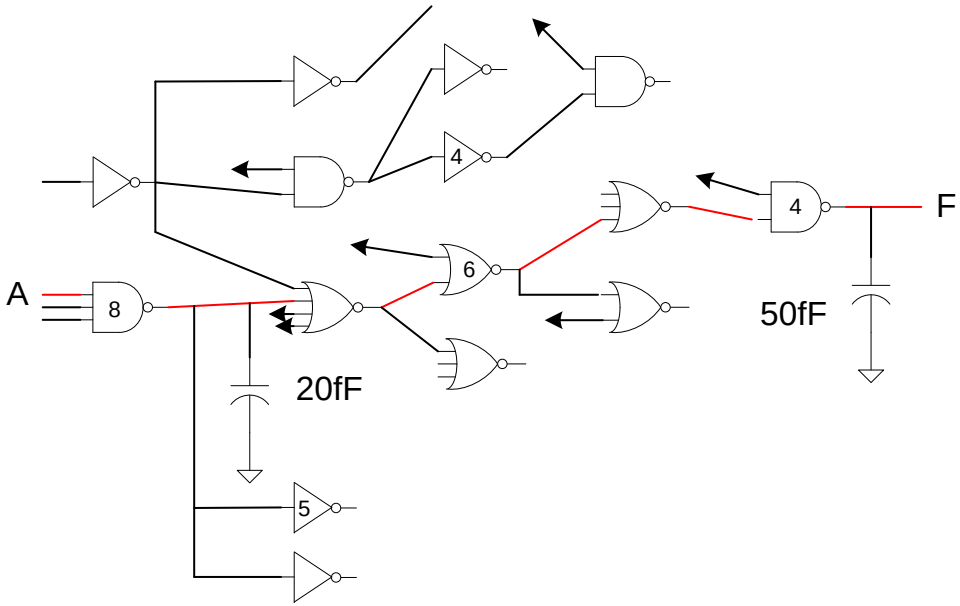


$t_{PROP}=5t_{REF}$

Loading can have a dramatic effect on propagation delay

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Equal rise-fall gates, with overdrive



In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF,R_{PDREF}=2.5K

(Note: This C_{OX} is somewhat larger than that in the 0.5u ON process)

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I_{k+1}}}{OD_k}$$

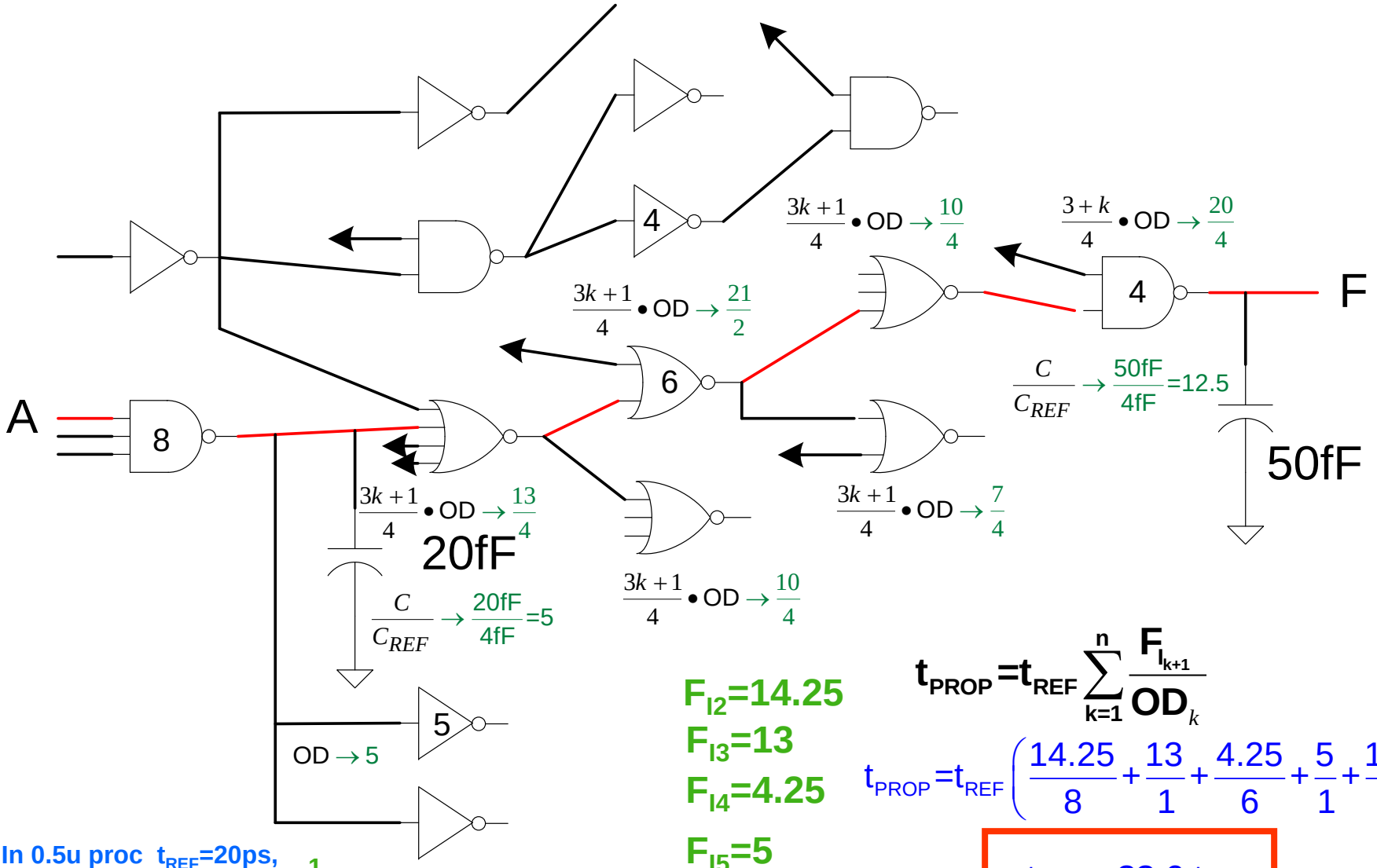
Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Equal rise-fall gates, with overdrive

	Equal Rise/Fall	Equal Rise/Fall (with OD)
C_{IN}/C_{REF}		
Inverter	1	OD
NOR	$\frac{3k+1}{4}$	$\frac{3k+1}{4} \bullet OD$
NAND	$\frac{3+k}{4}$	$\frac{3+k}{4} \bullet OD$
Overdrive		
Inverter		
HL	1	OD
LH	1	OD
NOR		
HL	1	OD
LH	1	OD
NAND		
HL	1	OD
LH	1	OD
t_{PROP}/t_{REF}	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)}$	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I_{k+1}}}{OD_k}$$

Equal rise-fall gates, with overdrive



$F_{I2}=14.25$

$F_{I3}=13$

$F_{I4}=4.25$

$F_{I5}=5$

$F_{I6}=12.5$

$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF}\sum_{k=1}^{n}\frac{F_{I_{k+1}}}{OD_k}$$

$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF}\left(\frac{14.25}{8}+\frac{13}{1}+\frac{4.25}{6}+\frac{5}{1}+\frac{12.5}{4}\right)$$

$$t_{PROP}=23.6\ t_{REF}$$

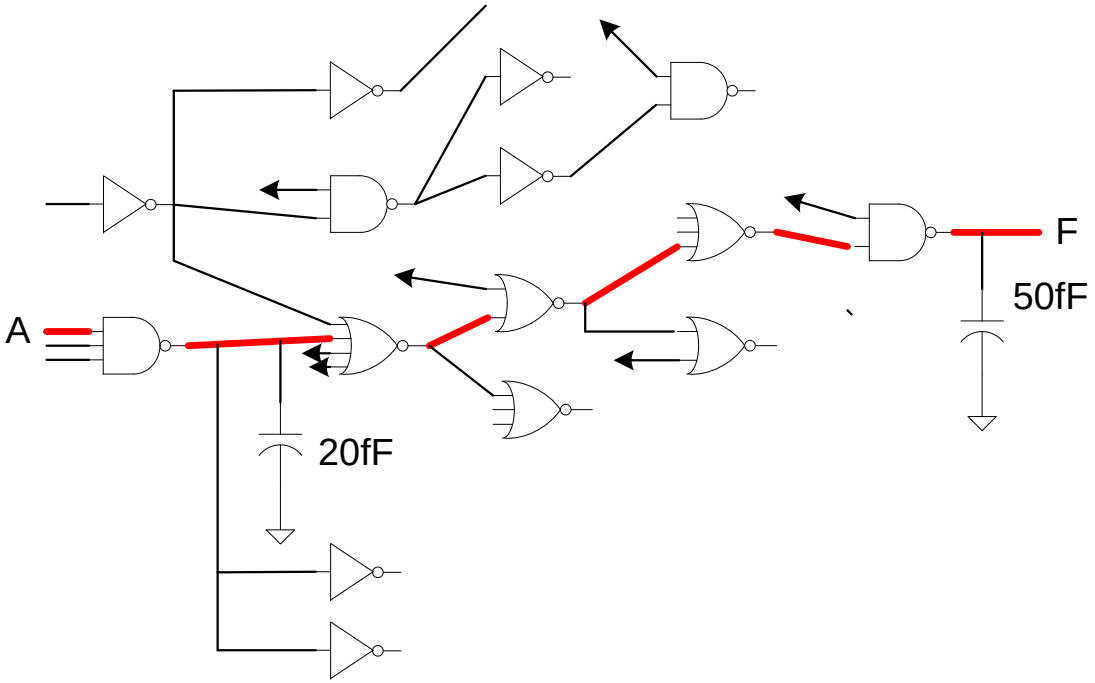
In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF,R_{PDREF}=2.5K

1

(Note: This C_{OX} is somewhat larger than that in the 0.5u ON process)

