

# CS 110

## Computer Architecture

### *Synchronous Digital Systems*

Instructor:  
Sören Schwertfeger

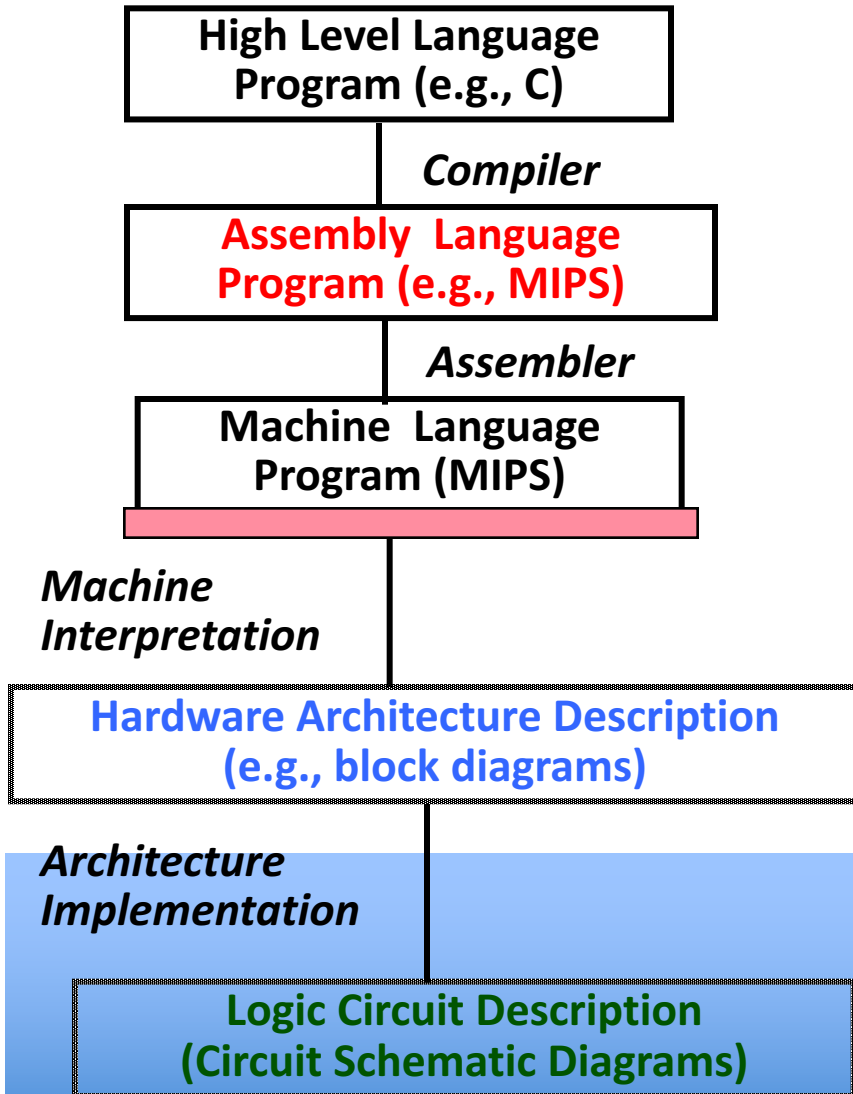
<http://shtech.org/courses/ca/>

School of Information Science and Technology SIST

ShanghaiTech University

Slides based on UC Berkley's CS61C

# Levels of Representation/Interpretation

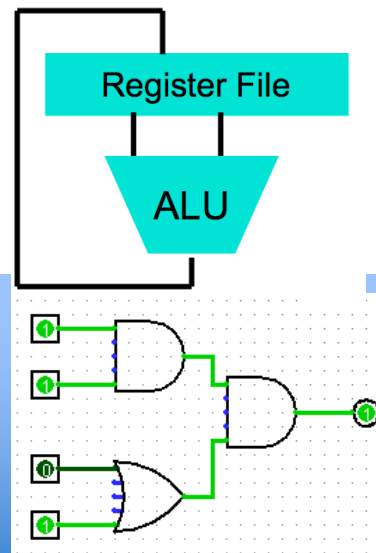


```
temp = v[k];
v[k] = v[k+1];
v[k+1] = temp;
```

```
lw $t0, 0($2)
lw $t1, 4($2)
sw $t1, 0($2)
sw $t0, 4($2)
```

Anything can be represented  
as a *number*,  
i.e., data or instructions

```
0000 1001 1100 0110 1010 1111 0101 1000
1010 1111 0101 1000 0000 1001 1100 0110
1100 0110 1010 1111 0101 1000 0000 1001
0101 1000 0000 1001 1100 0110 1010 1111
```



