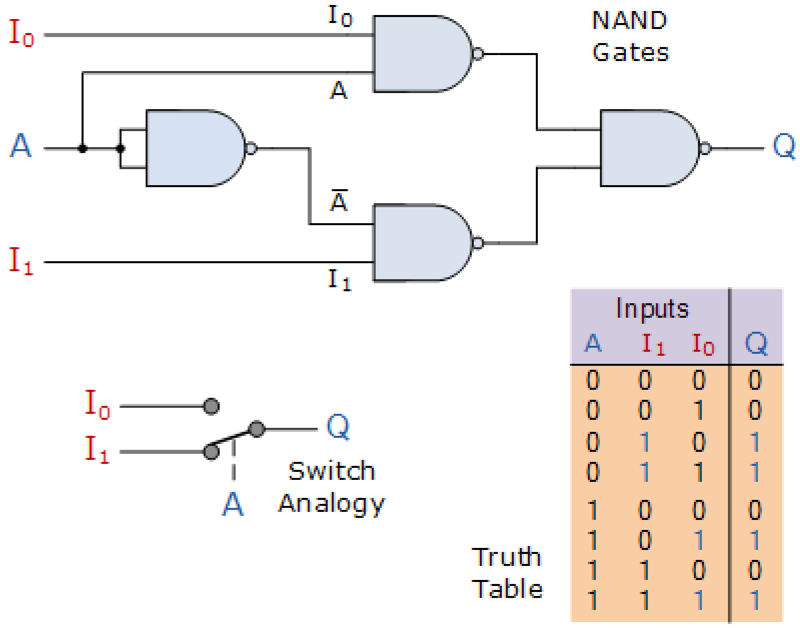
Multiplexer is a combinational circuit that has maximum of 2^n data inputs, 'n' selection lines and single output line. One of these data inputs will be connected to the output based on the values of selection lines.

Since there are 'n' selection lines, there will be 2^n possible combinations of zeros and ones. So, each combination will select only one data input. Multiplexer is also called as **Mux**.

2-input Multiplexer Design



Inputs			
A	I_1	I_0	Q
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1

From the truth table above, we can see that when the data select input, A is LOW at logic 0, input I_1 passes its data through the NAND gate multiplexer circuit to the output, while input I_0 is blocked. When the data select A is HIGH at logic 1, the reverse happens and now input I_0 passes data to the output Q while input I_1 is blocked.

So by the application of either a logic "0" or a logic "1" at A we can select the appropriate input, I_0 or I_1 with the circuit acting a bit like a single pole double throw (SPDT) switch.

As we only have one control line, (A) then we can only switch 2_1 inputs and in this simple example, the 2-input multiplexer connects one of two 1-bit sources to a common output, producing a 2-to-1-line multiplexer. We can confirm this in the following Boolean expression.

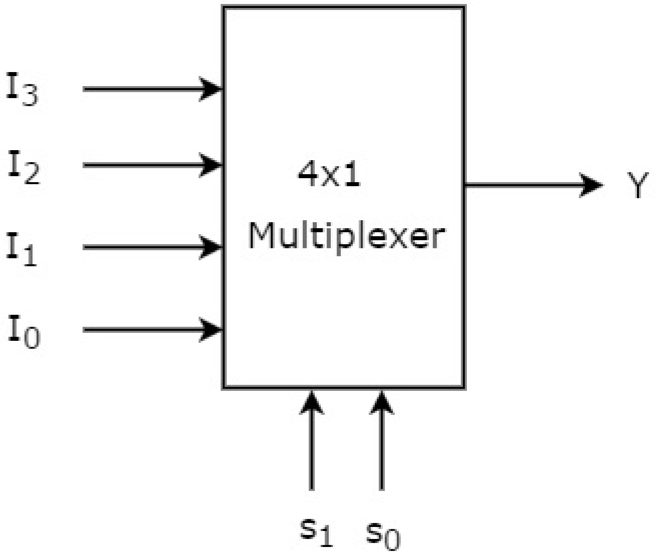
$$Q = A.I_0.I_1 + A.I_0.I_1 + A.I_0.I_1 + A.I_0.I_1$$

and for our 2-input multiplexer circuit above, this can be simplified too:

