

# 1 Organization and Introduction

- The Art of managing complexity
  - Abstraction: Hiding details when they are not important
  - Discipline: Intentionally restricting your design choices so that you can work more productively at higher abstraction levels
  - The three -Y's
    - \* Hierarchy: A system is divided into modules of smaller complexity
    - \* Modularity: Having well defined functions and interfaces
    - \* Regularity: Encouraging uniformity, so modules can be easily re-used
- Bit: **B**inary **d**igit

# 2 Binary Numbers

- Powers of two:
 

$2^0 = 1$	$2^5 = 32$	$2^{10} = 1024$
$2^1 = 2$	$2^6 = 64$	$2^{11} = 2048$
$2^2 = 4$	$2^7 = 128$	$2^{12} = 4096$
$2^3 = 8$	$2^8 = 256$	$2^{13} = 8192$
$2^4 = 16$	$2^9 = 512$	$2^{14} = 16384$
- Binary to decimal conversion
 
$$\begin{aligned}
 10011_2 &= 2^4 \times 1 + 2^3 \times 0 + 2^2 \times 0 + 2^1 \times 1 + 2^0 \times 1 \\
 &= 16 \times 1 + 8 \times 0 + 4 \times 0 + 2 \times 1 + 1 \times 1 \\
 &= 16 + 0 + 0 + 2 + 1 = 19_{10}
 \end{aligned}$$
- Convert decimal to binary (roughly). Example with  $47_{10}$  to binary
 

$2^6 = 64$	is $64 \leq 47$ ?	no	0	do nothing
$2^5 = 32$	is $32 \leq 47$ ?	yes	1	$47-32=15$
$2^4 = 16$	is $16 \leq 15$ ?	no	0	do nothing
$2^3 = 8$	is $8 \leq 15$ ?	yes	1	$15-8=7$
$2^2 = 4$	is $4 \leq 7$ ?	yes	1	$7-4=3$
$2^1 = 2$	is $2 \leq 3$ ?	yes	1	$3-2=1$
$2^0 = 1$	is $1 \leq 1$ ?	yes	1	$1-1=0$ ; done!

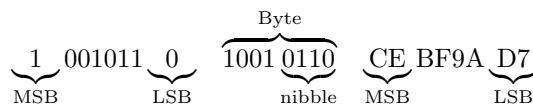
$\Rightarrow 47_{10}$  to binary is  $0101111_2$
- Binary values and range
  - $N$ -digit decimal number
    - \* How many values:  $10^N$
    - \* Range:  $[0, 10^N - 1]$
    - \* Example (3-digit number):  $10^3 = 1000$  possible values, range:  $[0, 999]$
  - $N$ -bit binary number
    - \* How many values:  $2^N$

- \* Range:  $[0, 2^N - 1]$
- \* Example (3-digit number):  $2^3 = 8$  possible values, range:  $[0, 7] = [000_2 \text{ to } 111_2]$

- Hexadecimal (Base-16) Numbers

Decimal	Hexadecimal	Binary		Decimal	Hexadecimal	Binary
0	0	0000		8	8	1000
1	1	0001		9	9	1001
2	2	0010		10	A	1010
3	3	0011		11	B	1011
4	4	0100		12	C	1100
5	5	0101		13	D	1101
6	6	0110		14	E	1110
7	7	0111		15	F	1111

- Bits, Bytes, Nibbles...



Where MSB=Most significant Bit and LSB=Least significant Bit

- Addition in base two works exactly the same as in base 10, using carries
- Overflow
  - Digital systems operate on a fixed number of bits
  - Addition overflows when the result is too big to fit in the available number of bits
- Signed Binary Numbers
  - Sign/Magnitude Numbers
    - \* 1 sign bit,  $N - 1$  magnitude bits
    - \* Sign bit is the most significant (left-most) bit
    - \* Example: 4-bit sign/mag repr. of  $\pm 6$ :
      - $+6 = 0110$
      - $-6 = 1110$
    - \* Range of an  $N$ -bit sign/magnitude number:  $[-(2^{N-1} - 1), 2^{N-1} - 1]$
    - \* Problems:
      - Addition doesn't work
      - Two representations of 0 ( $\pm 0$ ): 1000 and 0000
      - Introduces complexity in the processor design
  - One's Complement Numbers

- \* A negative number is formed by reversing the bits of the positive number (MSB still indicates the sign of the integer)