# You are Here!

*Software*

*Hardware*

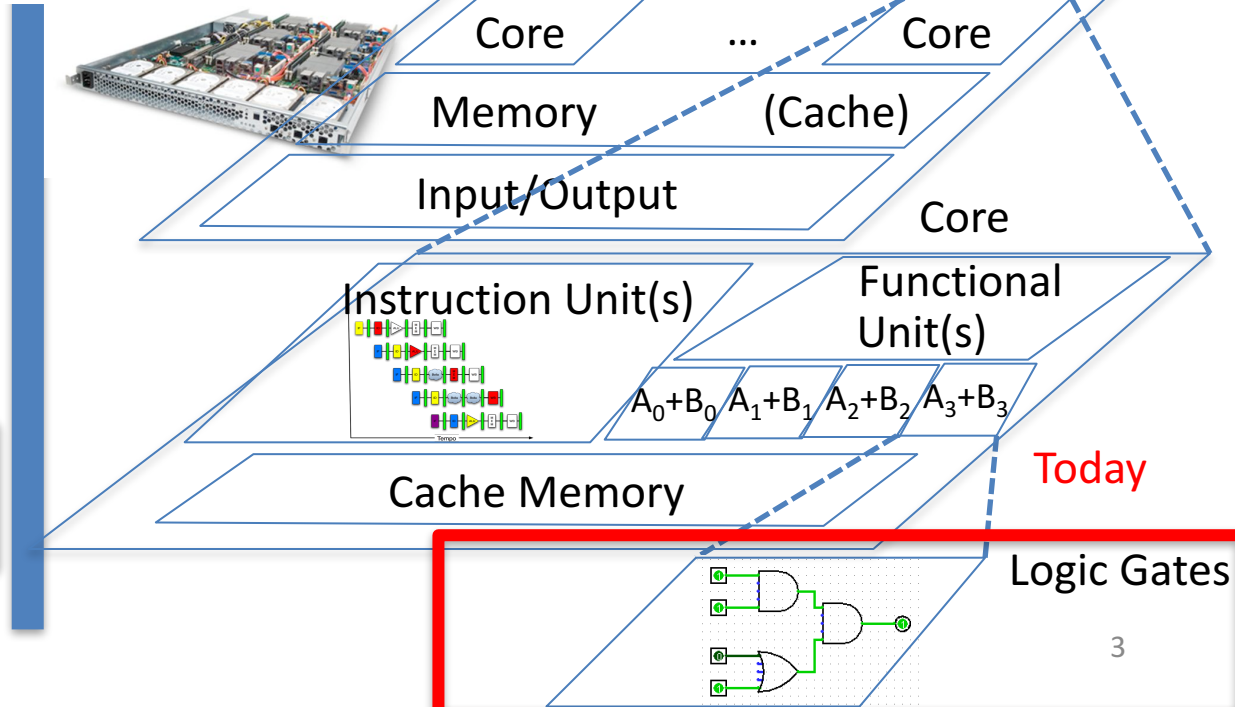


Warehouse  
Scale  
Computer

Smart  
Phone



*Harness  
Parallelism &  
Achieve High  
Performance*



- **Parallel Requests**  
Assigned to computer  
e.g., Search “Katz”
- **Parallel Threads**  
Assigned to core  
e.g., Lookup, Ads
- **Parallel Instructions**  
>1 instruction @ one time  
e.g., 5 pipelined instructions
- **Parallel Data**  
>1 data item @ one time  
e.g., Add of 4 pairs of words
- **Hardware descriptions**  
All gates @ one time
- **Programming Languages**

# Hardware Design

- Next several weeks: how a modern processor is built, starting with basic elements as building blocks
- Why study hardware design?
  - Understand capabilities and limitations of HW in general and processors in particular
  - What processors can do fast and what they can't do fast (avoid slow things if you want your code to run fast!)
  - Background for more in-depth HW courses
  - Hard to know what you'll need for next 30 years
  - There is only so much you can do with standard processors: you may need to design own custom HW for extra performance
    - Even some commercial processors today have customizable hardware!

# Synchronous Digital Systems

*Hardware of a processor, such as the MIPS, is an example of a Synchronous Digital System*

## *Synchronous:*

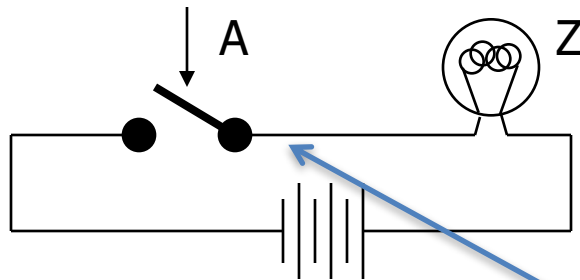
- All operations coordinated by a central clock
  - “Heartbeat” of the system!

## *Digital:*

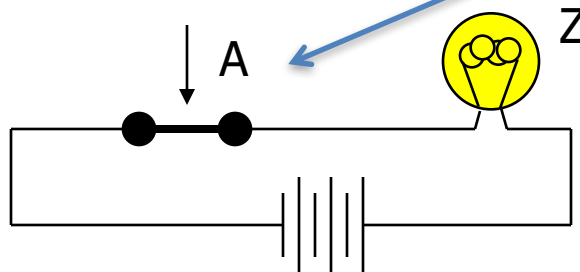
- Represent all values by discrete values
- Two binary digits: 1 and 0
- Electrical signals are treated as 1's and 0's
  - 1 and 0 are complements of each other
- High /low voltage for true / false, 1 / 0

# Switches: Basic Element of Physical Implementations

- Implementing a simple circuit (arrow shows action if wire changes to “1” or is *asserted*):



*On*-switch (if A is “1” or asserted) turns-on light bulb (Z)

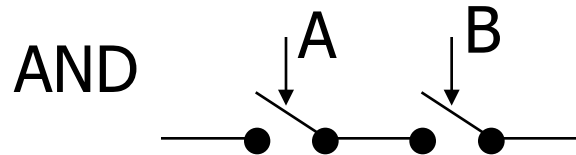


*Off*-switch (if A is “0” or unasserted) turns-off light bulb (Z)

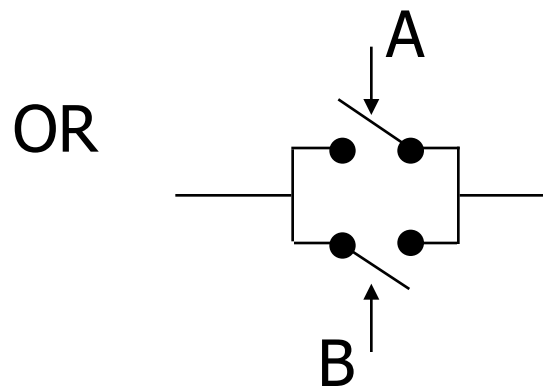
$$Z \equiv A$$

# Switches (cont'd)

- Compose switches into more complex ones (Boolean functions):



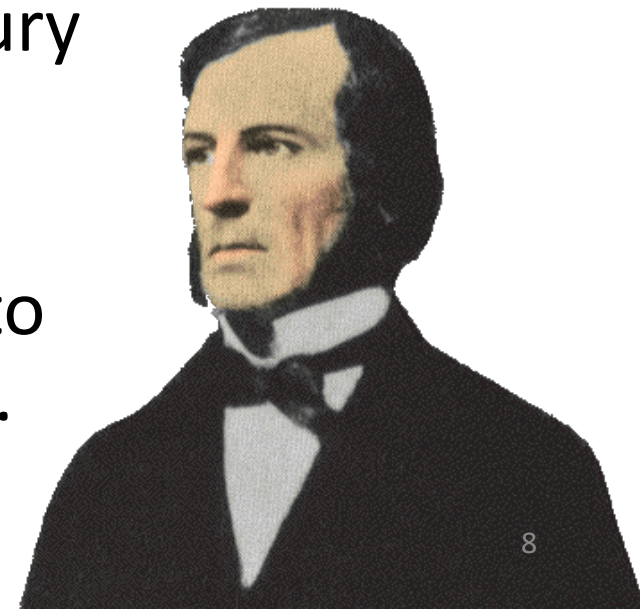
$$Z \equiv A \text{ and B}$$



$$Z \equiv A \text{ or B}$$

# Historical Note

- Early computer designers built ad hoc circuits from switches
- Began to notice common patterns in their work: ANDs, ORs, ...
- Master's thesis (by Claude Shannon, 1940) made link between work and 19<sup>th</sup> Century Mathematician George Boole
  - Called it “Boolean” in his honor
- Could apply math to give theory to hardware design, minimization, ...





