Computer Mathematics

Week 10 Sequential logic circuits





last week

combinational digital circuits

signals and busses

logic gates

- and, or, not
- nand, nor, xor

gate-level logical operations

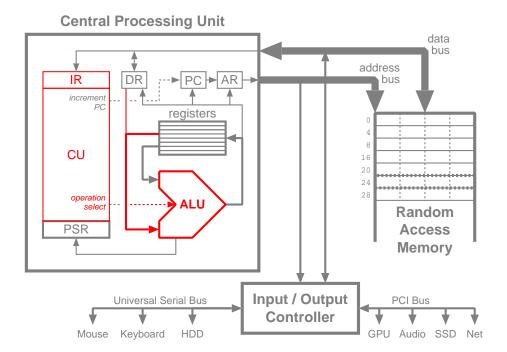
• bitwise: and, or, not

gate-level arithmetic operations

• addition, subtraction (unsigned, 2's complement)

1-of-N selection

• multiplexers





this week

sequential digital circuits

stateful logic

- level-triggered devices
- latches

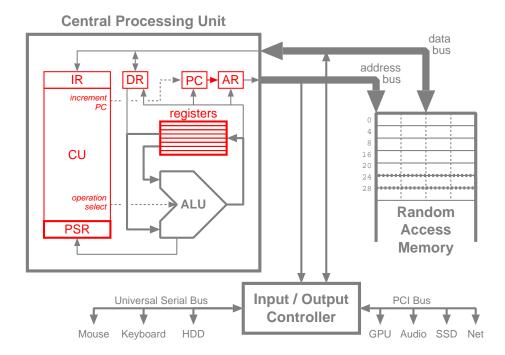
clocks

• edge-triggered devices

synchronous logic

- flip-flops
- registers and memory

CPU operation according to the clock cycle

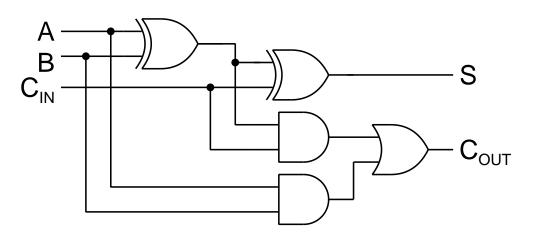




combinational vs. sequential logic

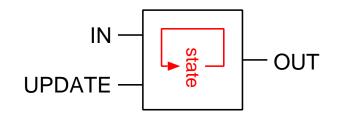
combinational logic

- outputs depend on current inputs
- no memory
- stateless



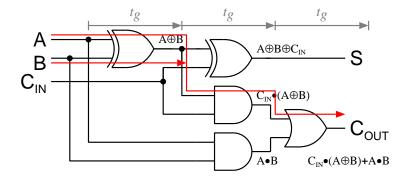
sequential logic

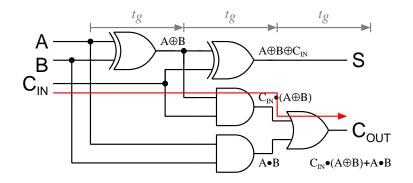
- outputs depend on current and past inputs
- memory (history) of previous inputs
- stateful



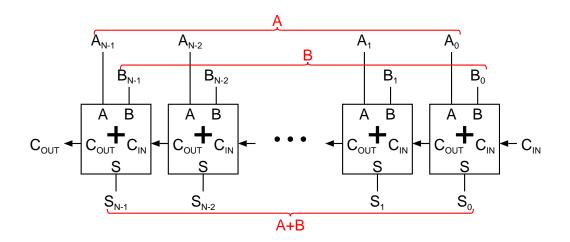
gate delay — adders

full adder: 3 gates to sum and carry out, 2 gates from carry in to carry out





daisy-chained...