$2^7$	$2^6$	$2^5$	$2^4$	$2^3$	$2^2$	$2^1$	$2^0$		One's Compl.	Unsigned
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	=	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	=	2	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	=	127	127
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	-127	128
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	=	-126	129
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	=	-2	253
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	=	-1	254
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	=	-0	255

- \* Range of  $n$ -bit number:  $[-2^{n-1} - 1, 2^{n-1} - 1]$ , 8 bits:  $[-127, 127]$
- \* Addition: Done using binary addition with end-around carry. If there is a carry out of the MSB of the sum, this bit must be added to the LSB of the sum

#### – Two's Complement Numbers

- \* Don't have same problems as sign/magnitude numbers:
  - addition works
  - Single representation for 0
- \* Has advantages over one's complement:
  - Has a single 0 representation
  - Eliminates the end-around carry operation required in one's complement addition.
- \* A negative number is formed by reversing the bits of the positive number (MSB still indicates the sign of the integer) and adding 1:

$2^7$	$2^6$	$2^5$	$2^4$	$2^3$	$2^2$	$2^1$	$2^0$		Two's Compl.	Unsigned
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	=	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	=	2	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	=	127	127
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	-128	128
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	=	-127	129
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	=	-3	253
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	=	-2	254
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	=	-1	255

- \* Same as unsigned binary, but the most significant bit (MSB) has value of  $-2^{N-1}$ 
  - Most positive 4-bit number: 0111
  - Most negative 4-bit number: 1000
- \* The most significant bit still indicates the sign (1=neg., 0=pos.)
- \* Range of an  $N$ -bit two's comp. number:  $[-2^{N-1}, 2^{N-1} - 1]$ , 8 bits:  $[-128, 127]$

- Increasing bit width (assume from  $N$  to  $M$ , with  $M > N$ ):

- Sign-extension

- \* Sign bit is copied into MSB
- \* Number value remains the same
- \* Give correct result for two's compl. numbers
- \* Example 1:
  - 4-bit representation of  $3 = 0011$
  - 8-bit sign-extended value: **00000011**
- \* Example 2:
  - 4-bit representation of  $-5 = 1011$
  - 8-bit sign-extended value: **11111011**

- Zero-extension

- \* Zeros are copied into MSB
- \* Value will change for negative numbers
- \* Example 1:
  - 4-bit value:  $0011_2 = 3_{10}$
  - 8-bit zero-extended value: **00000011<sub>2</sub>**  $= 3_{10}$
- \* Example 2:
  - 4-bit value:  $1011_2 = -5_{10}$
  - 8-bit zero-extended value: **00001011<sub>2</sub>**  $= 11_{10}$

### 3 Short Introduction to Electrical Engineering (EE Perspective)

- The goal of circuit design is to optimize:
  - Area: Net circuit area is proportional to the cost of the device
  - Speed/Throughput: We want circuits that work faster, or do more
  - Power/Energy
    - \* Mobile devices need to work with a limited power supply
    - \* High performance devices dissipate more than  $100\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$
  - Design time
    - \* Designers are expensive
    - \* The competition will not wait for you
- (Frank's) Principles for engineering
  - Good engineers are lazy: They do not want to work unnecessarily, be creative
  - They know how to ask the question “why”?: take nothing for granted
  - Engineering is not a religion: Use what works best for you
  - Keep it simple and stupid: Engineers' job is to manage complexity

- Building blocks for microchips
  - Conductors: Metals (Aluminium, Copper)
  - Insulators: Glass ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ), Air
  - Semiconductors: Silicon (Si), Germanium (Ge)
- N-type Doping: Add extra electron (negatively charged), zone becomes negatively charged
- P-type Doping: Remove electron, zone becomes positively charged
- Semiconductors:
  - You can “Engineer” its properties, i.e.
    - \* Make it P type by injecting type-III elements (b, Ga, In)
    - \* Make it N type by injecting elements from type-V (P, As)
  - You can combine P and N regions to each other, from a pure semiconductor
  - Allows you to make interesting electrical devices (Diodes, Transistors, Thyristors)
- pMOS is a P type transistor, nMOS an N type transistors; combined they are a CMOS
- CMOS (Properties)
  - No input current: Capacitive input, no resistive path from the input
  - No current when output is at logic levels: Little static power, current is needed only when switching
  - Electrical properties determined directly by geometry: A transistor that is 2 times larger drives twice the current
  - Very simple to manufacture: pMOS and nMOS can be manufactured on the same substrate
- CMOS Gate Structure
  - The general form used to construct any inverting logic, such as: NOT, NAND, NOR
    - \* The networks may consist of transistors in series or parallel
    - \* When transistors are in parallel, the network is ON if either transistor is ON
    - \* When transistors are in series, the network is ON only if all transistors are ON
  - In a proper logic gate: One of the networks should be ON and the other OFF at any given time
  - Use the rule of conduction complements:
    - \* When nMOS transistors are in series, the pMOS transistor must be in parallel