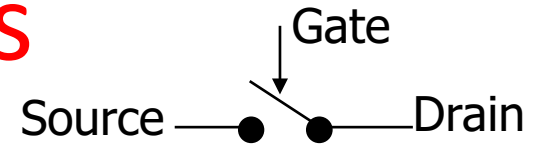
# Transistors

- High voltage ( $V_{dd}$ ) represents 1, or true
  - In modern microprocessors,  $V_{dd} \sim 1.0$  Volt
- Low voltage (0 Volt or Ground) represents 0, or false
- Pick a midpoint voltage to decide if a 0 or a 1
  - Voltage greater than midpoint = 1
  - Voltage less than midpoint = 0
  - This removes noise as signals propagate – a big advantage of digital systems over analog systems
- If one switch can control another switch, we can build a computer!
- Our switches: CMOS transistors

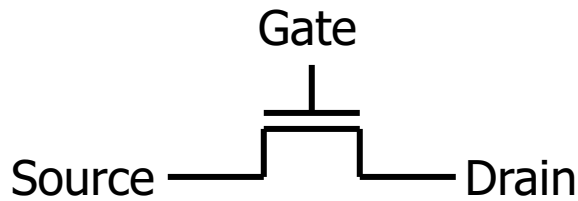
# CMOS Transistor Networks

- Modern digital systems designed in CMOS
  - MOS: Metal-Oxide on Semiconductor
  - C for complementary: use *pairs* of normally-*on* and normally-*off* switches
- CMOS transistors act as voltage-controlled switches
  - Similar, though easier to work with, than electro-mechanical relay switches from earlier era
  - Use energy primarily when switching

# CMOS Transistors



- Three terminals: source, gate, and drain
  - Switch action:  
if voltage on gate terminal is (some amount) higher/lower than source terminal then conducting path established between drain and source terminals (switch is closed)

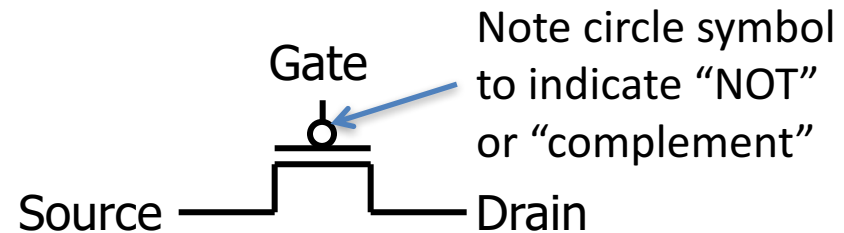


*n-channel transistor*

**off** when voltage at Gate is low

**on** when:

$\text{voltage}(\text{Gate}) > \text{voltage}(\text{Threshold})$



*p-channel transistor*

**on** when voltage at Gate is low

**off** when:

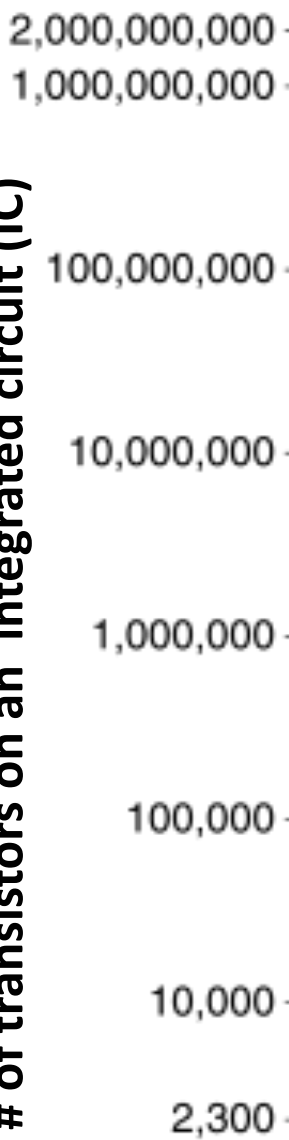
$\text{voltage}(\text{Gate}) > \text{voltage}(\text{Threshold})$

field-effect transistor (FET) => CMOS circuits use a combination of p-type and n-type metal-oxide-semiconductor field-effect transistors =>

