

Multibit Subtractor

To use a full-adder to subtract, we invert the second input (b), and set the carry-in = 1.

If we invert every b_i input in a multibit adder and set the carry-in to be 1, we have a multibit subtractor.

Combining subtraction and addition

If we take a 2~1 multiplexor and set the inputs to be b_i and $\text{NOT}(b_i)$, then the select line chooses which output goes to the multibit input.

We can then use the carry-in as the select line, and have a multiplexor for each b digit in the multibit adder/subtractor.

Then setting the carry-in to be 1 gives us subtraction, and setting it to 0 gives us addition.

Some Theory

Rules of Boolean algebra

1. Closure Rule: There are 2 operators which operate on pairs of elements, producing a result belonging to the set {true, false}:
 - i. \cdot (AND)
 - ii. $+$ (OR)
2. These operators are commutative:
 - i. $A \cdot B = B \cdot A$
 - ii. $A + B = B + A$
3. They are distributive:
 - i. $A \cdot (B + C) = (A \cdot B) + (A \cdot C)$
 - ii. $A + (B \cdot C) = (A + B) \cdot (A + C)$
4. There are two identity elements:
 - i. $1 \cdot A = A$
 - ii. $0 + A = A$
5. For each A there is an inverse A' such that:
 - i. $A \cdot A' = 0$

$$\text{ii. } A + A' = 1$$

Theorems

- T1: $A \cdot 0 = 0$
- T2: $A + 1 = 1$
- T3: $A \cdot A = A$
- T4: $A + A = A$
- T5: $A + (A \cdot B) = A$
- T6: $A + (A' \cdot B) = A + B$
- T7: $A \cdot B \cdot C = A \cdot (B \cdot C) = (A \cdot B) \cdot C$
- T8: $A + B + C = A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$
- T9: $(A \cdot B)' = A' + B'$
- T10: $(A + B)' = A' \cdot B'$
- T11: $(A')' = A$