



Faculty of Engineering

End Semester Examination May 2025

EC3EV03 Low Power VLSI Design

Programme	:	B.Tech.	Branch/Specialisation	:	EC
Duration	:	3 hours	Maximum Marks	:	60

Note: All questions are compulsory. Internal choices, if any, are indicated. Assume suitable data if necessary.

Notations and symbols have their usual meaning.

Section 1 (Answer all question(s))		Marks	CO	BL
Q1.	The typical quiescent power dissipation of low-power CMOS circuits is-	1	1	2
	<input type="radio"/> 01 mW <input type="radio"/> 0.5 mW <input checked="" type="radio"/> 2 nW <input type="radio"/> 50 nW			
Q2.	Static power reduction technique is-	1	2	1
	<input type="radio"/> Power gating <input type="radio"/> Multiple threshold voltages <input type="radio"/> Variable threshold voltages <input checked="" type="radio"/> All of these			
Q3.	What is the design flow of VLSI system?	1	1	2
	I. architecture design II. market requirement III. logic design IV. HDL coding <input checked="" type="radio"/> II-I-III-IV <input type="radio"/> IV-I-III-II <input type="radio"/> III-II-I-IV <input type="radio"/> I-II-III-IV			
Q4.	Mechanism affects the subthreshold leakage current is-	1	2	1
	<input type="radio"/> DIBL effect <input type="radio"/> Narrow width affect <input type="radio"/> Effect of channel length <input checked="" type="radio"/> All of these			
Q5.	To reduce power dissipation in a circuit, C (Capacitance) must be-	1	3	1
	<input type="radio"/> Maximum <input checked="" type="radio"/> Minimum <input type="radio"/> Infinite <input type="radio"/> 10F			
Q6.	If $C=0.2F$, $V_{DD}=3V$ and $f=0.5Hz$ than dynamic power will be-	1	3	3
	<input type="radio"/> 0.5 Watt <input checked="" type="radio"/> 0.9 Watt <input type="radio"/> 1.9 Watt <input type="radio"/> 2.0 Watt			
Q7.	The completion time for multiplication time in Braun method is-	1	4	1
	<input type="radio"/> n <input type="radio"/> 2n <input type="radio"/> 3n <input checked="" type="radio"/> 4n			
Q8.	The storage element present in DRAM is-	1	4	1
	<input type="radio"/> Diode <input checked="" type="radio"/> Capacitor <input type="radio"/> MOSFET <input type="radio"/> Flip-flop			
Q9.	The primary reason for applying probabilistic analysis is-	1	5	2
	<input type="radio"/> Computational efficiency <input type="radio"/> Signal correlations <input type="radio"/> Spurious Transition <input checked="" type="radio"/> Signal glitches			

Q10. Which type of simulation mode is used to check the timing performance of a design?

1 5 2

- ☐ Behavioural
 ☐ Switch-level
☐ Transistor-level
 ☒ Gate-level

Section 2 (Answer all question(s))

Marks CO BL

Q11. Derive the noise margins for CMOS inverter.

2 1 2

Rubric	Marks
Noise Margin	2

Q12. Draw the static CMOS logic circuit for expression-
 $Y = (D(A = BC))'$.

3 1 3

Rubric	Marks
Construct CMOS logic circuit	3

Q13. (a) Explain the static and dynamic power dissipation in CMOS circuit with necessary diagram and expressions.

5 1 2

Rubric	Marks
Definition	1
Explanation with expression	4

(OR)

(b) List out the sources of power dissipation in VLSI circuits and explain any two in detail.

Rubric	Marks
Name the sources	1
Explanation	4

Section 3 (Answer all question(s))

Marks CO BL

Q14. Explain charge leakage mechanism in MOS transistors.

3 2 2

Rubric	Marks
Explanation	3

Q15. (a) What are the advantages and challenges of using high-k dielectrics in semiconductor devices?

7 2 2

Rubric	Marks
Advantages	4
Challenges	3

(OR)

(b) Draw the block diagram of a typical low power chip based on variable-threshold CMOS circuits and explain its operation.

Rubric	Marks
Block Diagram	2
Description	5

Section 4 (Answer all question(s))

Marks CO BL

Q16. Explain how voltage scaling helps to reduce power dissipation in a CMOS integrated circuit.

3 3 3

Rubric	Marks
Explanation	3

Q17. (a) Describe low power VLSI design techniques at algorithmic level.

7 3 3

Rubric	Marks
Name the techniques	2
Description	5

(OR)

(b) Explain how pipelined and parallel architecture help to reduce power dissipation in low power VLSI design.

Rubric	Marks
pipelined architecture	3.5
parallel architecture	3.5

Section 5 (Answer all question(s))

Marks CO BL

Q18. Draw the carry look ahead adder architecture and identify its key components.

4 4 3

Rubric	Marks
carry look ahead adder architecture	2
key components	2

Q19. (a) What is Braun Multiplier? Estimate its architecture, performance and speed consideration.

6 4 3

Rubric	Marks
Define Braun Multiplier	1
architecture	2
performance	1
speed consideration	2

(OR)

(b) Write the different techniques to reduce power dissipation in a SRAM.

Rubric	Marks
Name the techniques.	2
Description	4

Section 6 (Answer any 2 question(s))

Marks CO BL

Q20. Analyse probabilistic power estimation technique at the circuit level.

5 5 4

Rubric	Marks
Analyze	5

Q21. Explain different techniques of software power estimation.

5 5 3

Rubric	Marks
Name different techniques	1
Description	4

Q22. Compute the transition density and static probability of $Y=AB + C$ given $P(a) = 0.2$, $P(b) = 0.3$, $P(c) = 0.4$, $D(a) = 1$, $D(a) = 2$, $D(a) = 3$.

5 5 5

Rubric	Marks
transition density, $D(y) = [P(b)\{1 - P(c)\} * 1] + [P(a)\{1 - P(c)\} * 2] + [\{1 - P(a)P(b)\} * 3] = 3.24$	3
static probability, $P(y) = P(a)P(b) + P(c) - P(a)P(b)P(c) = 0.436$	2