MOSFET

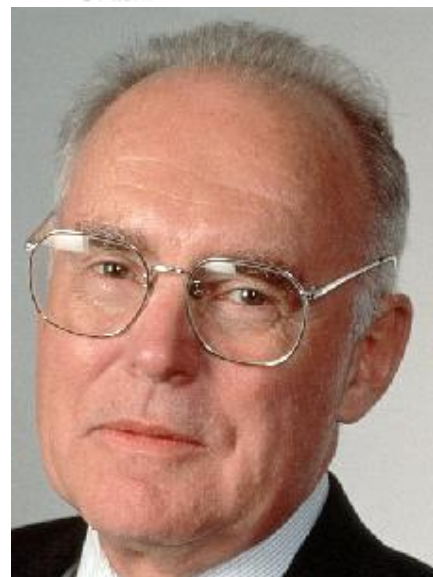
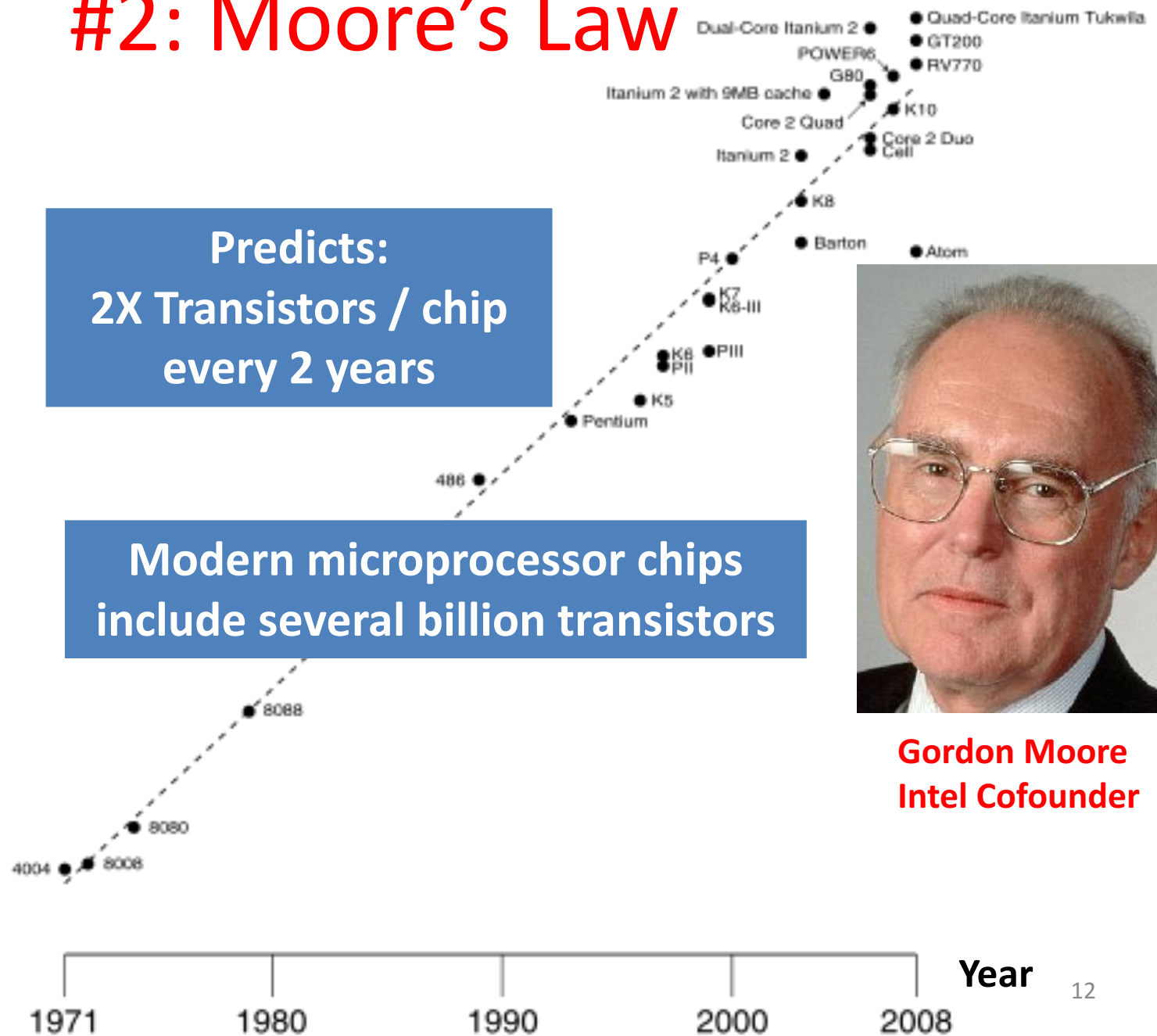
# #2: Moore's Law

# of transistors on an integrated circuit (IC)



Predicts:  
2X Transistors / chip  
every 2 years

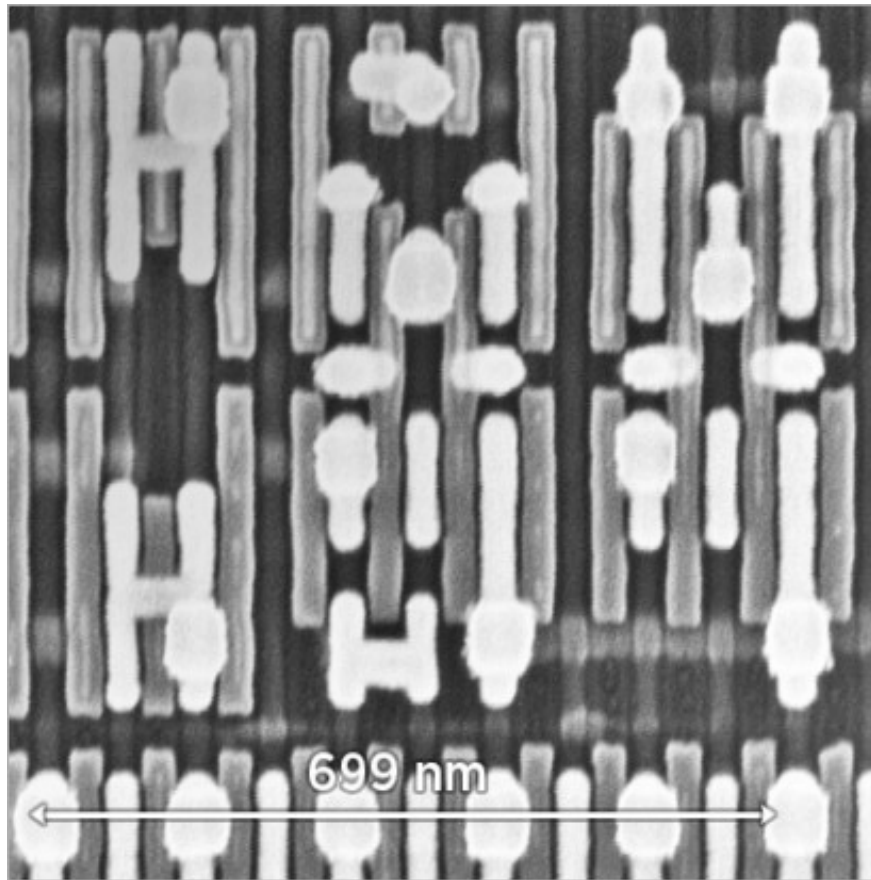
Modern microprocessor chips  
include several billion transistors