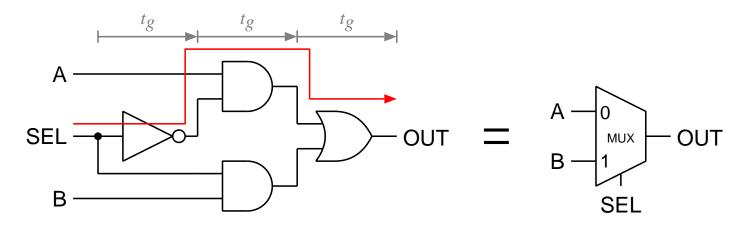
N is limited by gate delay = t_g

- from A, B, C_{IN} changing, C_{OUT} is available $3 \times t_g$ later
- from C_{IN} changing, C_{OUT} is available $2 \times t_g$ later
- final C_{OUT} is available $(1+2N) \times t_g$ after inputs change



gate delay — multiplexer

2-to-1 multiplexer



gate delays from inputs to output

- from SEL changing, $3 \times t_g$ to OUT being stable
- from data input changing, $2 \times t_g$ to OUT changing

this delay can be exploited to produce memory!!

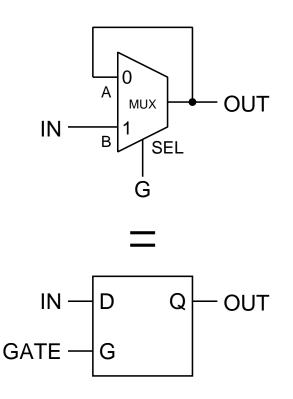


one way to make memory: use a multiplexer

- connect the output back to one of the inputs
 - e.g., *feedback* from the output to input A
- when SEL is 1, input B is copied to output
- when SEL is 0, output is copied (via A) back to itself
 - the output is held constant, independent of B

this is called a *transparent latch*

- when the G (gate) input is 1, D (input) is copied to Q (output)
 - the gate is 'open', the device is transparent
- when the G (gate) input is 0, Q (output) remains unchanged
 - the device has 'latched onto' the value of B
 - * from the moment the G signal changed from 1 to 0



latch on to/onto

- 1. To get hold of; obtain.
- 2. To cling to.



the problem with latches

let's try to make a one-bit counter using a latch

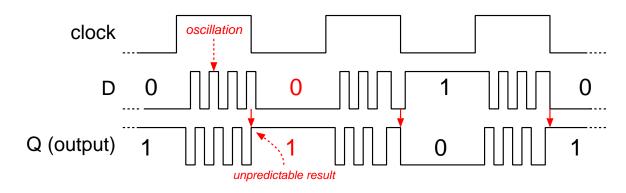
- latch stores current counter value
- a *clock* signal causes the counter to update

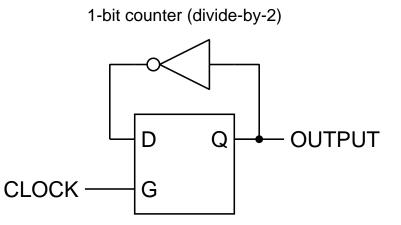
when the clock signal is low

- the output is held constant by the latch
- the inverter computes the next desired output

when the clock signal is high

- the computed next output is copied to the output
- the inverter computes the next desired output (inverse of the current output)
- the next output goes through the 'open' latch and contradicts the current output







level- vs. edge-triggering

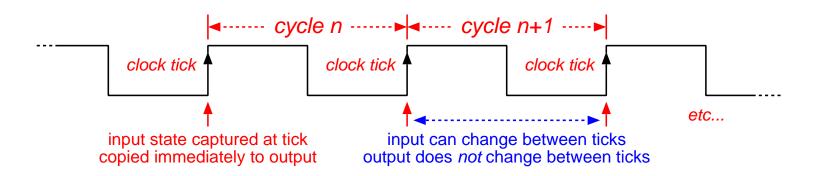
in a level-triggered system, when the clock is high

- the outputs can change once, and once only
- until the clock goes low again, closing all the latches

this is not very useful

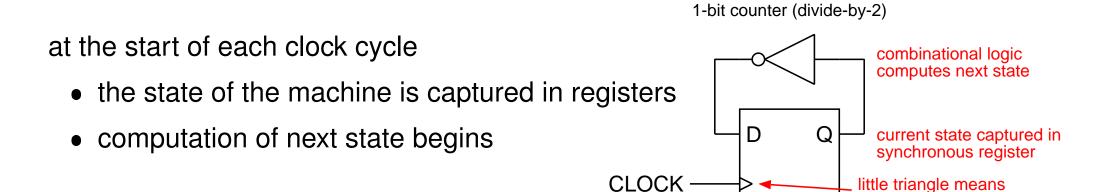
much better would be an *edge-triggered* system