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Minimum-sized gates



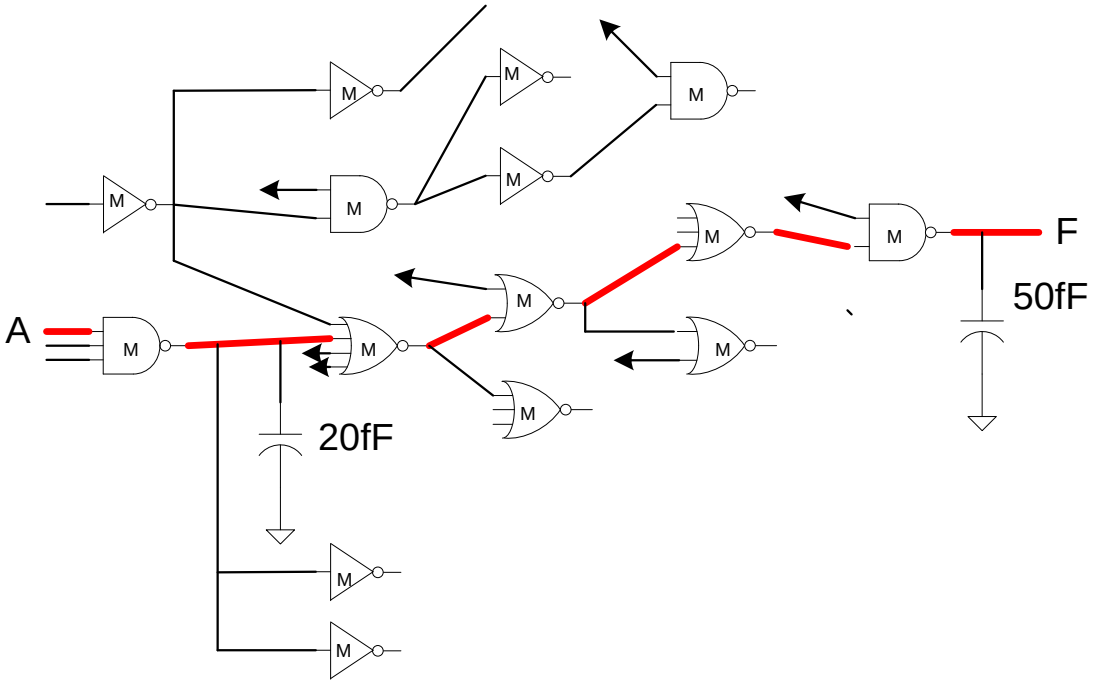
In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF,R_{PDREF}=2.5K

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet ?$$

(Note: This C_{OX} is somewhat larger than that in the 0.5u ON process)

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Minimum-sized gates

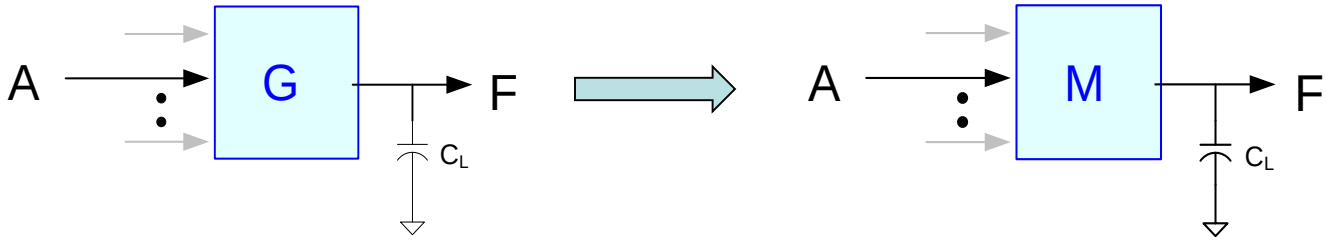


$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet ?$$

Observe that a minimum-sized gate is simply a gate with asymmetric overdrive

Recall:

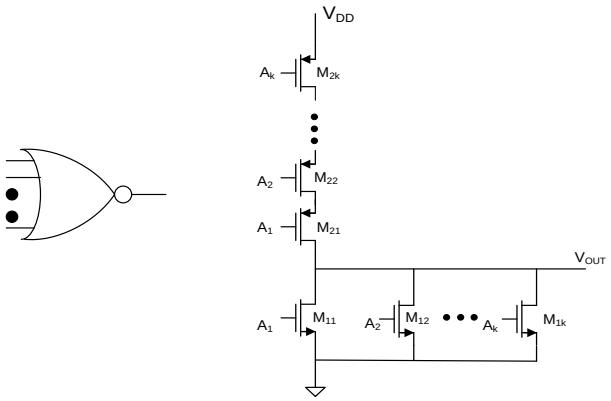
Propagation Delay with Minimum-Sized Gates

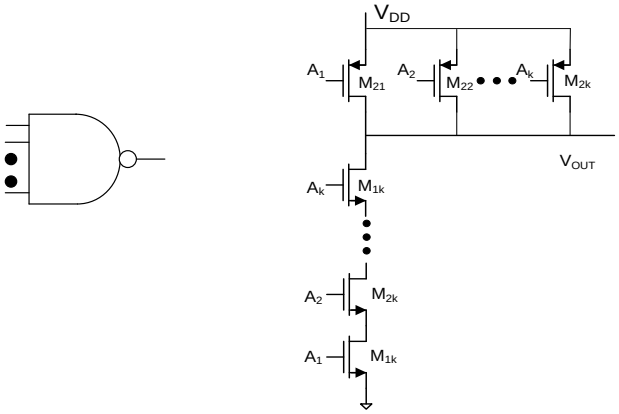


$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

- **Still need OD_{HL} and OD_{LH} for minimum-sized gates**
- **Still need F_I**

Propagation Delay with minimum-sized gates





$OD_{HL}=?$

$OD_{HL}=1$

$OD_{LH}=?$

$OD_{LH}=\frac{1}{3k}$

$OD_{HL}=?$

$OD_{HL}=1/k$

$OD_{LH}=?$

$OD_{LH}=\frac{1}{3}$

$$FI=2C_{OX}W_{MIN}L_{MIN}$$

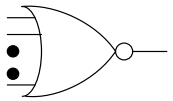
$$C_{REF}=4C_{OX}W_{MIN}L_{MIN}$$

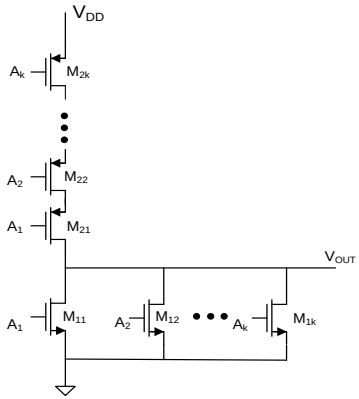
$$FI=\frac{C_{REF}}{2}$$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Minimum-sized gates

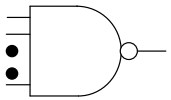
	Equal Rise/Fall	Equal Rise/Fall (with OD)	Minimum Sized
C_{IN}/C_{REF}			
Inverter	1	OD	
NOR	$\frac{3k+1}{4}$	$\frac{3k+1}{4} \bullet OD$	
NAND	$\frac{3+k}{4}$	$\frac{3+k}{4} \bullet OD$	
Overdrive			
Inverter			
HL	1	OD	
LH	1	OD	
NOR			
HL	1	OD	
LH	1	OD	
NAND			
HL	1	OD	
LH	1	OD	
t_{PROP}/t_{REF}	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)}$	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$	

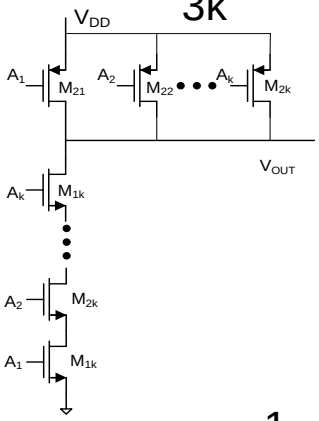




$OD_{HL}=1$

$OD_{LH}=\frac{1}{3k}$





$OD_{HL}=1/k$

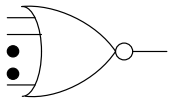
$OD_{LH}=\frac{1}{3}$

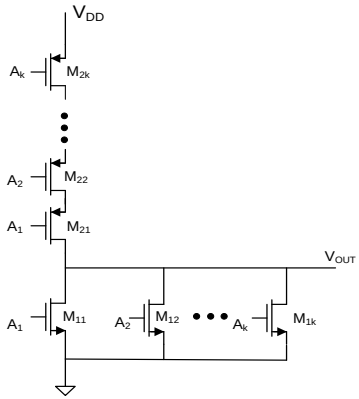
$FI=\frac{C_{REF}}{2}$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

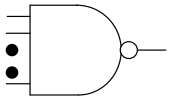
Minimum-sized gates

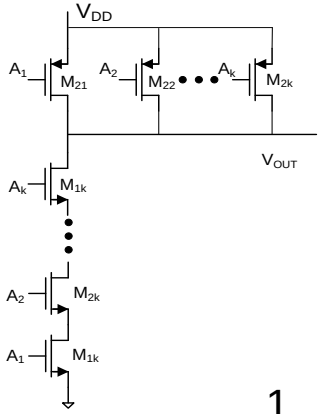
	Equal Rise/Fall	Equal Rise/Fall (with OD)	Minimum Sized
C_{IN}/C_{REF}			
Inverter	1	OD	1/2
NOR	$\frac{3k+1}{4}$	$\frac{3k+1}{4} \cdot OD$	1/2
NAND	$\frac{3+k}{4}$	$\frac{3+k}{4} \cdot OD$	1/2
Overdrive			
Inverter			
HL	1	OD	1
LH	1	OD	1/3
NOR			
HL	1	OD	1
LH	1	OD	1/(3k)
NAND			
HL	1	OD	1/k
LH	1	OD	1/3
t_{PROP}/t_{REF}	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)}$	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$	$\frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)}\left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}}+\frac{1}{OD_{LHk}}\right)$