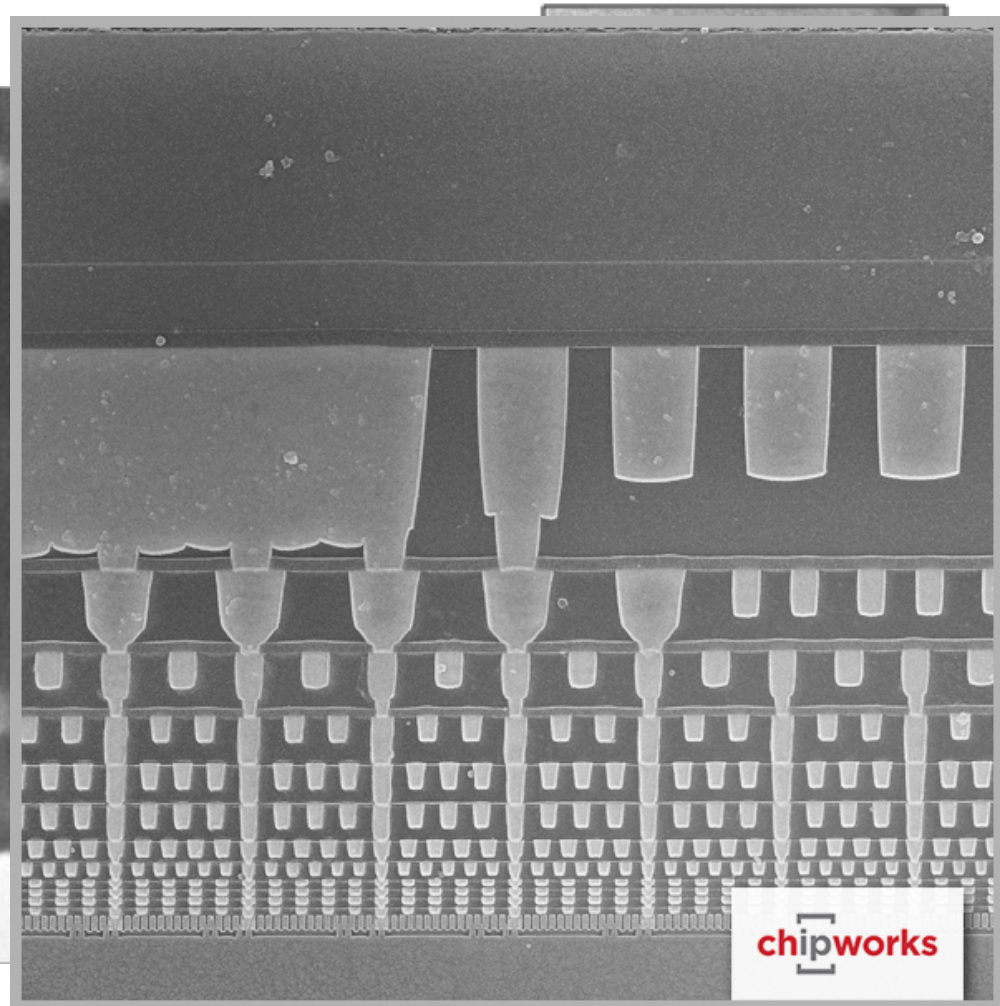
Gordon Moore  
Intel Cofounder

Year

# Intel 14nm Technology



Plan view of transistors



Side view of wiring layers

# Sense of Scale



Mark  
1.66 m



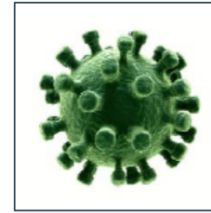
Fly  
7 mm



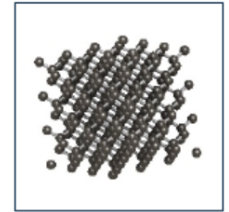
Mite  
300  $\mu\text{m}$



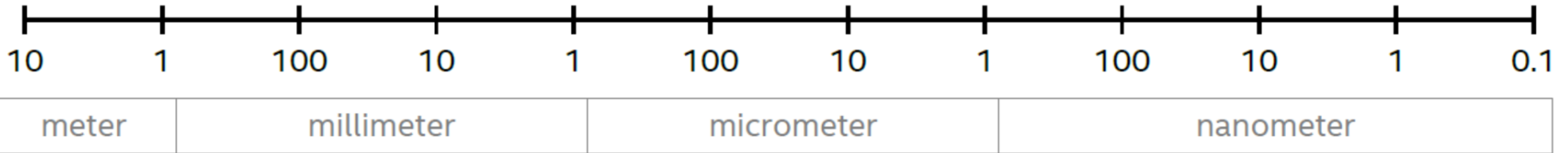
Blood Cell  
7  $\mu\text{m}$



Virus  
100 nm



Silicon Atom  
0.24 nm



Source: Mark Bohr, IDF14

# CMOS Circuit Rules

- Don't pass weak values => Use Complementary Pairs
  - N-type transistors pass weak 1's ( $V_{dd} - V_{th}$ )
  - N-type transistors pass strong 0's (ground)
  - Use N-type transistors only to pass 0's (N for negative)
  - Converse for P-type transistors: Pass weak 0s, strong 1s
    - Pass weak 0's ( $V_{th}$ ), strong 1's ( $V_{dd}$ )
    - Use P-type transistors only to pass 1's (P for positive)
  - Use pairs of N-type and P-type to get strong values
- Never leave a wire undriven
  - Make sure there's always a path to  $V_{dd}$  or GND
- Never create a path from  $V_{dd}$  to GND (ground)
  - This would short-circuit the power supply!

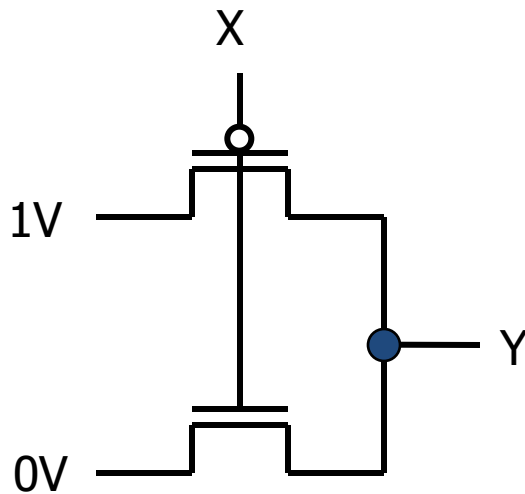
# CMOS Networks

*p-channel transistor*

on when voltage at Gate is low

off when:

voltage(Gate) > voltage (Threshold)



*n-channel transistor*

off when voltage at Gate is low

on when:

voltage(Gate) > voltage (Threshold)

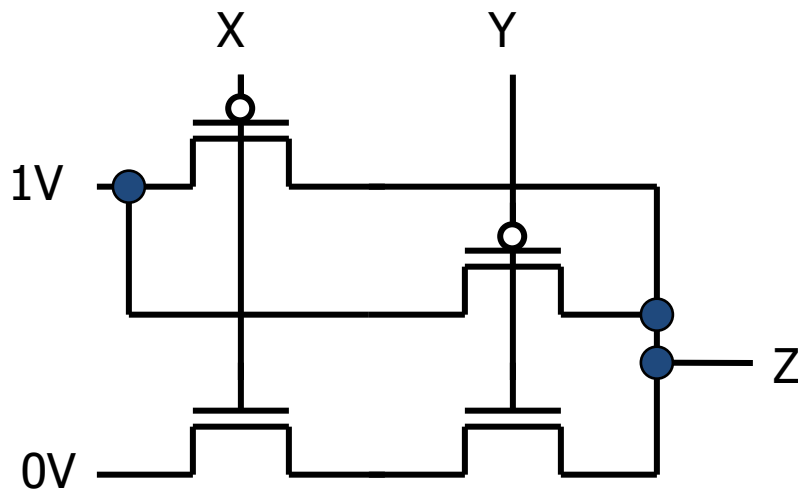
what is the relationship between x and y?