- clock *ticks* coincide with a specified clock *edge*
 - e.g., a clock transition from 0 to 1 (the *rising* edge)
- a snapshot of the input is taken at that instant, and becomes the new output
- the inputs can change arbitrarily at any other time, because...
- the output always reflects the input at the last clock tick



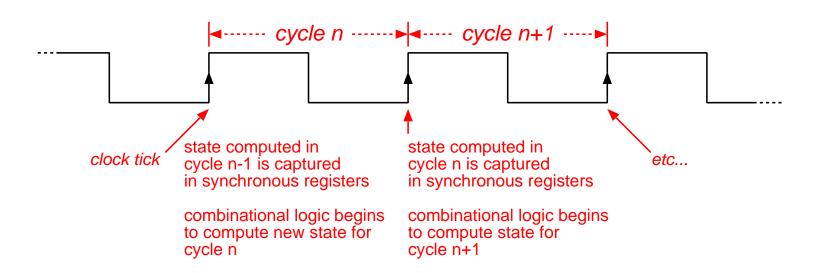


synchronous logic



synchronising clock

'all' we need is an edge-triggered register



"edge-triggered clock input"

synchronous logic — register model

let's construct an edge-triggered register

• using a pair of level-triggered latches

when the clock is low

- the input gate is open
- the output gate is closed

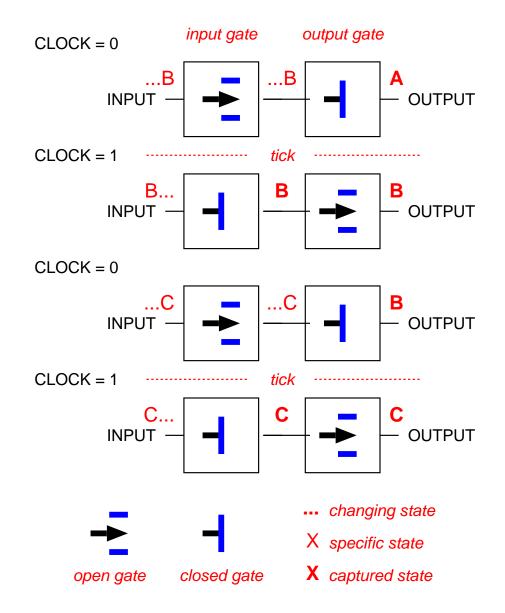
repeat:

when the clock goes high (ticks)

- the input gate is closed
 - the inputs are captured
- the output gate is opened
 - captured inputs are sent to output

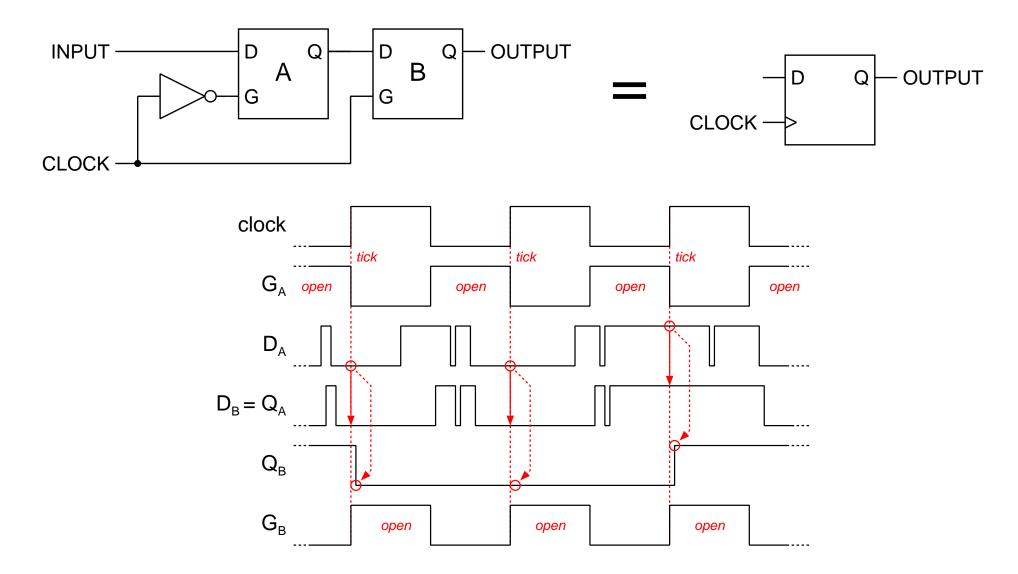
when the clock goes low

- the output device is closed
 - captured outputs remain stable
- the input device is opened