$OD_{HL}=1$ $\quad OD_{LH}=\frac{1}{3k}$

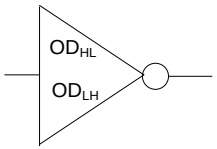




$OD_{HL}=1/k$ $\quad OD_{LH}=\frac{1}{3}$

$FI=\frac{C_{REF}}{2}$

Minimum-sized gates



$F_{I2}=13/2$

$F_{I3}=1$

$F_{I4}=1$

$F_{I5}=1/2$

$F_{I6}=12.5$

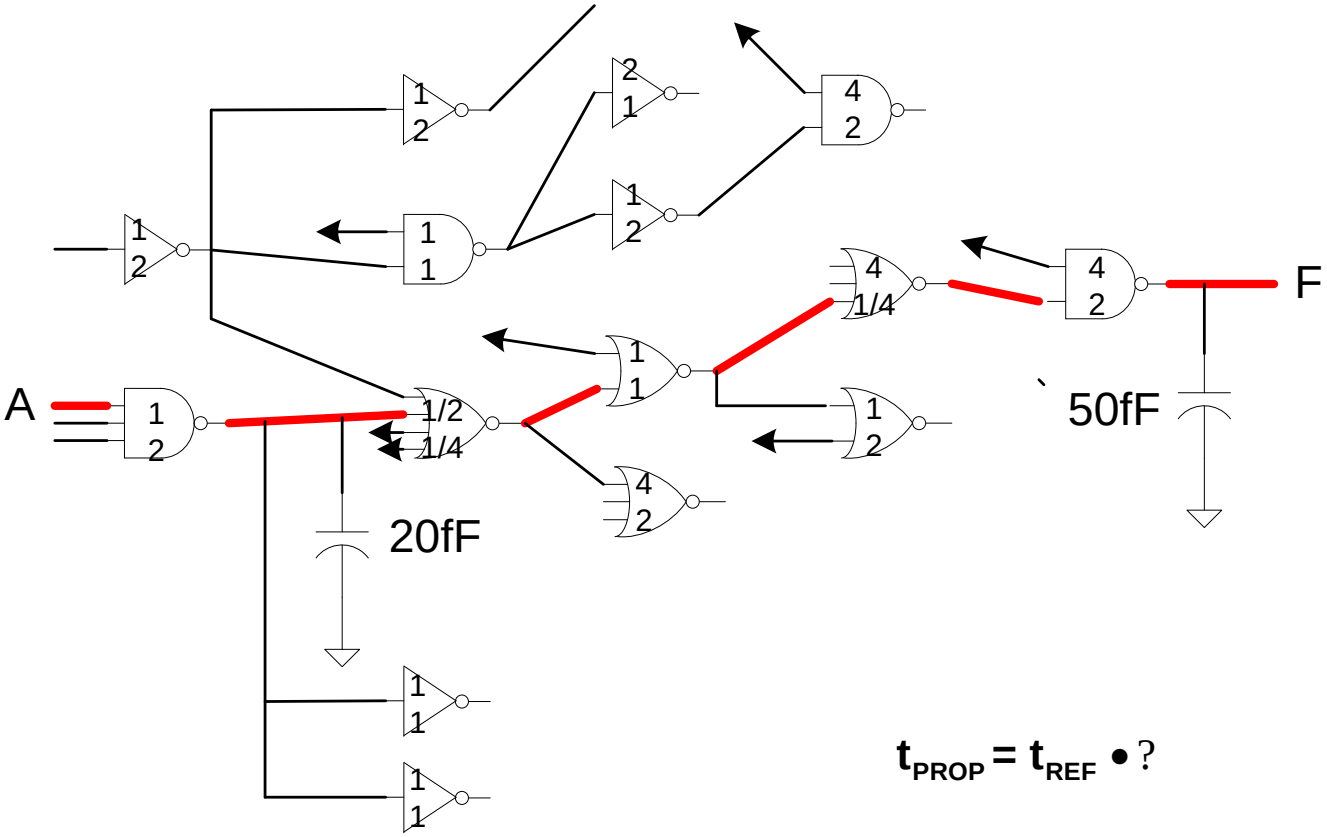
$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{5} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF} \bullet \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{13}{2}(3+3)+1(12+1)+1(6+10)+\frac{1}{2}(9+1)+12.5(2+3) \right)$$

$$t_{PROP}=63.25 \bullet t_{REF}$$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

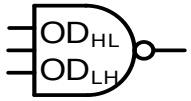
Asymmetric-sized gates



$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet ?$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Asymmetric-sized gates

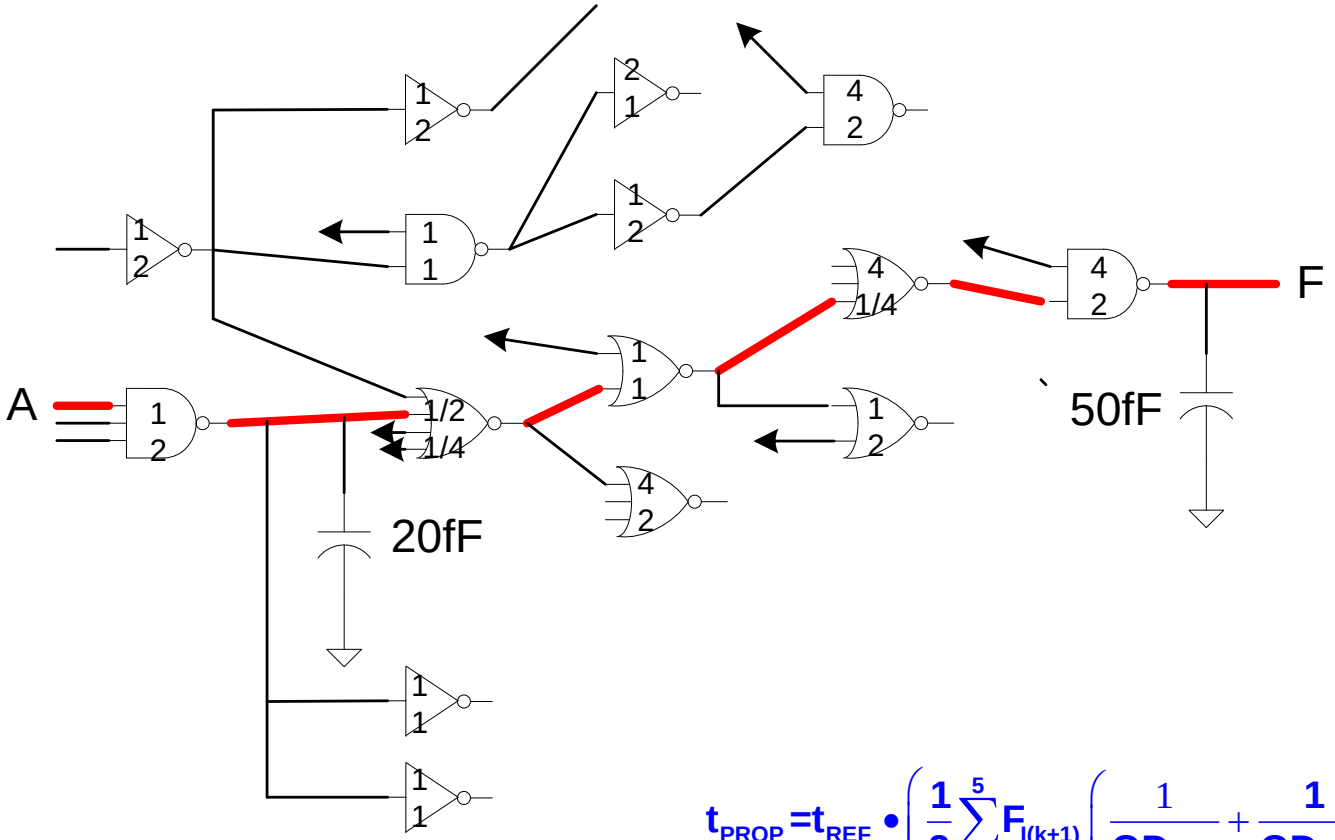


	Equal Rise/Fall	Equal Rise/Fall (with OD)	Minimum Sized	Asymmetric OD (OD_{HL}, OD_{LH})
C_{IN}/C_{REF}				
Inverter	1	OD	1/2	$\frac{OD_{HL}+3 \bullet OD_{LH}}{4}$
NOR	$\frac{3k+1}{4}$	$\frac{3k+1}{4} \bullet OD$	1/2	$\frac{OD_{HL}+3k \bullet OD_{LH}}{4}$
NAND	$\frac{3+k}{4}$	$\frac{3+k}{4} \bullet OD$	1/2	$\frac{k \bullet OD_{HL}+3 \bullet OD_{LH}}{4}$
Overdrive				
Inverter				
HL	1	OD	1	OD_{HL}
LH	1	OD	1/3	OD_{LH}
NOR				
HL	1	OD	1	OD_{HL}
LH	1	OD	1/(3k)	OD_{LH}
NAND				
HL	1	OD	1/k	OD_{HL}
LH	1	OD	1/3	OD_{LH}
t_{PROP}/t_{REF}	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)}$	$\sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$	$\frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)}\left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}}+\frac{1}{OD_{LHk}}\right)$	$\frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)}\left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}}+\frac{1}{OD_{LHk}}\right)$

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2}\sum_{k=1}^{5} F_{I(k+1)}\left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}}+\frac{1}{OD_{LHk}}\right)\right)$$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

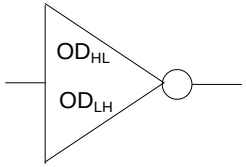
Asymmetric-sized gates



$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{5} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

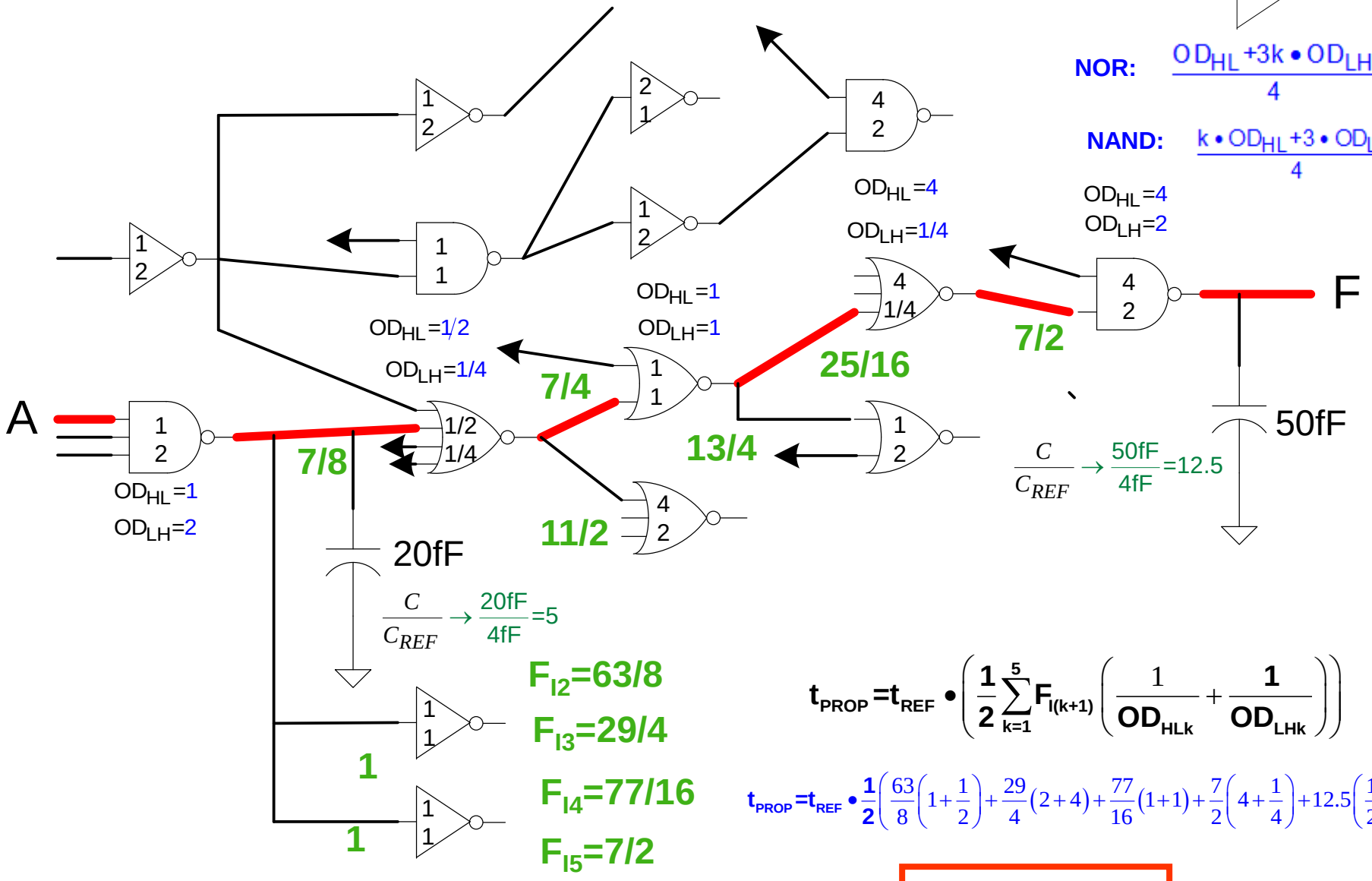
Asymmetric-sized gates

(Note: This C_{OX} is somewhat larger than that in the 0.5u ON process)