X	Y
0 Volt (GND)	1 Volt (Vdd)
1 Volt (Vdd)	0 Volt (GND)

Called an *inverter* or *not gate*



# Two-Input Networks

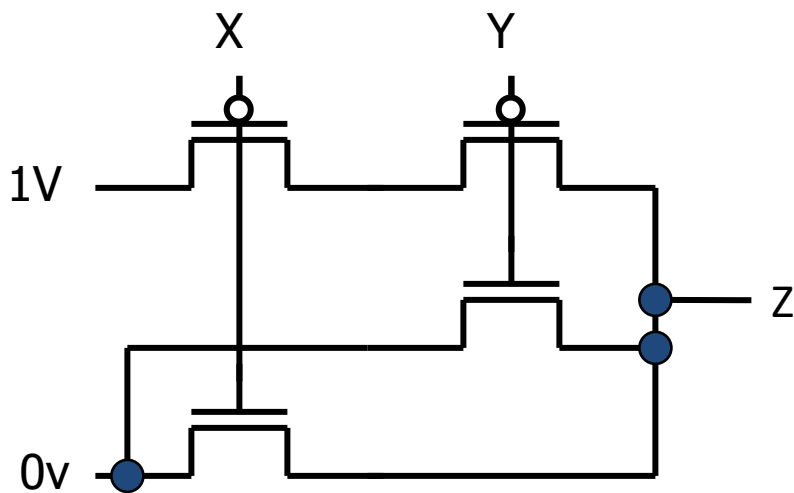


what is the relationship between x, y and z?

X	Y	Z
0 Volt	0 Volt	1 Volt
0 Volt	1 Volt	1 Volt
1 Volt	0 Volt	1 Volt
1 Volt	1 Volt	0 Volt

Called a *NAND gate*  
(*NOT AND*)

# Clickers/Peer Instruction

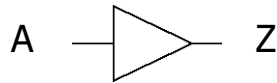


X	Y	Z				
0 Volt	0 Volt	A	B	C	D	Volts
0 Volt	1 Volt	0	1	0	1	Volts
1 Volt	0 Volt	0	1	0	1	Volts
1 Volt	1 Volt	1	1	0	0	Volts

# Combinational Logic Symbols

- Common combinational logic systems have standard symbols called logic gates

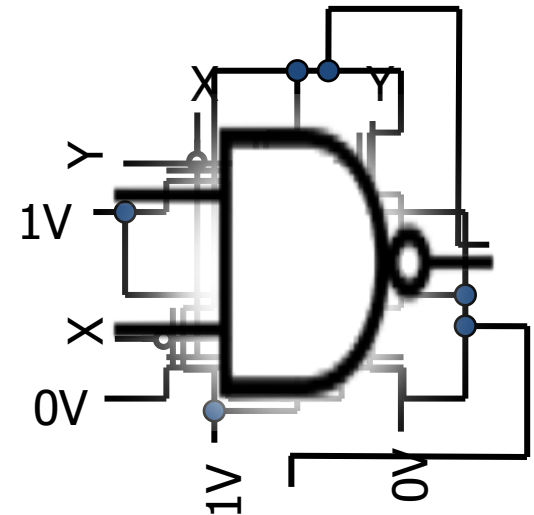
– Buffer, NOT



– AND, NAND



– OR, NOR



Inverting versions (NOT, NAND, NOR) easiest to implement with CMOS transistors (the switches we have available and use most)

Remember...

- **AND** 

- **OR** 

# Admin

- Project 1.1 will be published soon
  - Send your Lab TA your additional email – you will not be able to submit your project to gradebot without!
- Midterm I: April 6<sup>th</sup>!
  - Allowed material: 1 hand-written English double-sided A4 cheat sheet.
  - MIPS green card provided by us!
  - Content: Number representation, C, MIPS
  - Review session on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

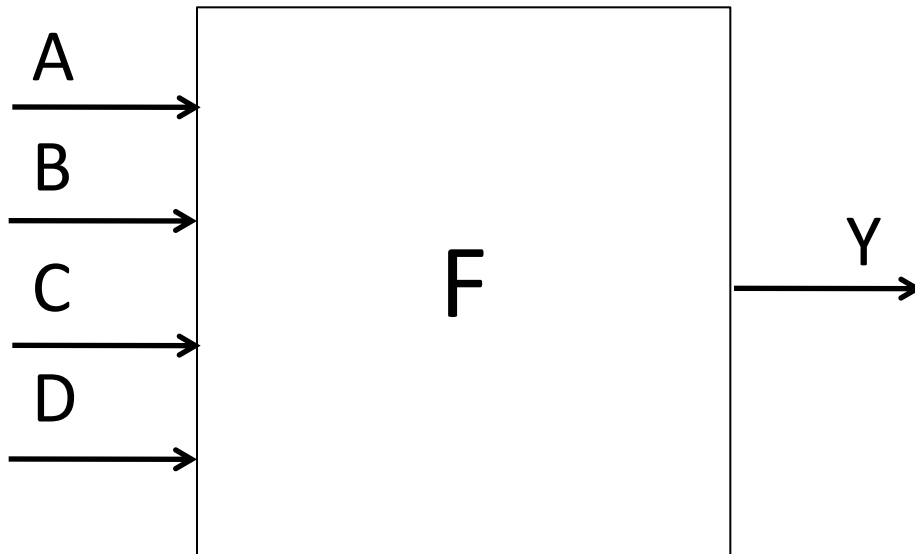
# Boolean Algebra

- Use plus “+” for OR
  - “logical sum”  $1+0 = 0+1 = 1$  (True);  $1+1=2$  (True);  $0+0 = 0$  (False)
- Use product for AND ( $a \bullet b$  or implied via  $ab$ )
  - “logical product”  $0*0 = 0*1 = 1*0 = 0$  (False);  $1*1 = 1$  (True)
- “Hat” to mean complement (NOT)
- Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & ab + a + \bar{c} \\ = & a \bullet b + a + \bar{c} \\ = & (a \text{ AND } b) \text{ OR } a \text{ OR } (\text{NOT } c) \end{aligned}$$



# Truth Tables for Combinational Logic



Exhaustive list of the output value  
generated for each combination of inputs

How many logic functions can be defined  
with N inputs?