$$Q = A.I_1 + A.I_0$$

4x1 Multiplexer

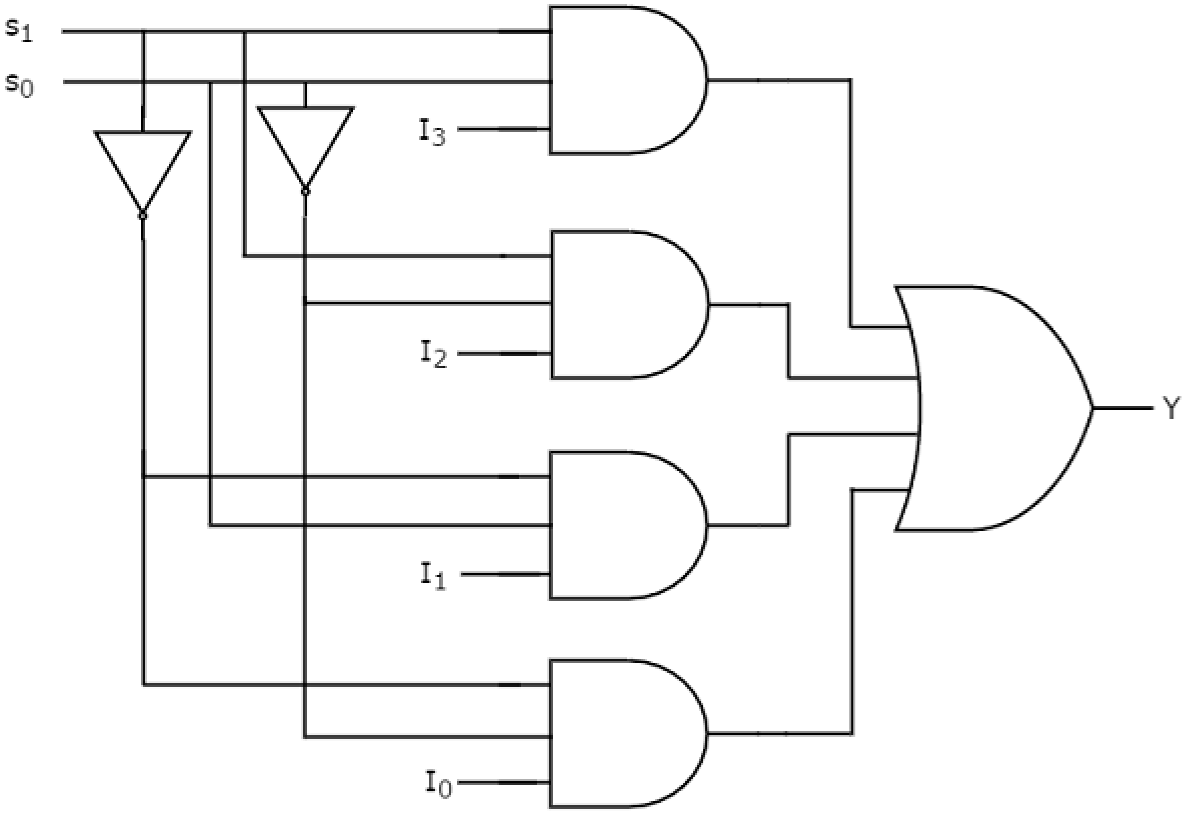
4x1 Multiplexer has four data inputs I_3, I_2, I_1 & I_0, two selection lines s_1 & s_0 and one output Y. The **block diagram** of 4x1 Multiplexer is shown in the following figure.