NOR: $\frac{OD_{HL}+3k \bullet OD_{LH}}{4}$

NAND: $\frac{k \bullet OD_{HL}+3 \bullet OD_{LH}}{4}$



$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{5} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

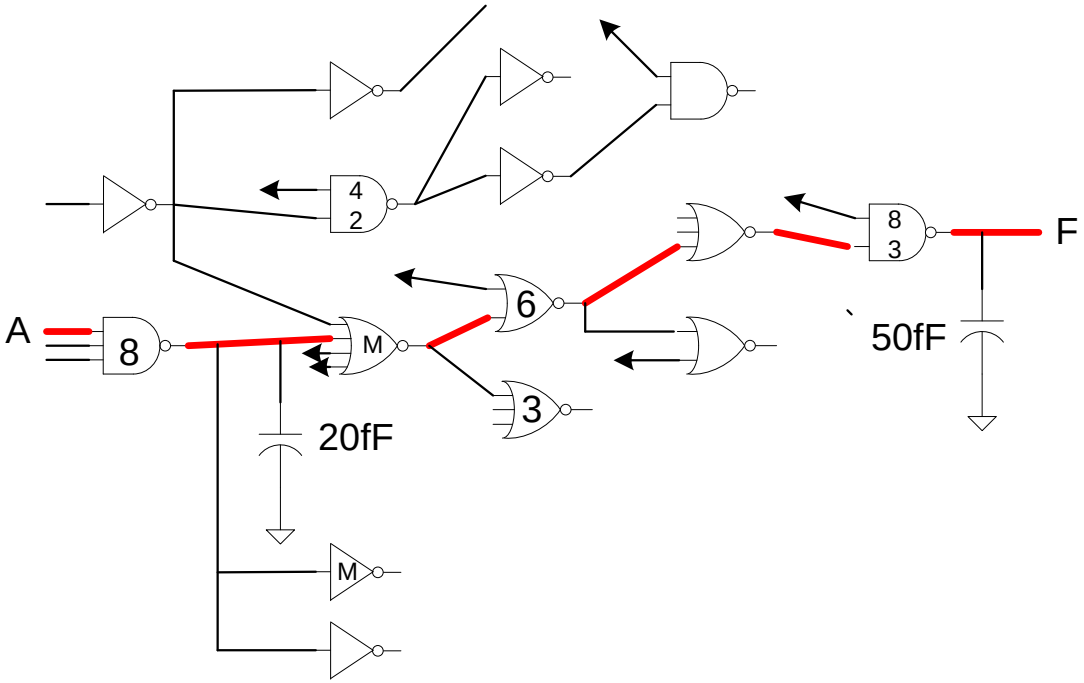
$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{63}{8}\left(1+\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{29}{4}(2+4) + \frac{77}{16}(1+1) + \frac{7}{2}\left(4+\frac{1}{4}\right) + 12.5\left(\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{4}\right) \right)$$

$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet ?$

$t_{PROP} = 44.6 \bullet t_{REF}$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

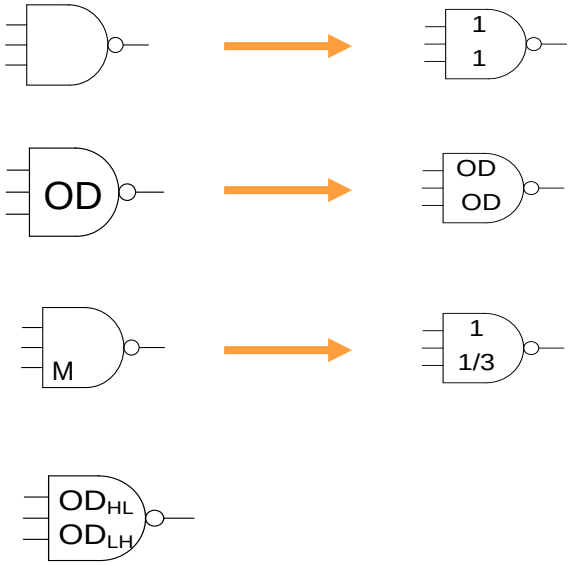
Mixture of Minimum-sized gates, equal rise/fall gates and OD



$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet ?$

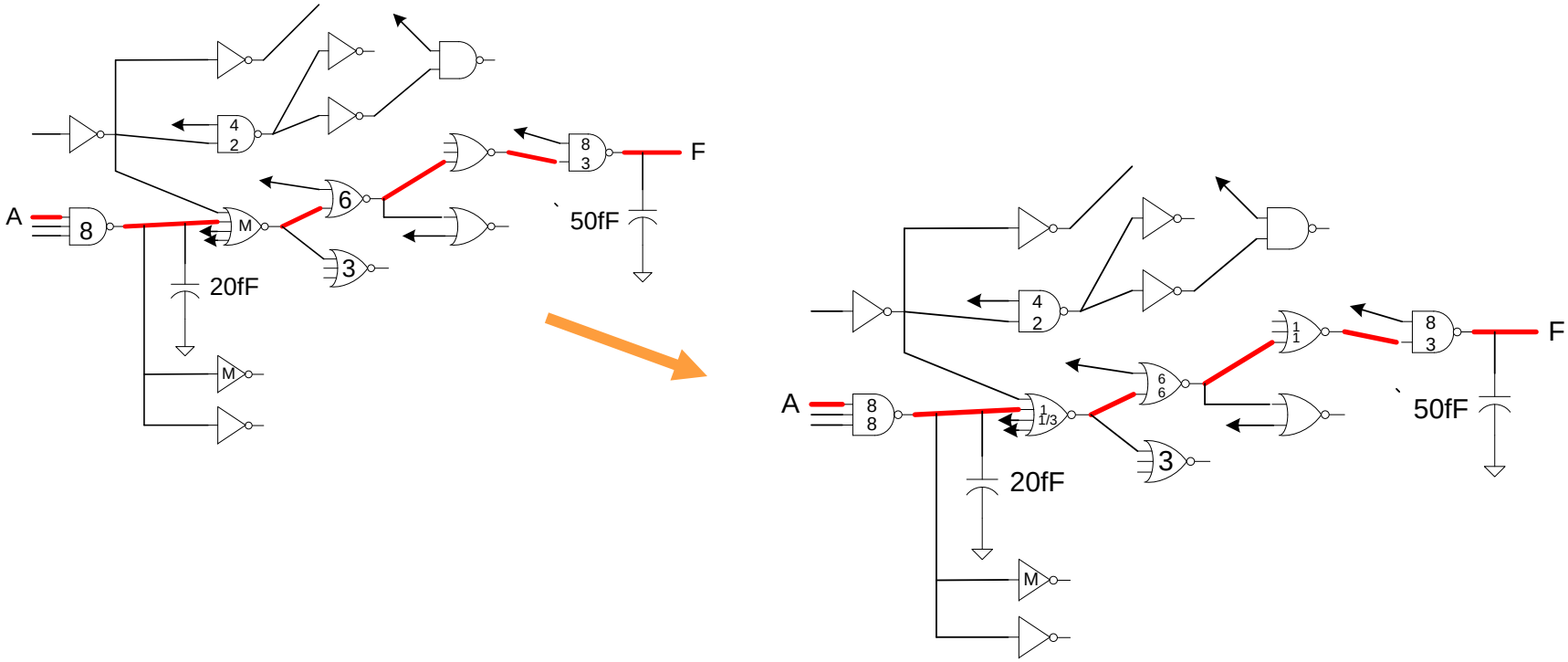
Driving Notation

- **Equal rise/fall (no overdrive)**
- **Equal rise/fall with overdrive**
- **Minimum Sized**
- **Asymmetric Overdrive**



Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

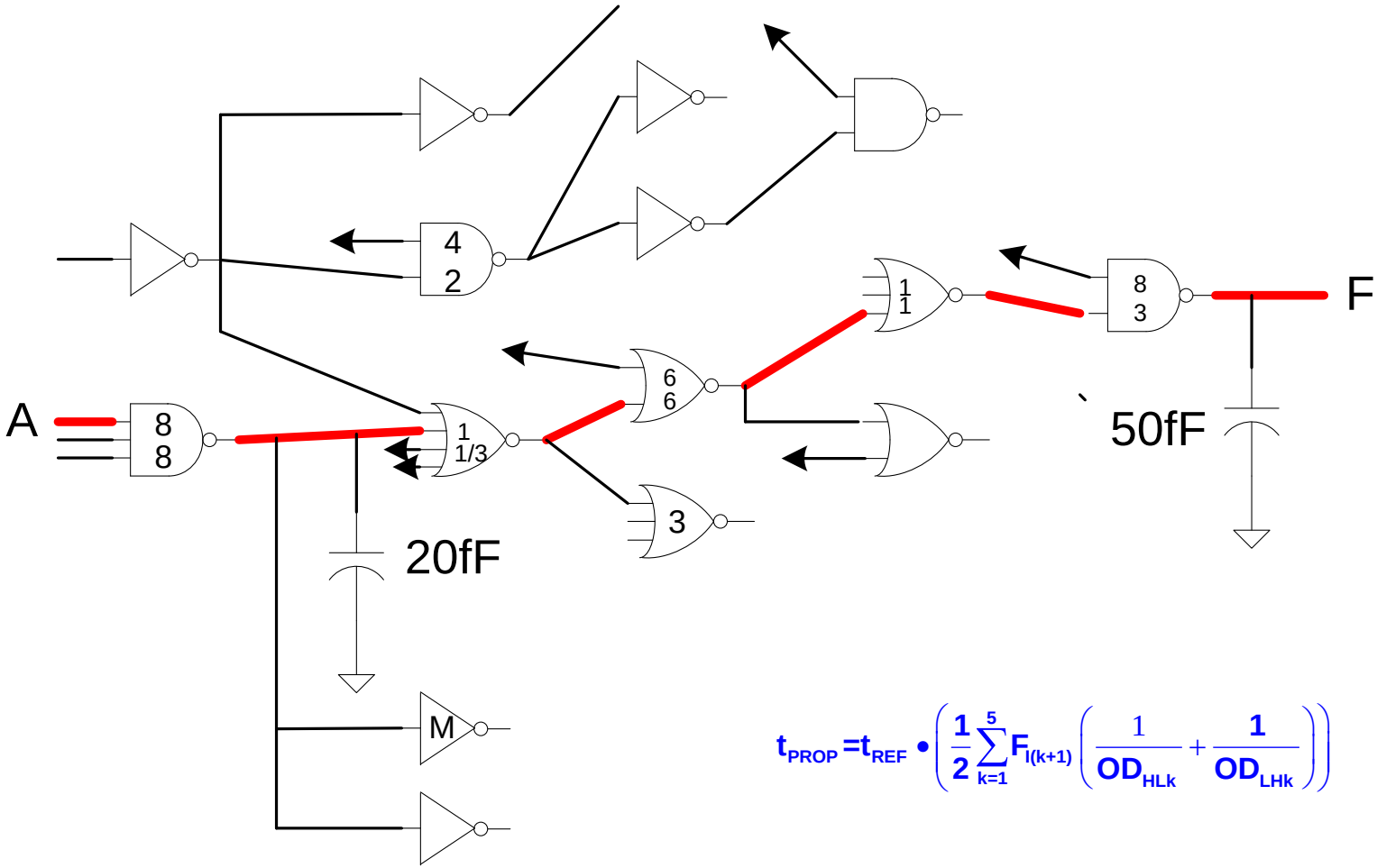
Mixture of Minimum-sized gates, equal rise/fall gates and OD



$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{5} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

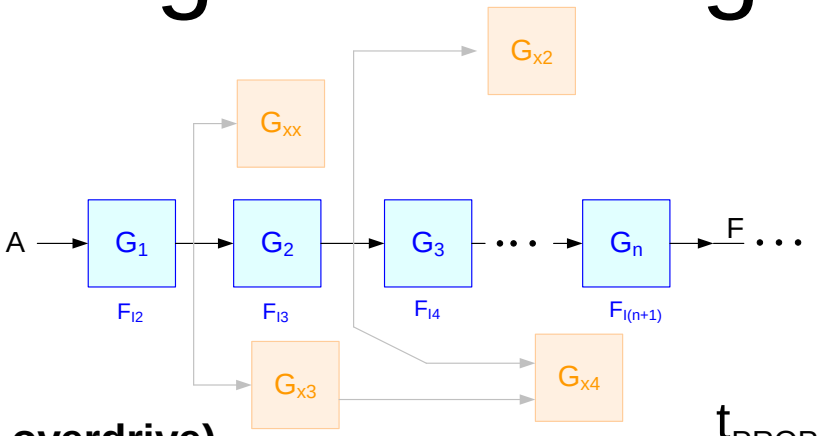
Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading

Mixture of Minimum-sized gates, equal rise/fall gates and OD



$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{5} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

Propagation Delay in Multiple-Levels of Logic with Stage Loading



- **Equal rise/fall (no overdrive)**

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} FI_{(k+1)}$$

- **Equal rise/fall with overdrive**

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$$

- **Minimum Sized**

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

- **Asymmetric overdrive**

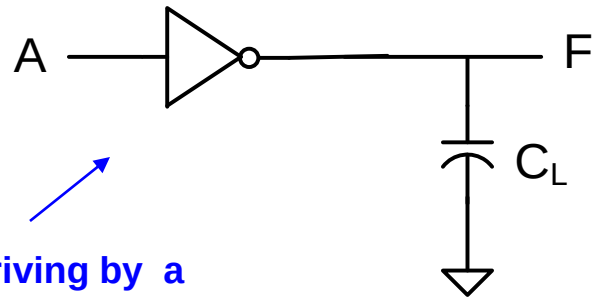
$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

- **Combination of equal rise/fall, minimum size and overdrive**

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \bullet \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} F_{I(k+1)} \left(\frac{1}{OD_{HLk}} + \frac{1}{OD_{LHk}} \right) \right)$$

Driving Large Capacitive Loads

Example



Assume driving by a reference inverter

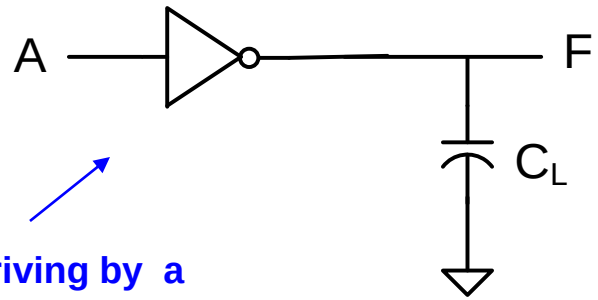
Assume $C_L=1000C_{REF}$

t_{PROP}=?

In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF,R_{PDREF}=2.5K

Driving Large Capacitive Loads

Example



Assume driving by a reference inverter

Assume $C_L=1000C_{REF}$

$t_{PROP}=1000t_{REF}$

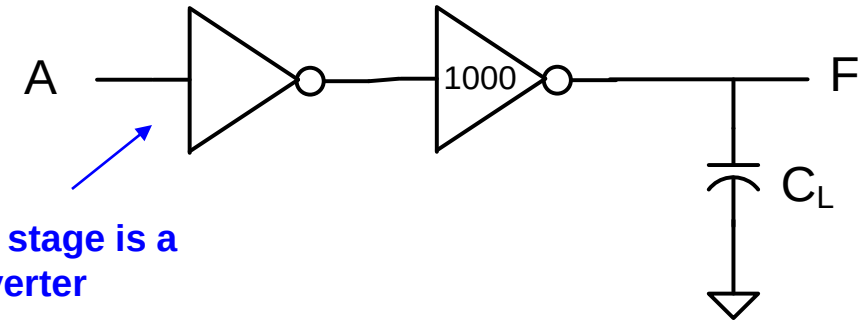
t_{PROP} is too long !

In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF,R_{PDREF}=2.5K

Driving Large Capacitive Loads

Example

Assume $C_L = 1000 C_{REF}$



Assume first stage is a reference inverter

$$t_{PROP} = ?$$

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{2} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$$

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \left(\frac{1}{1} 1000 + \frac{1}{1000} 1000 \right) = t_{REF} \left(1000 + 1 \right)$$

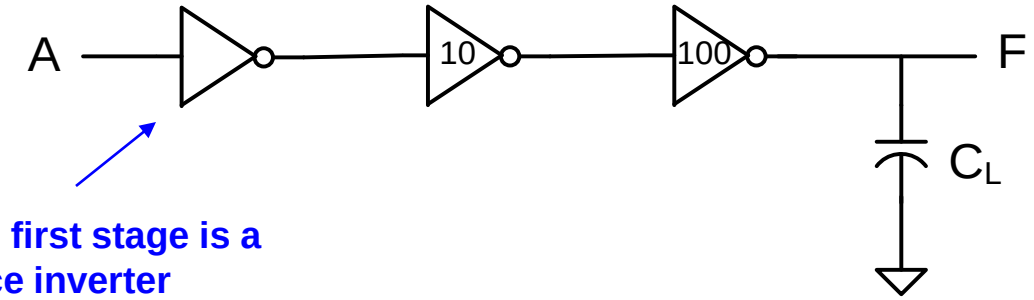
$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \left(1001 \right)$$

Delay of second inverter is really small but overall delay is even longer than before!

Driving Large Capacitive Loads

Example

Assume $C_L=1000C_{REF}$



Assume first stage is a reference inverter

$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF}\sum_{k=1}^{3}\frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k}$$

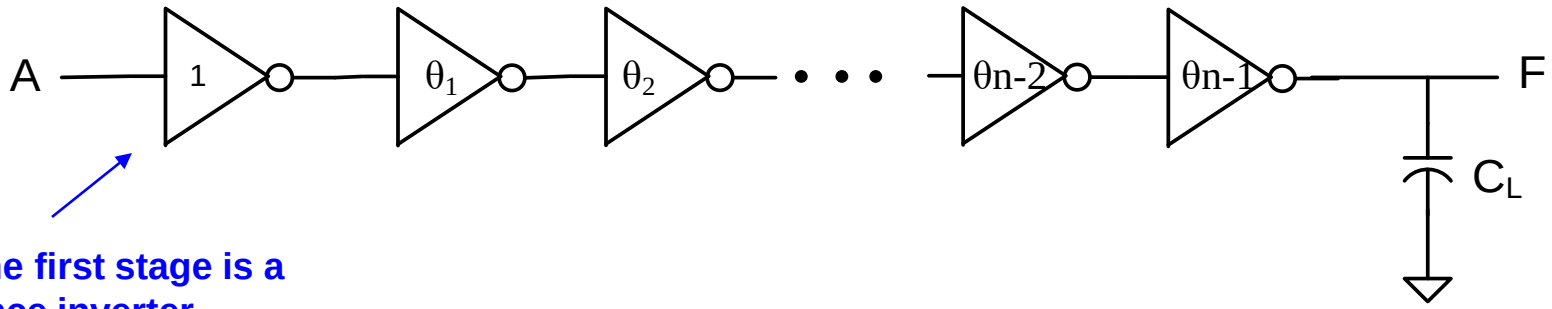
$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF}\left(\frac{1}{1}10+\frac{1}{10}100+\frac{1}{100}1000\right)=t_{REF}\left(10+10+10\right)$$

$$t_{PROP}=30t_{REF}$$

Dramatic reduction is propagation delay (over a factor of 30!)

What is the fastest way to drive a large capacitive load?

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



Assume first stage is a reference inverter

Need to determine the number of stages, n, and the OD factors for each stage to minimize t_{PROP}.