a	b	c	d	y
0	0	0	0	F(0,0,0,0)
0	0	0	1	F(0,0,0,1)
0	0	1	0	F(0,0,1,0)
0	0	1	1	F(0,0,1,1)
0	1	0	0	F(0,1,0,0)
0	1	0	1	F(0,1,0,1)
0	1	1	0	F(0,1,1,0)
0	1	1	1	F(0,1,1,1)
1	0	0	0	F(1,0,0,0)
1	0	0	1	F(1,0,0,1)
1	0	1	0	F(1,0,1,0)
1	0	1	1	F(1,0,1,1)
1	1	0	0	F(1,1,0,0)
1	1	0	1	F(1,1,0,1)
1	1	1	0	F(1,1,1,0)
1	1	1	1	F(1,1,1,1)

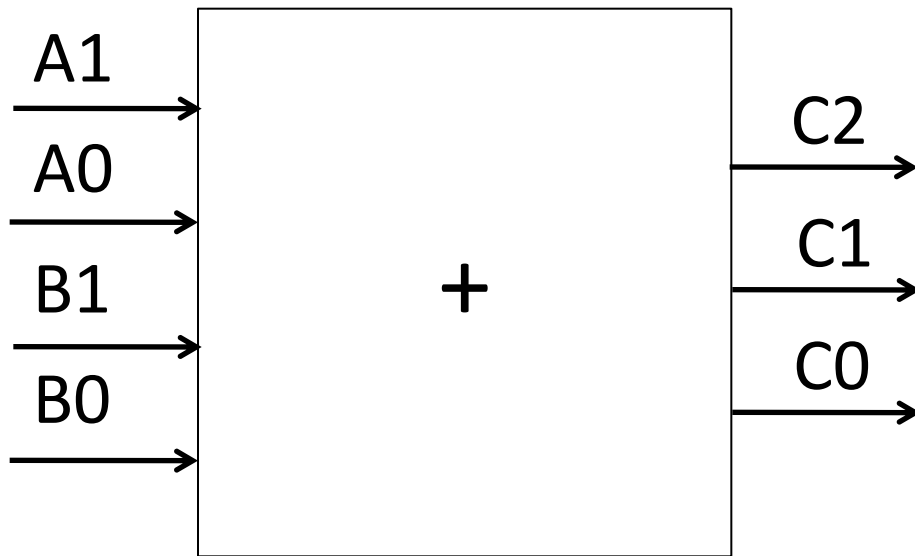
# Truth Table Example #1:

$y = F(a,b)$ : 1 iff  $a \neq b$

<b>a</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>y</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>



# Truth Table Example #2: 2-bit Adder



How  
Many  
Rows?

A		B	C
$a_1a_0$	$b_1b_0$	$c_2c_1c_0$	

# Truth Table Example #3: 32-bit Unsigned Adder

A	B	C
000 ... 0	000 ... 0	000 ... 00
000 ... 0	000 ... 1	000 ... 01
.	.	.
.	.	.
.	.	.
111 ... 1	111 ... 1	111 ... 10

How  
Many  
Rows?

# Truth Table Example #4: 3-input Majority Circuit

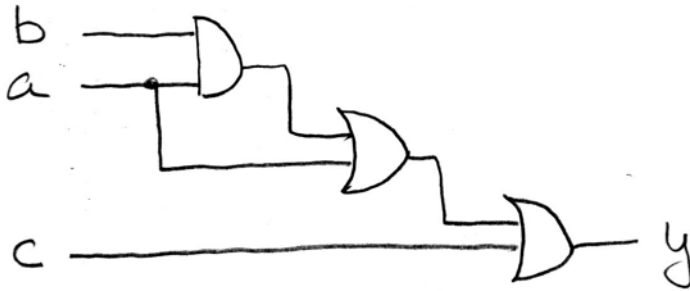
$Y =$

This is called *Sum of Products* form;  
Just another way to represent the TT  
as a logical expression

More simplified forms  
(fewer gates and wires)

a	b	c	y
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

# Boolean Algebra: Circuit & Algebraic Simplification



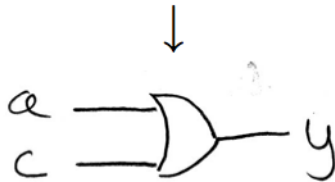
original circuit

$$y = ((ab) + a) + c$$

equation derived from original circuit

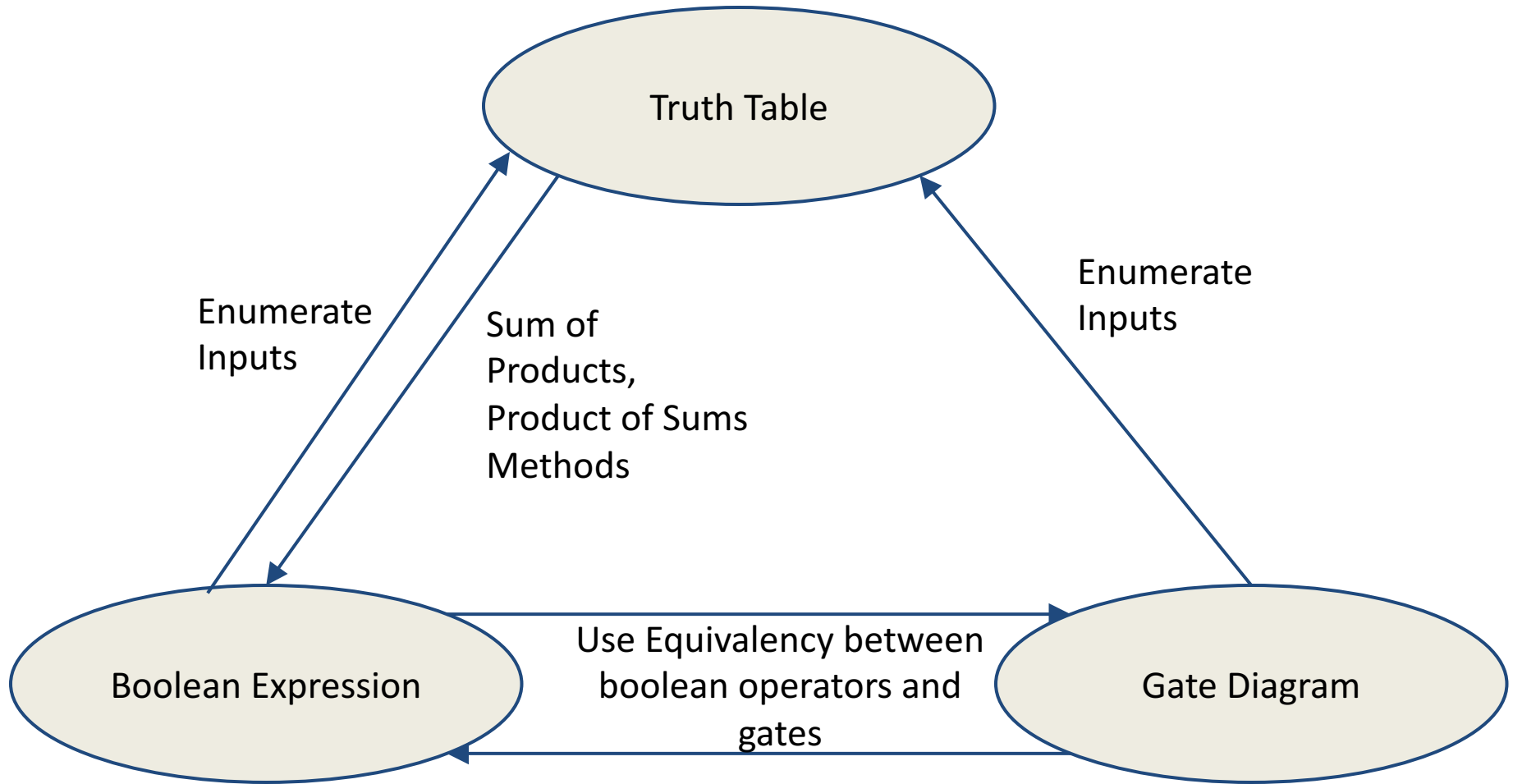
$$\begin{aligned} &\downarrow \\ &= ab + a + c \\ &\downarrow \\ &= a(b + 1) + c \\ &= a(1) + c \\ &= a + c \end{aligned}$$