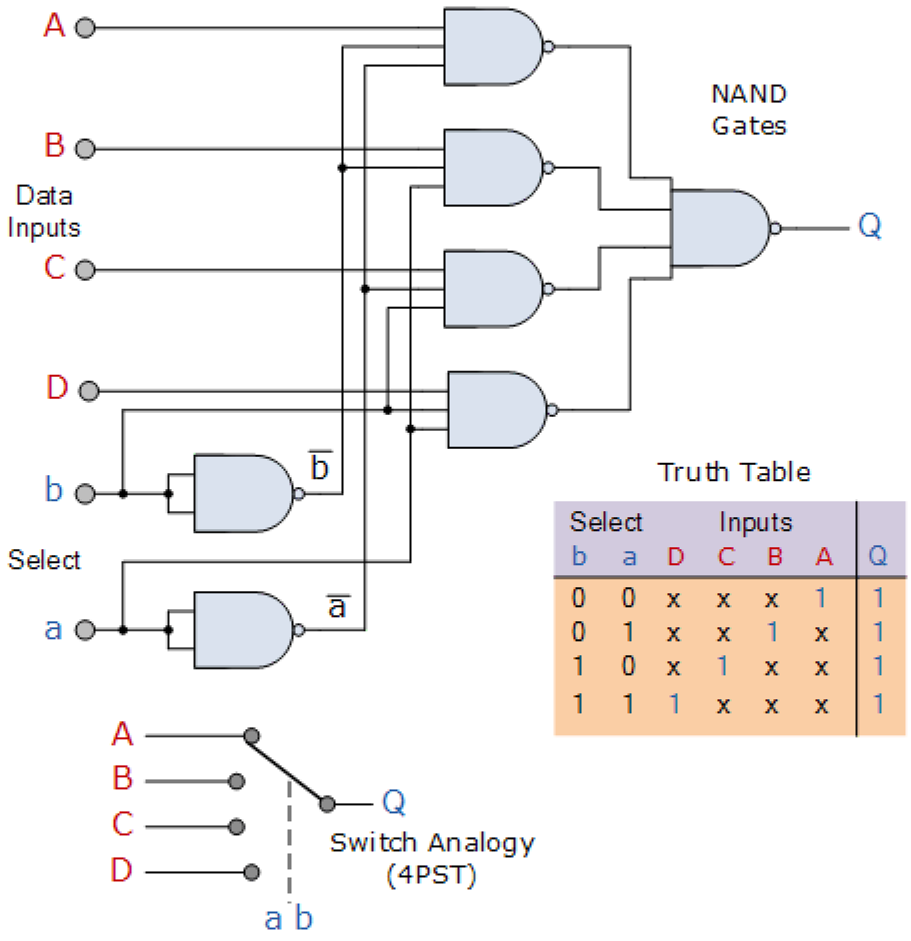
One of these 4 inputs will be connected to the output based on the combination of inputs present at these two selection lines. **Truth table** of 4x1 Multiplexer is shown below.

Selection Lines		**Output**
S_1	**S_0**	**Y**
0	0	I_0
0	1	I_1
1	0	I_2
1	1	I_3

From Truth table, we can directly write the **Boolean function** for output



OR



Select		Inputs				
b	a	D	C	B	A	Q
0	0	x	x	x	1	1
0	1	x	x	1	x	1
1	0	x	1	x	x	1
1	1	1	x	x	x	1