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{F_{I(k+1)}}{OD_k} \quad \rightarrow \quad t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\theta_k}{\theta_{k-1}}$$

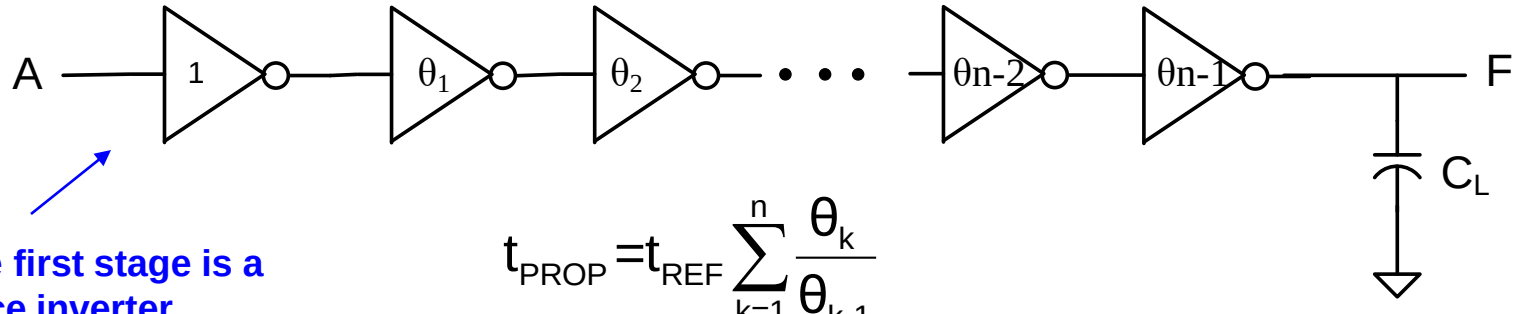
where $\theta_0 = 1$, $\theta_n = C_L / C_{REF}$

This becomes an n-parameter optimization (minimization) problem !

Unknown parameters: $\{\theta_1, \theta_2, \ldots \theta_{n-1}, n\}$

An n-parameter nonlinear optimization problem is generally difficult !!!!

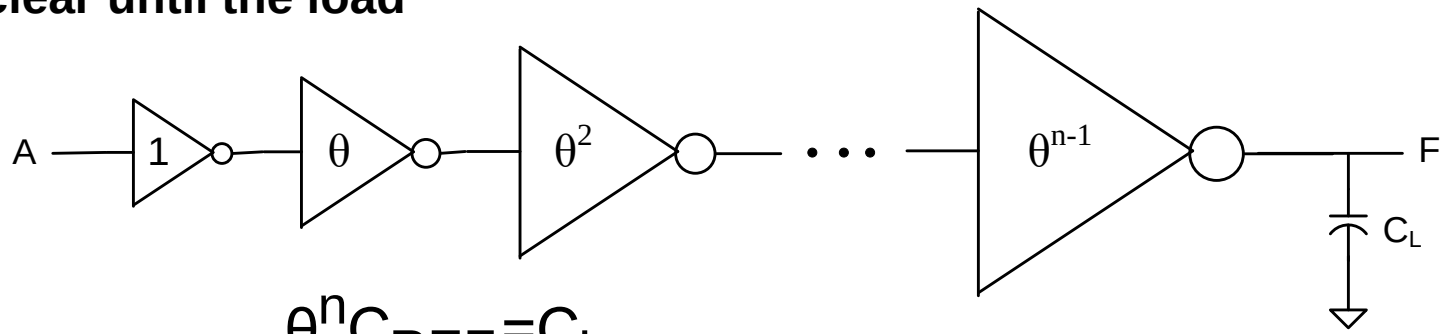
Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



Assume first stage is a reference inverter

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\theta_k}{\theta_{k-1}}$$

Order reduction strategy : Assume overdrive of stages increases by the same factor clear until the load



$$\theta^n C_{REF} = C_L$$

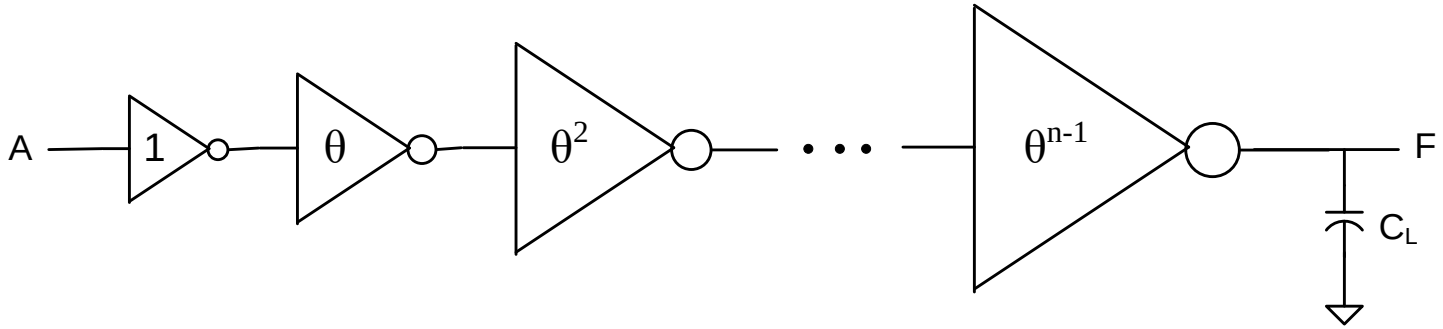
This becomes a 2-parameter optimization (minimization) problem !

Unknown parameters: $\{\theta, n\}$

One degree of freedom

One constraint : $\theta^n C_{REF} = C_L$

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\theta_k}{\theta_{k-1}} \quad \rightarrow \quad t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{\theta^k}{\theta^{k-1}} \qquad \theta^n C_{REF} = C_L$$

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} n\theta$$

$$\left.\begin{aligned} t_{PROP} &= t_{REF} n\theta \\ \theta^n C_{REF} &= C_L \end{aligned}\right\}$$

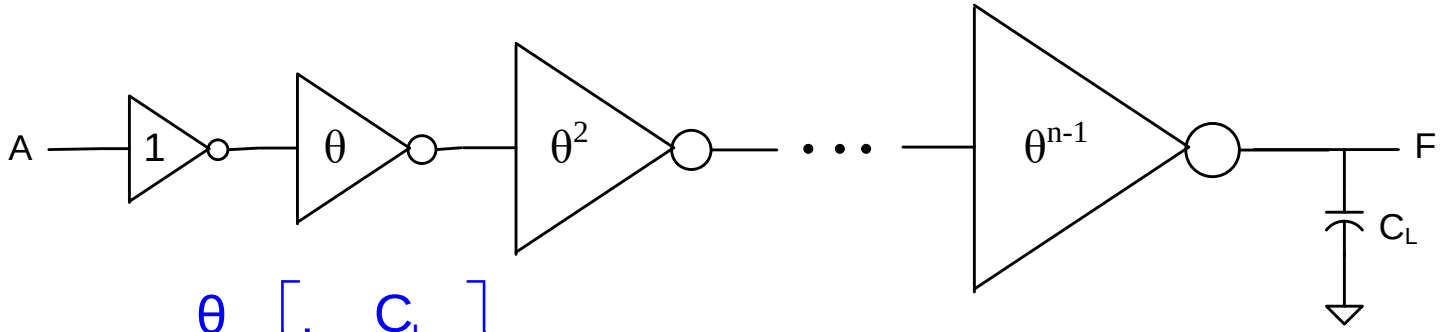
Unknown parameters: $\{\theta, n\}$

$$\theta^n C_{REF} = C_L \quad \rightarrow \quad n = \frac{1}{\ln(\theta)} \ln\left(\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right)$$

Thus obtain an expression for t_{PROP} in terms of only θ

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \frac{\theta}{\ln(\theta)} \left[\ln \frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right]$$

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF} \frac{\theta}{\ln(\theta)} \left[\ln \frac{C_L}{C_{REF}} \right]$$

$$\theta^n C_{REF} = C_L$$

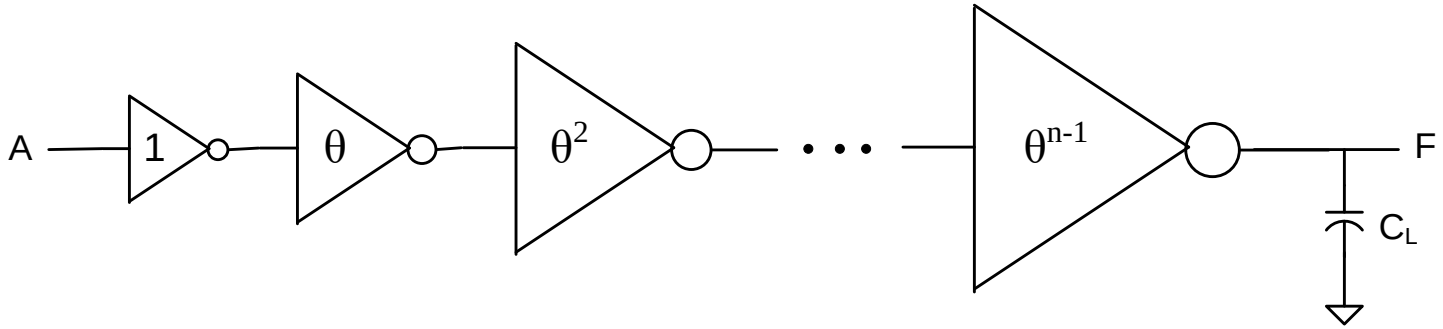
Is suffices to minimize the function $f(\theta) = \frac{\theta}{\ln(\theta)}$

$$\frac{df}{d\theta} = \frac{\ln(\theta) - \theta \bullet \left(\frac{1}{\theta}\right)}{(\ln(\theta))^2} = 0$$

$$\ln(\theta) - 1 = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \theta = e$$

$$n = \frac{1}{\ln(\theta)} \ln\left(\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right) \quad \rightarrow \quad n = \ln\left(\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right)$$