synchronous logic — register implementation

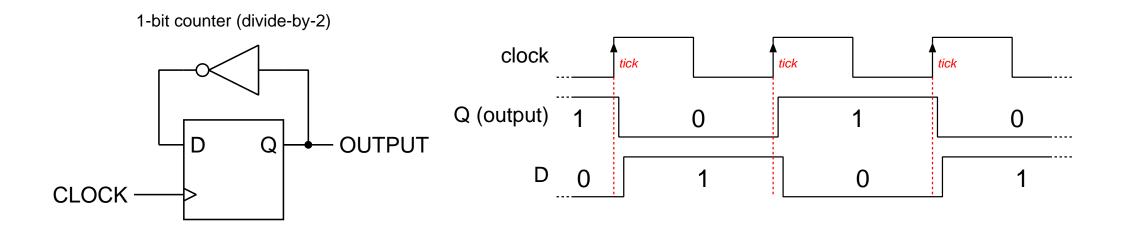


this is a *flip-flop*, a 1-bit synchronous *register*

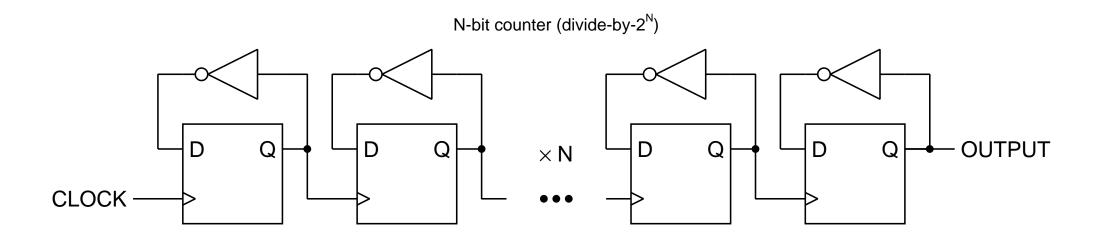
• while one side is 'flipping', the other side is 'flopping'



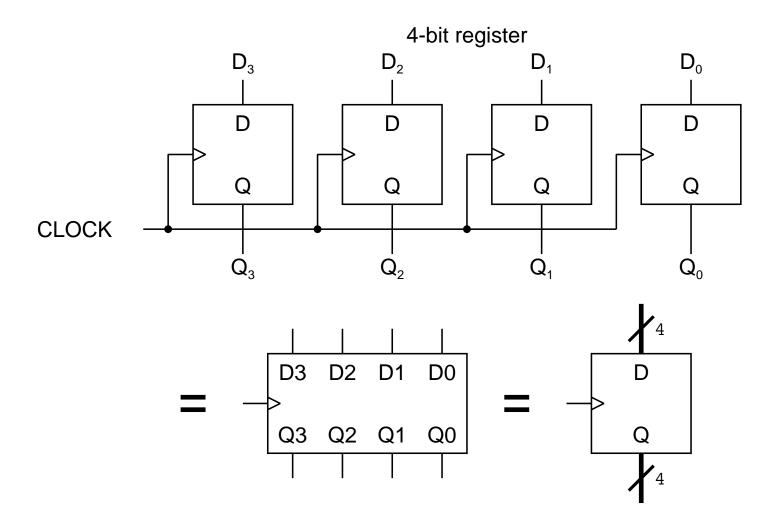
synchronous logic example — counters



'cascade' N counters to make a 2^N -bit counter...



synchronous logic example — multi-bit registers



the global clock signal is often omitted from the diagram

• to make the diagram easier to read

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• any unconnected clock input is understood to be connected to the global clock