8x1 Multiplexer

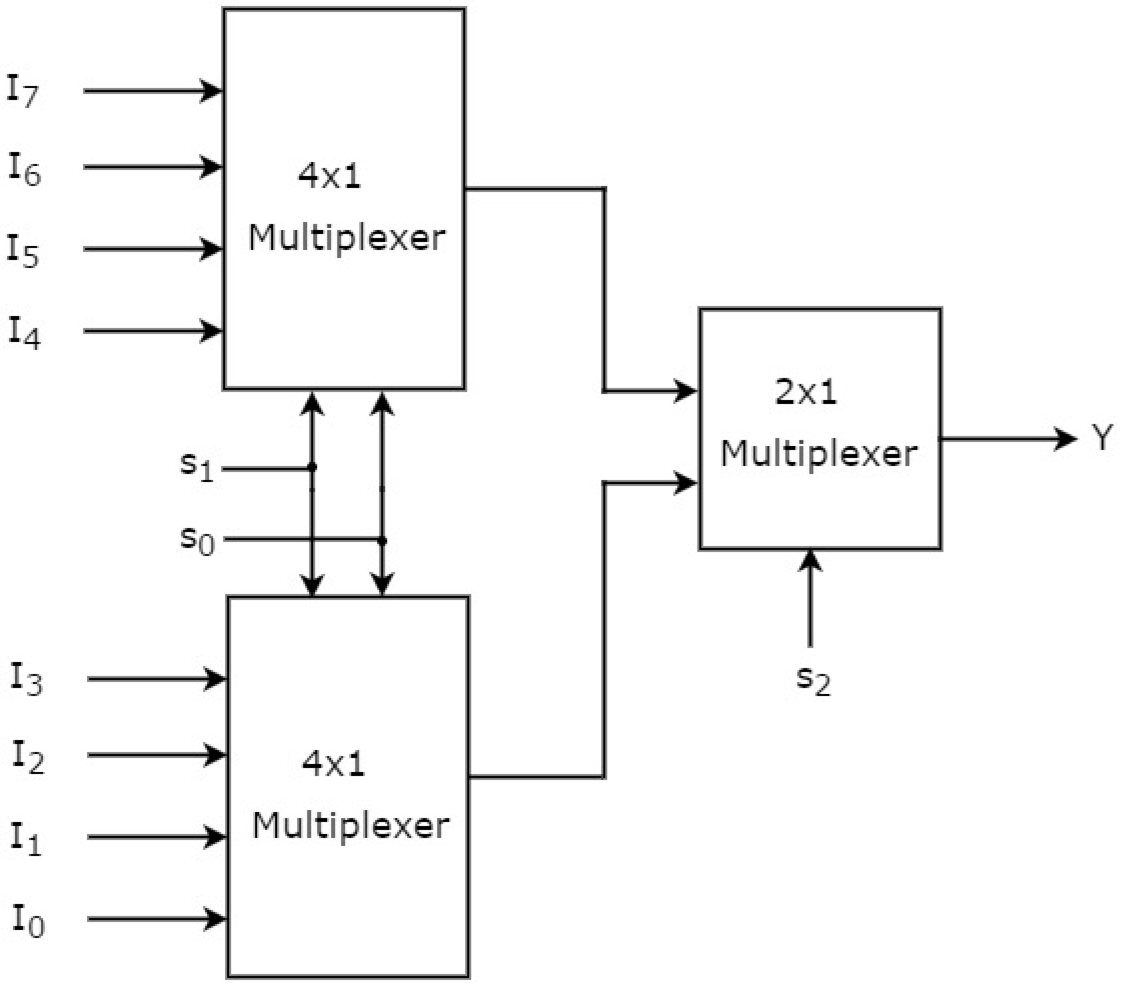
In this section, let us implement 8x1 Multiplexer using 4x1 Multiplexers and 2x1 Multiplexer. We know that 4x1 Multiplexer has 4 data inputs, 2 selection lines and one output. Whereas, 8x1 Multiplexer has 8 data inputs, 3 selection lines and one output.

So, we require two **4x1 Multiplexers** in first stage in order to get the 8 data inputs. Since, each 4x1 Multiplexer produces one output, we require a **2x1**

Multiplexer in second stage by considering the outputs of first stage as inputs and to produce the final output.

Let the 8x1 Multiplexer has eight data inputs I_7 to I_0, three selection lines s_2, s_1 & s0 and one output Y. The **Truth table** of 8x1 Multiplexer is shown below.

Selection Inputs			**Output**
S_2	**S_1**	**S_0**	**Y**
0	0	0	I_0
0	0	1	I_1
0	1	0	I_2
0	1	1	I_3
1	0	0	I_4
1	0	1	I_5
1	1	0	I_6
1	1	1	I_7



The same **selection lines, s_1 & s_0** are applied to both 4x1 Multiplexers. The data inputs of upper 4x1 Multiplexer are I_7 to I_4 and the data inputs of lower 4x1 Multiplexer are I_3 to I_0. Therefore, each 4x1 Multiplexer produces an output based on the values of selection lines, s_1 & s_0.

The outputs of first stage 4x1 Multiplexers are applied as inputs of 2x1 Multiplexer that is present in second stage. The other **selection line, s_2** is applied to 2x1 Multiplexer.

> If s_2 is zero, then the output of 2x1 Multiplexer will be one of the 4 inputs I_3 to I_0 based on the values of selection lines s_1 & s_0.
> If s_2 is one, then the output of 2x1 Multiplexer will be one of the 4 inputs I_7 to I_4 based on the values of selection lines s_1 & s_0.

Therefore, the overall combination of two 4x1 Multiplexers and one 2x1 Multiplexer performs as one 8x1 Multiplexer.