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



$$\theta_{OPT} = e$$

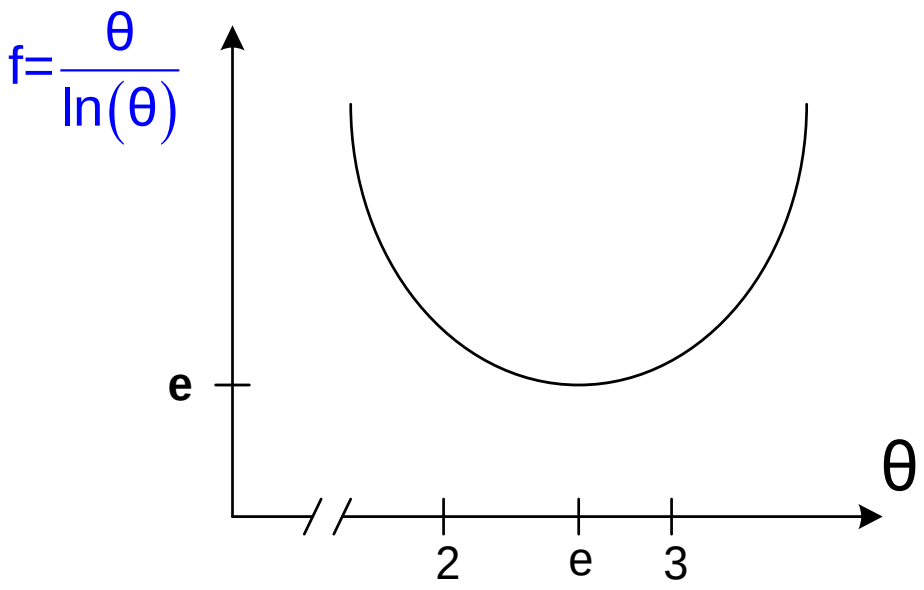
$$\theta^n C_{REF} = C_L$$

$$n_{OPT} = \ln\left(\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right)$$

$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF}\frac{\theta}{\ln(\theta)}\left[\ln\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right]$$

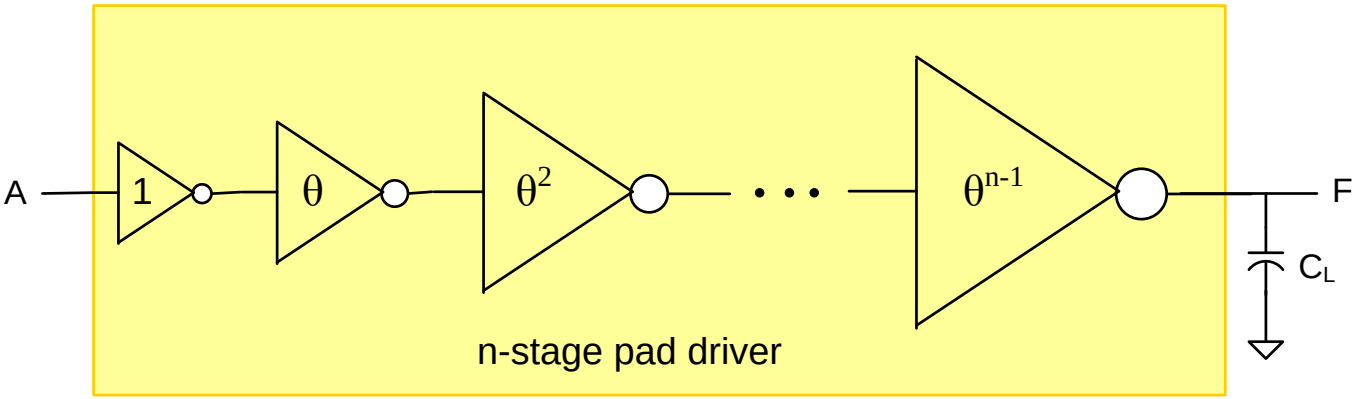
$$t_{PROP} = t_{REF}\, e\left[\ln\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right] = n\theta t_{REF}$$

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



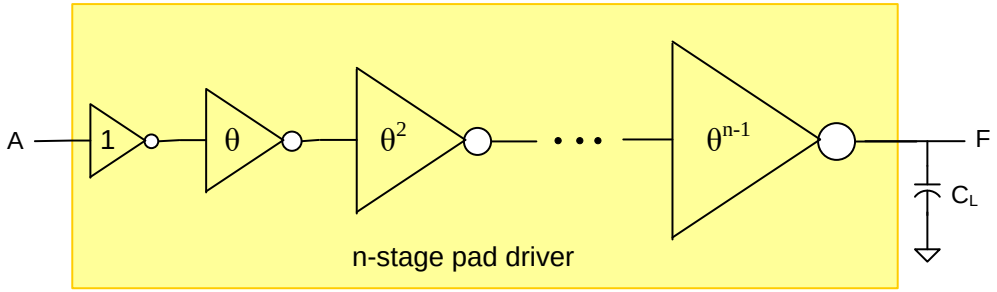
- **minimum at θ=e but shallow inflection point for 2<θ<3**
- **practically pick θ=2, θ=2.5, or θ=3**
- **since optimization may provide non-integer for n, must pick close integer**

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



- **Often termed a pad driver**
- **Often used to drive large internal busses as well**
- **Generally included in standard cells or in cell library**
- **Device sizes can become very large**
- **Odd number of stages will cause signal inversion but usually not a problem**

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



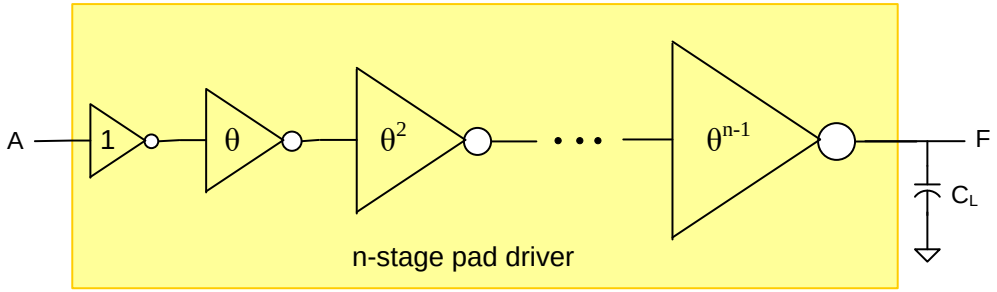
Example: Design a pad driver for driving a load capacitance of 10pF, determine t_{PROP} for the pad driver, and compare this with the propagation delay for driving the pad with a minimum-sized reference inverter. In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF, R_{PDREF}=2.5K

$$n_{OPT} = \ln\left(\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right) = \ln\left(\frac{10pF}{4fF}\right) = 7.8$$

Select n=8, θ=2.5

$$W_{nk} = 2.5^{k-1} \bullet W_{REF}, \qquad W_{pk} = 3 \bullet 2.5^{k-1} \bullet W_{REF}$$

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



Example: Design a pad driver for driving a load capacitance of 10pF, determine t_{PROP} for the pad driver, and compare this with the propagation delay for driving the pad with a minimum-sized reference inverter. In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF,R_{PDREF}=2.5K

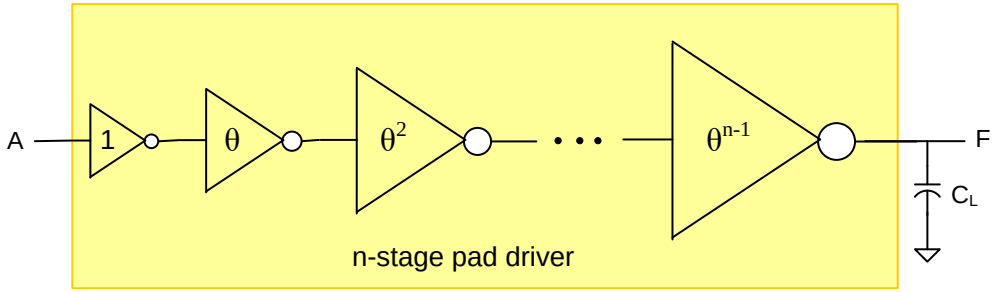
$$W_{nk}=2.5^{k-1}\bullet W_{REF},\qquad W_{pk}=3\bullet 2.5^{k-1}\bullet W_{REF}$$

$$W_{REF}=W_{MIN}\qquad L_n=L_p=L_{MIN}$$

k	n-channel		p-channel	
1	1	WMIN	3	WMIN
2	2.5	WMIN	7.5	WMIN
3	6.25	WMIN	18.75	WMIN
4	15.6	WMIN	46.9	WMIN
5	39.1	WMIN	117.2	WMIN
6	97.7	WMIN	293.0	WMIN
7	244.1	WMIN	732.4	WMIN
8	610.4	WMIN	1831.1	WMIN

Note devices in last stage are very large !

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



Example: Design a pad driver for driving a load capacitance of 10pF, determine t_{PROP} for the pad driver, and compare this with the propagation delay for driving the pad with a minimum-sized reference inverter.

In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF, R_{PDREF}=2.5K

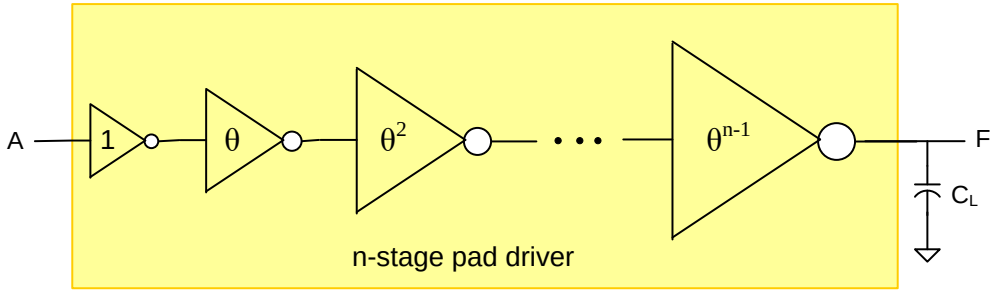
$W_{nk}=2.5^{k-1}\bullet W_{REF}$, $W_{pk}=3\bullet 2.5^{k-1}\bullet W_{REF}$

$$t_{PROP} \cong n\theta t_{REF} = 8\bullet 2.5\bullet t_{REF} = 20t_{REF}$$

More accurately:

$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{7}\theta+\frac{1}{\theta^7}\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}\right)=t_{REF}\left(17.5+\frac{1}{610}2500\right)=21.6t_{REF}$$

Optimal Driving of Capacitive Loads



Example: Design a pad driver for driving a load capacitance of 10pF, determine t_{PROP} for the pad driver, and compare this with the propagation delay for driving the pad with a minimum-sized reference inverter.