a simple CPU

one 'accumulator' register

12-bit address bus

16-bit instructions and data bus

- CONSTANT is a 12-bit constant LS 12 bits of opcode
- OP is a 4-bit opcode

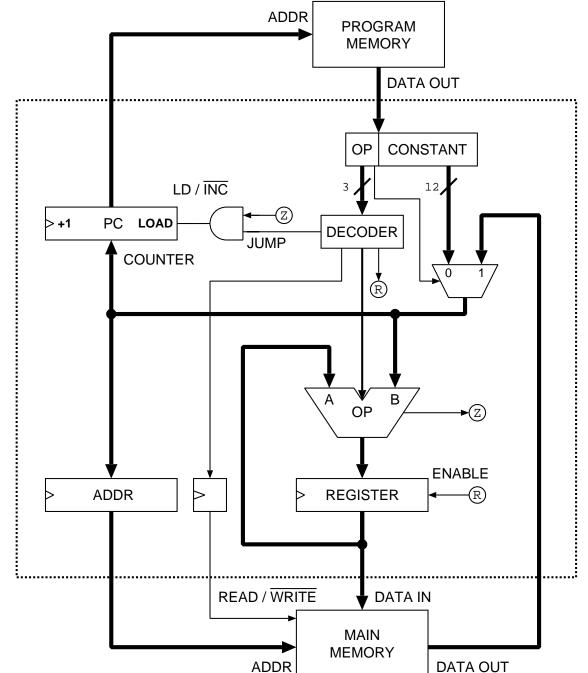
LS bit = constant/memory select

instruction decoder:

- conditional load of PC
- read or write to RAM
- ALU operation
- register load $\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}$

 $\textcircled{\ensuremath{\mathbb Z}}$ output from ALU

• 1 when A = 0





a simple CPU

decoder design

- 4-bit opcode
 - lowest bit selects ALU 'B' input: memory or constant
- eight operations

OP	instruction	ALU OP	Z	\mathbb{R}	READ/WRITE	JUMP
	ADDR	-	-	0	1	0
	LOAD	В	-	1	1	0
	STORE	-	-	0	0	0
	ADD	A + B	-	1	1	0
	SUB	A - B	-	1	1	0
	JUMP	В	1	0	1	1
	JUMPZ	В	A=0	0	1	1

example program

insn	binary			
addr	opcode	ор	constant	comment
0:	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	ADDR	2	prepare to read memory address 2
1:	000100000000000	LOAD		read from memory to register
2:	001 0 0000000000000	ADD	1	add 1 to register
3:	011000000000000000000000000000000000000	STORE	2	store register into memory address 2
4:	1010000000000000	JUMP	0	repeat from instruction 0

equivalent high-level program (assuming count is at address 2):

```
while (true) {
    count = count + 1;
}
```

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next week

mathematics of control

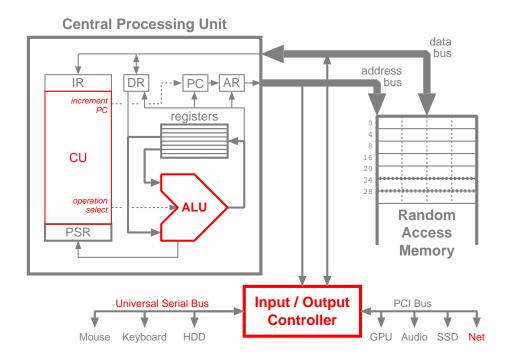
• models of stateful computation

finite state machines

- formal model
- representations

FSM applications

- pattern matching
- pattern generation
- sequencing





homework

study the simple CPU and example program

- simulate it on paper to see how it works
- one instruction at a time

reinforce your understanding

- write a simulator for the simple CPU in Python
 - model the current state of the machine
 - inpect the current instruction
 - compute the next state of the machine
 - update the current state
 - repeat
- print the state at each step
- run a simple program

ask about anything you do not understand

- from any of the classes so far this semester (or the lecture notes)
- it will be too late for you to try to catch up later!
- I am always happy to explain things differently and practice examples with you



glossary

clock — a periodic signal that synchronises the operation of elements within a logic circuit.

complemented — inverted, or 'flipped'.

edge-triggered — a device that performs its operation when a clock signal changes state.

edge — the vertical part of a square-shaped waveform.

feedback — connecting the output of a device or circuit back to an input.

gate delay — the time taken for the output of a gate to change in response to a changing input.

latch — a device that either copies its input to its output, or holds the output constant, depening on the state of a gate signal.

level-triggered — a device that performs its operation when a clock signal is in a particular state (high or low).

register — a device that can remember one or more bits of information.

rising — the edge of a clock signal corresponding to a change of state from 0 to 1.

stateful — a device that can remember its past inputs and/or outputs.

stateless — a device that has no memory and responds simply to the current set of inputs.

tick — the rising edge of a repeating clock signal, analogous to the ticking of a mechanical clock.