Maybe add a definition or a better explanation



- Manufacturing smaller structures: some structures are already a few atoms in size
- Developing materials with better properties
- Optimizing the manufacturing steps
- New technologies
- Power consumption
  - Power = Energy consumed per unit time
  - Two types of power consumption:
    1. Dynamic power consumption: Power to charge transistor gate capacitances
 
$$P_{\text{dynamic}} = \frac{1}{2}CV_{DD}^2f$$
    2. Static power consumption: Power consumed when no gates are switching, caused by the leakage current
 
$$P_{\text{static}} = I_{DD}V_{DD}$$
- Power Consumption example:
  - Estimate the power consumption of a wireless handheld computer
    - \*  $V_{DD} = 1.2V$
    - \*  $C = 20nF$
    - \*  $f = 1GHz$
    - \*  $I_{DD} = 20mA$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{\text{total}} &= P_{\text{dynamic}} + P_{\text{static}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}CV_{DD}^2f + I_{DD}V_{DD} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}(20nF)(1.2V)^2(1GHz) + (20mA)(1.2V) \\
 &= 14.4W
 \end{aligned}$$

## 4 Combinational Circuits: Theory

- Circuit elements. A circuit consists of:
  - Inputs
  - Outputs
  - Nodes (wires): Connections between I/O and circuit elements. To count them, look at
    - \* Outputs of every circuit elements
    - \* Inputs to the entire circuit
  - Circuit elements
- Types of Logic Circuits

- Combinational Logic
  - \* Memoryless
  - \* Outputs determined by current values of inputs
  - \* In some books called Combinatorial Logic
- Sequential Logic
  - \* Has Memory
  - \* Outputs determined by previous and current values of inputs
- Rules of Combinational Composition
  - Every circuit element is itself combinational
  - Every node of the circuit is either
    - \* Designated as an input to the circuit
    - \* Connects to exactly one output terminal of a circuit element
  - The circuit contains no cyclic paths: Every path through the circuit visits each node at most once
- Boolean Equations<sup>1</sup>
  - Functional specifications of outputs in terms of inputs.
- Boolean Algebra
  - Set of axioms and theorems to simplify Boolean equations
  - Like regular algebra, but in some cases simpler because variables only have 1 or 0 as a value
  - Axioms and theorems obey the principles of duality:
    - \* Stay corrected if: ANDs and ORs interchanged and 0's and 1's interchanged
    - \* Example:

	Dual
$\overline{0} = 1$	$\overline{1} = 0$
$B \cdot \overline{B} = 0$	$B + \overline{B} = 1$

- Boolean Axioms

	Axiom		Dual	Name
A1	$B = 0 \text{ if } B \neq 1$	A1'	$B = 1 \text{ if } B \neq 0$	Binary Field
A2	$\overline{0} = 1$	A2'	$\overline{1} = 0$	NOT
A3	$0 \cdot 0 = 0$	A3'	$1 + 1 = 1$	AND/OR
A4	$1 \cdot 1 = 1$	A4'	$0 + 0 = 0$	AND/OR
A5	$0 \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot 0 = 0$	A5'	$1 + 0 = 0 + 1 = 1$	AND/OR

Duality: If the symbols 0 and 1 and the operators  $\cdot$  (AND) and  $+$  (OR) are interchanged, the statement will still be correct

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<sup>1</sup>For a more in depth look, use the material from Diskrete Mathematik