In 0.5u proc t_{REF}=20ps, C_{REF}=4fF, R_{PDREF}=2.5K

$W_{nk}=2.5^{k-1} \bullet W_{REF}$, $W_{pk}=3 \bullet 2.5^{k-1} \bullet W_{REF}$

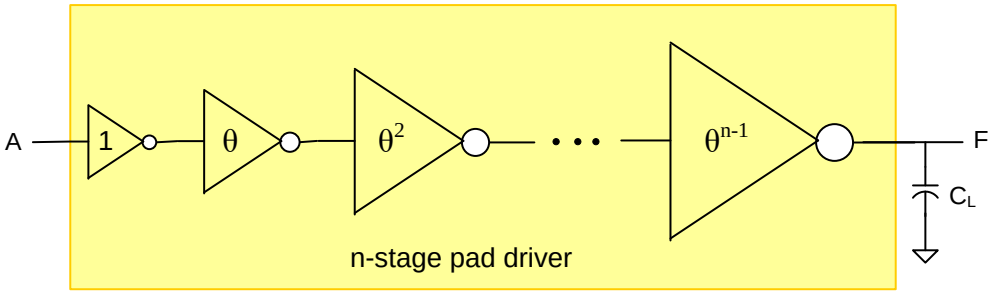
If driven directly with the minimum-sized reference inverter

$$t_{PROP}=t_{REF}\frac{C_L}{C_{REF}}=2500t_{REF}$$

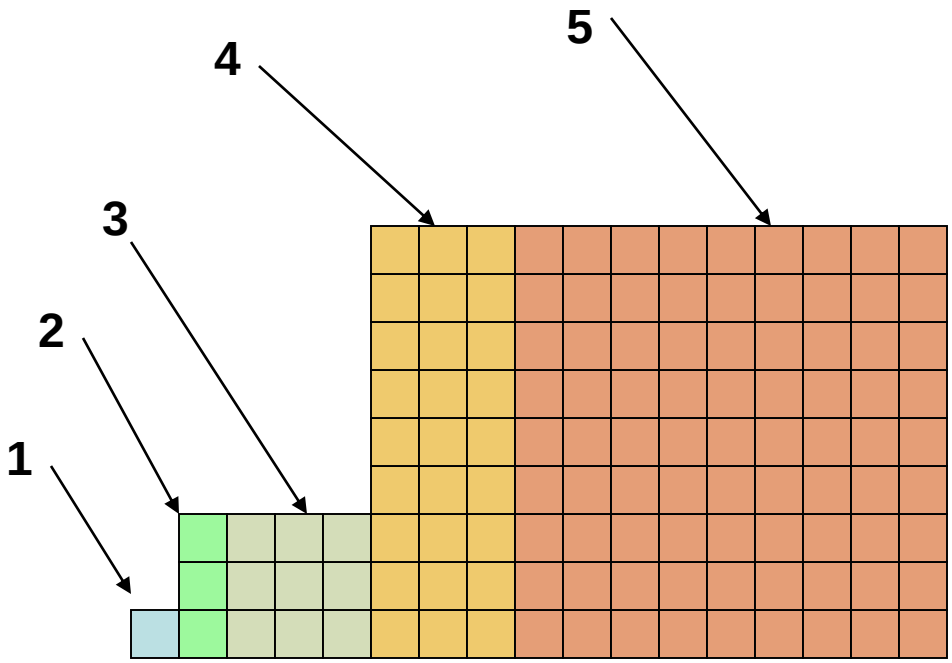
Note an improvement in speed by a factor of

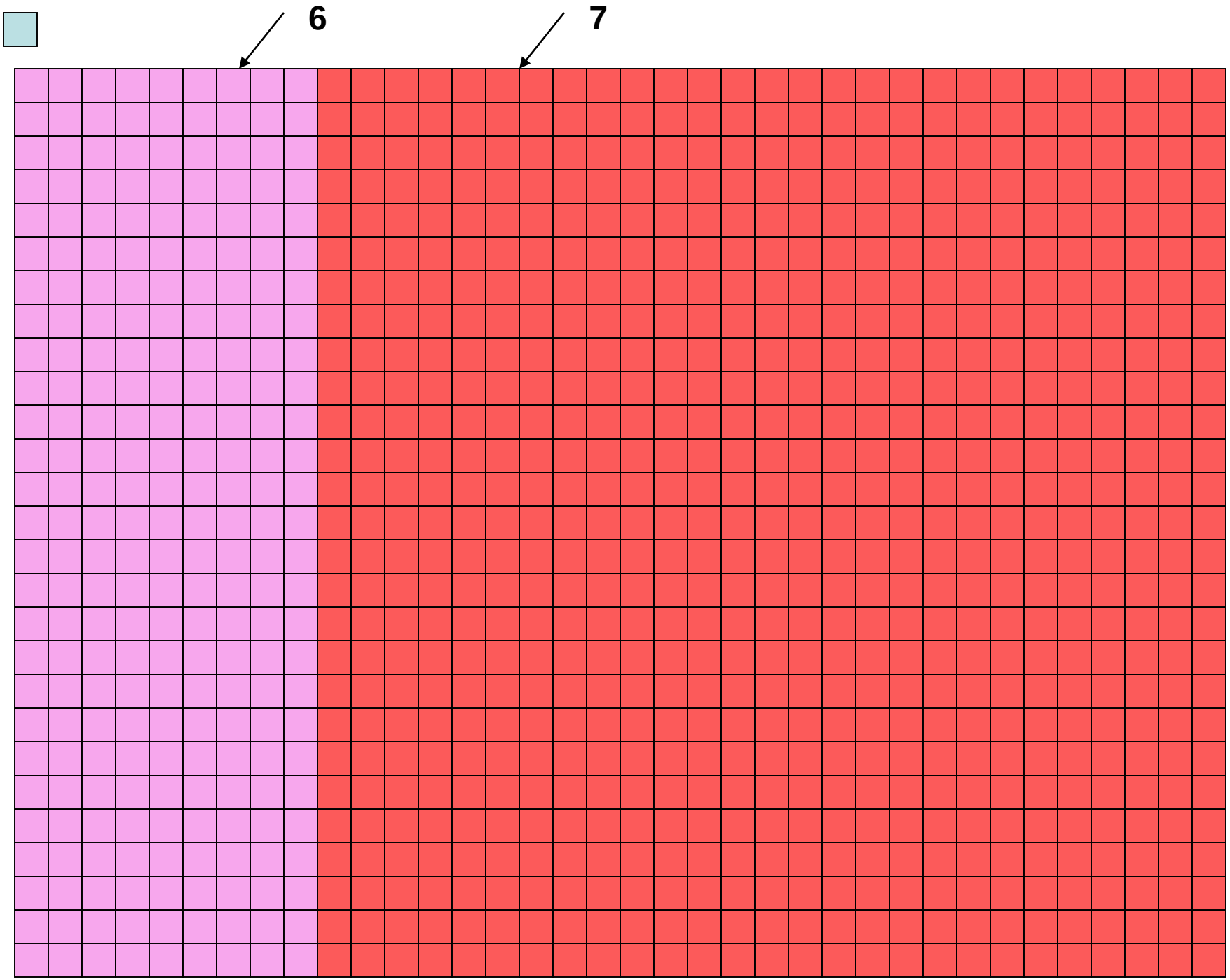
$$r=\frac{2500}{20}=125$$

Pad Driver Size Implications

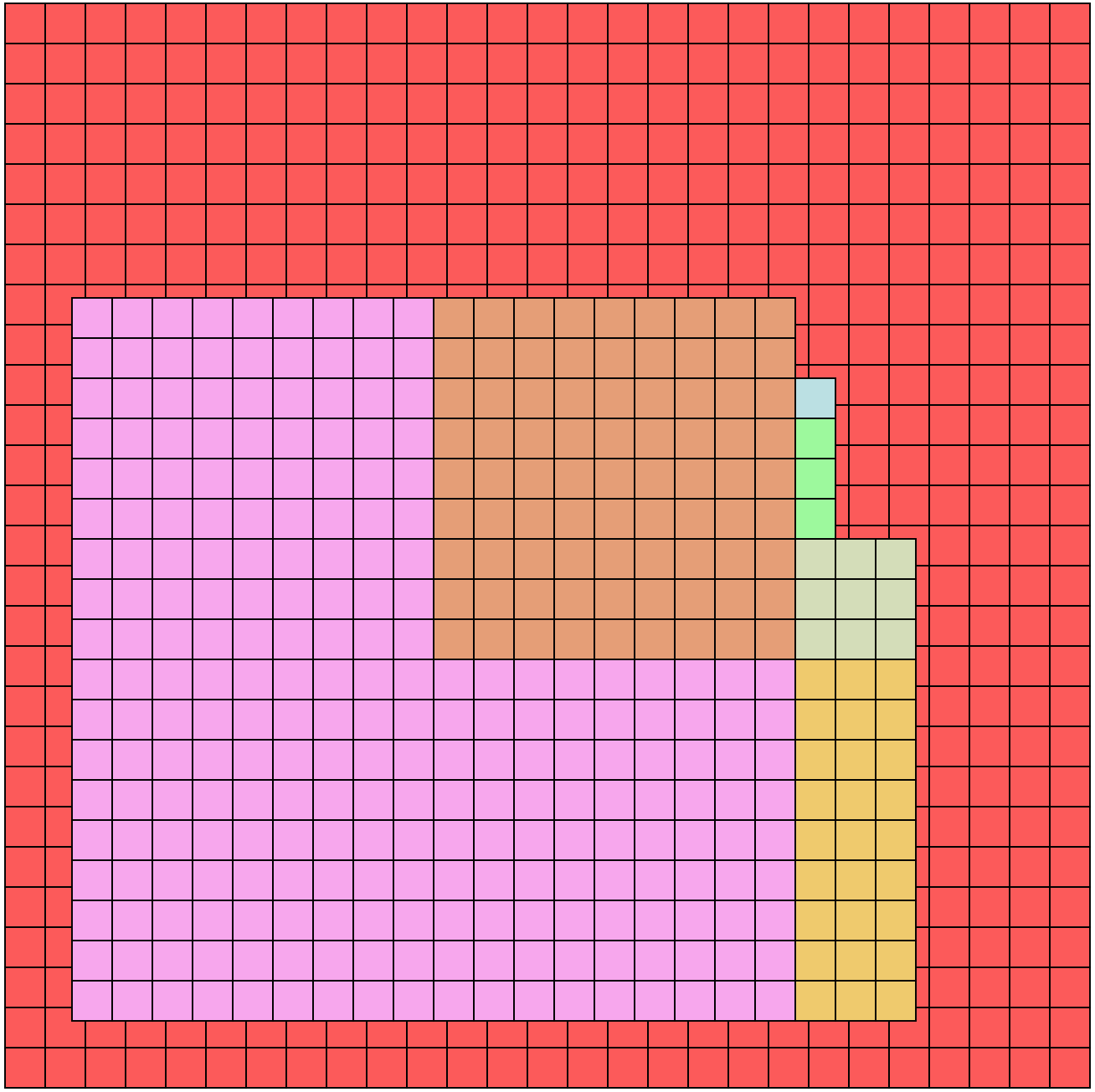


Consider a 7-stage pad driver and assume θ = 3




6
7

Area of Last Stage Larger than that of all previous stages combined!



End of Lecture 42