- Boolean Theorems

	Theorem		Dual	Name
T1	$B \cdot 1 = B$	T1'	$B + 0 = B$	Identity
T2	$B \cdot 0 = 0$	T2'	$1 = 0$	Null Element
T3	$B \cdot B = B$	T3'	$1 + 1 = 1$	Idempotency
T4			$\overline{\overline{B}} = B$	Involution
T5	$B \cdot \overline{B} = 0$	T5'	$1 + 0 = 0 + 1 = 1$	Complements
T6	$B \cdot C = C \cdot B$	T6'	$B + C = C + B$	Commutativity
T7	$(B \cdot C) \cdot D = B \cdot (C \cdot D)$	T7'	$(B + C) + D = B + (C + D)$	Associativity
T8	$(B \cdot C) + (B \cdot D) = B \cdot (C + D)$	T8'	$(B + C) \cdot (B + D) = B + (C \cdot D)$	Distributivity
T9	$B \cdot (B + C) = B$	T9'	$B + (B \cdot C) = B$	Covering
T10	$(B \cdot C) + (B \cdot \overline{C}) = B$	T10'	$(B + C) \cdot (B + \overline{C}) = B$	Combining
T11	$(B \cdot C) + (\overline{B} \cdot D) + (C \cdot D) = B \cdot C + \overline{B} \cdot D$	T11'	$(B + \overline{C}) \cdot (\overline{B} + D) \cdot (C + D) = (B + C) \cdot (\overline{B} + D)$	Consensus
T12	$\overline{B_0 \cdot B_1 \cdot B_2 \cdot \dots} = (\overline{B_0} + \overline{B_1} + \overline{B_2} + \dots)$	T12'	$\overline{B_0 + B_1 + B_2 + \dots} = (\overline{B_0} \cdot \overline{B_1} \cdot \overline{B_2} \cdot \dots)$	De Morgan's Theorem

- Bubble Pushing

- Pushing bubbles backward (from the output) or forward (from the inputs) changes the body of the gate from AND to OR or vice versa
  - \* Pushing a bubble from the output back to the inputs puts bubbles on all gate inputs
  - \* Pushing bubbles on all gate inputs forward toward the output puts a bubble on the output and changes the gate body



- Rules:
  - \* Begin at the output of the circuit and work toward the inputs
  - \* Push any bubbles on the final output back toward the inputs
  - \* Draw each gate in a form so that bubbles cancel

## 5 Combinational Circuits Design

- Some Definitions:

- Complement: variable with a bar over it ( $\overline{A}, \overline{B}, \overline{C}$ )
- Literal: variable or its complement ( $A, \overline{A}, B, \overline{B}, C, \overline{C}$ )
- Implicant: product (AND) of literals ( $A \cdot B \cdot \overline{C}$ )
- Minterm: product (AND) that includes all input variables ( $A \cdot B \cdot \overline{C}$ )
- Maxterm: sum (OR) that includes all input variables ( $A + \overline{B} + \overline{C}$ )

- Sum-of-Products (SOP) Form

aggiungere tabella cerchiata ai valori Y=1

A	B	Y	minterm
0	0	0	$\overline{A}\overline{B}$
0	1	1	$\overline{A}B$
1	0	0	$A\overline{B}$
1	1	1	$AB$

$$Y = F(A, B) = (\overline{A} \cdot B) + (A \cdot B)$$

- All boolean equations can be written in SOP form
  - \* Each row in a truth table has a minterm
  - \* A minterm is a product (AND) of literals
  - \* Each minterm is TRUE for that row (and only that row)
- Formed by ORing the minterms for which the output is TRUE
- The Dual: Product-of-Sums (POS) Form

aggiungere tabella cechiata ai valori Y=0

A	B	Y	maxterm
0	0	0	$A + B$
0	1	1	$A + \overline{B}$
1	0	0	$\overline{A} + B$
1	1	1	$\overline{A} + \overline{B}$

$$Y = F(A, B) = (A + B) \cdot (\overline{A} + B)$$

- All Boolean equations can be written in POS form
  - \* Each row in a truth table has a maxterm
  - \* A minterm is a sum (OR) of literals
  - \* Each minterm is FALSE for that row (and only that row)
- Formed by ANDing the maxterms for which the output is FALSE
- Karnaugh Maps (K-Maps)
  - Boolean expressions can be minimized by combining terms
  - K-maps minimize equations graphically
  - Rules:
    - \* Special order for bit combinations:  $\overleftarrow{00, 01, 11, 10}$  (only one bit changes to the next)
    - \* Every 1 in a K-map must be circled at least once
    - \* Each circle must span a power of 2 ( $2^0$  included) squares in each direction
    - \* Each circle must be as large as possible
    - \* A circle may wrap around the edges of the K-map
    - \* A “Don’t care” (X) is circled only if it helps minimize the equation
- Circuit schematics
  - Inputs: left (or top) side of a schematic
  - Outputs: right (or bottom) side of a schematic
  - Circuits should flow from left to right
  - Straight wires are better than wires with multiple corners
  - Wires always connect at a T junction

- A dot where wires cross indicated a connection between the wires
- Wires crossing without a dot make no connection
- Additional Logic Levels:  $X$  and  $Z$ 
  - Contention:  $X$ 
    - \* When a signal is being driven to 1 and 0 simultaneously
    - \* Not a real level, could be any value (1,0 or something in between)
    - \* Usually a problem:
      - Two outputs drive one node to opposite values
      - Normally there should only be one driver for every connection
    - \* WARNING: “Don’t care” and “contention” are both called  $X$ 
      - These are not the same
      - Verilog uses  $X$  for both, VHDL uses “-” for don’t care, and “ $X$ ” for contention
      - Don’t care: degree of freedom that is fixed at implementation time
      - Contention: a bug really, undetermined behaviour
  - High-impedance or tri-state (or Floating):  $Z$ 
    - \* When an output is not driving to any specific value
    - \* Means the output is disconnected
    - \* Not a real level, some other output is able to determine the level
    - \* Output is called Floating, high impedance, tri-stated, or high- $Z$
    - \* Floating output might be 0, 1 or somewhere in between
    - \* Floating nodes are used in tri-state busses:
      - Many different drivers share one common connection
      - Exactly one driver is active at any time
      - All the other drivers are “disconnected”
      - The disconnected drivers are said to be floating, allowing exactly one node to drive
      - More than one input can listen to the shared bus without problems
- Combinational Building Blocks
  - Combinational logic is often grouped into larger building blocks to build more complex systems
  - Hide the unnecessary gate-level details to emphasize the function of the building block (full adders, priority circuits, etc.)
- Multiplexer (Mux)
  - Selects between one of  $N$  inputs to connect to the output
  - Needs  $\log_2 N$ –bit control input
  - A 4:1 Multiplexer can be implemented with:

- \* Two-level logic
- \* Tristate buffers
- \* Tree of 2:1 muxes
- In general, a  $2^N$ –input multiplexer can be programmed to perform any  $N$ –input logic function by applying 0's and 1's to the appropriate data inputs
- Decoders
  - $N$  inputs,  $2^N$  outputs
  - One-hot outputs: only one output HIGH at once
- Timing
  - Propagation delay:  $t_{pd}$  = max delay from input to output
  - Contamination delay:  $t_{cd}$  = min delay from input to output



- Delay is caused by
  - \* capacitance and resistance in a circuit
  - \* Speed of light limitation (not as fast as you think)
- Reasons why  $t_{pd}$  and  $t_{cd}$  may be different:
  - \* Different rising and falling delays
  - \* Multiple inputs and outputs, some of which are faster than other
  - \* Circuits slow down when hot and speed up when cold
- Critical (Long) and short paths



\* Critical (Long) path:  $t_{pd} = 2t_{pd\_AND} + t_{pd\_OR}$

\* Short path:  $t_{cd} = t_{cd\_AND}$

– Propagation Times

Gate	$t_{pd}(\text{ps})$
NOT	30
2-input AND	60
3-input AND	80
4-input OR	90
tristate ( $A$ to $Y$ )	50
tristate (enable to $Y$ )	35

- Glitches

- Glitch: when a single input change causes multiple output changes
- Glitches don't cause problems because of synchronous design conventions
- But it's important to recognize a glitch when you see one in timing diagrams
- In general a glitch can occur when a change in a single variable crosses the boundary between two prime implicants in a  $K$ -map.
- You **can't** get rid of all glitches - simultaneous transitions on multiple inputs can also cause glitches

## 6 Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA)

- Logic arrays

- Programmable logic arrays (PLAs)
  - \* AND array followed by OR array
  - \* Perform combinational logic only
  - \* Fixed internal connections
  - \* Composed of:
    - LUTs (LookUp Tables): perform combinational logic

- Flip-flops: perform sequential functions
  - Multiplexers connect LUTs and flip-flops
- Field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs)
  - \* Array of configurable logic blocks (CLBs)
  - \* Perform combinational and sequential logic
  - \* Programmable internal connections
  - \* Composed of:
    - CLBs (Configurable Logic Blocks): Perform logic
    - IOBs (Input/Output Buffers): Interface with outside world
    - Programmable interconnection: connect CLBs and IOBs
  - \* Some FPGAs include other building blocks such as multipliers and RAMs