algebraic simplification



simplified circuit

# Representations of Combinational Logic (groups of logic gates)



# Laws of Boolean Algebra

$$X \bar{X} = 0$$

$$X 0 = 0$$

$$X 1 = X$$

$$X X = X$$

$$X Y = Y X$$

$$(X Y) Z = Z (Y Z)$$

$$X (Y + Z) = X Y + X Z$$

$$X Y + X = X$$

$$\bar{X} Y + X = X + Y$$

$$\overline{X Y} = \bar{X} + \bar{Y}$$

$$X + \bar{X} = 1$$

$$X + 1 = 1$$

$$X + 0 = X$$

$$X + X = X$$

$$X + Y = Y + X$$

$$(X + Y) + Z = Z + (Y + Z)$$

$$X + Y Z = (X + Y) (X + Z)$$

$$(X + Y) X = X$$

$$(\bar{X} + Y) X = X Y$$

$$\overline{X + Y} = \bar{X} \bar{Y}$$

Complementarity

Laws of 0's and 1's

Identities

Idempotent Laws

Commutativity

Associativity

Distribution

Uniting Theorem

Uniting Theorem v. 2

DeMorgan's Law

# Boolean Algebraic Simplification Example

$$y = ab + a + c$$

# Boolean Algebraic Simplification

## Example

$$y = ab + a + c$$

$$a \ b \ c \ y = a(b + 1) + c \quad \textit{distribution, identity}$$

$$0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 = a(1) + c \quad \textit{law of 1's}$$

$$0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 = a + c \quad \textit{identity}$$

$$0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0$$

$$0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1$$

$$1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1$$

$$1 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1$$

$$1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 1$$

$$1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1$$



# Question

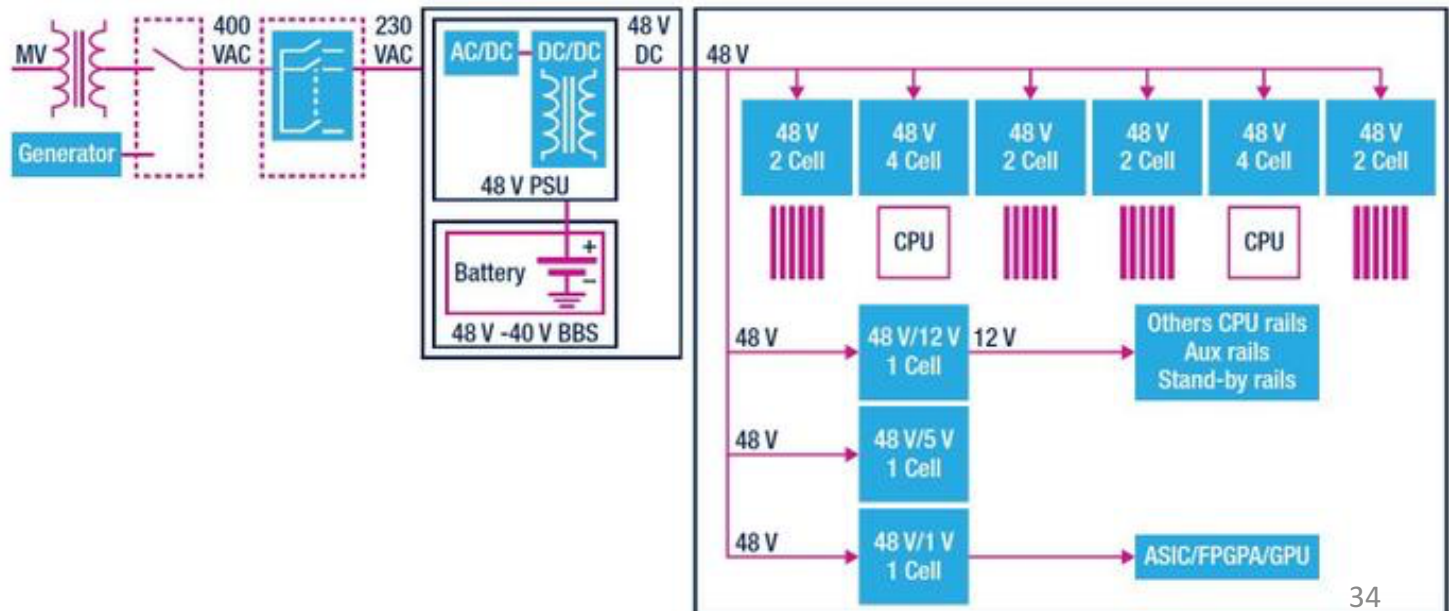
- Simplify  $Z = A + BC + \overline{A}(\overline{BC})$
- A:  $Z = 0$
- B:  $Z = \overline{A(1 + BC)}$
- C:  $Z = (A + BC)$
- D:  $Z = BC$
- E:  $Z = 1$

# News:

## Open Compute Project Summit: Google & ST Microelectronics: 48V to Chip

- Point-of-Load-(PoL) Converter
- 48V to 0.5V .. 1V .. up to 12V > 300 W @ 1V!
- Efficiency: 230V AC 89.3%; 48V DC 92.1%

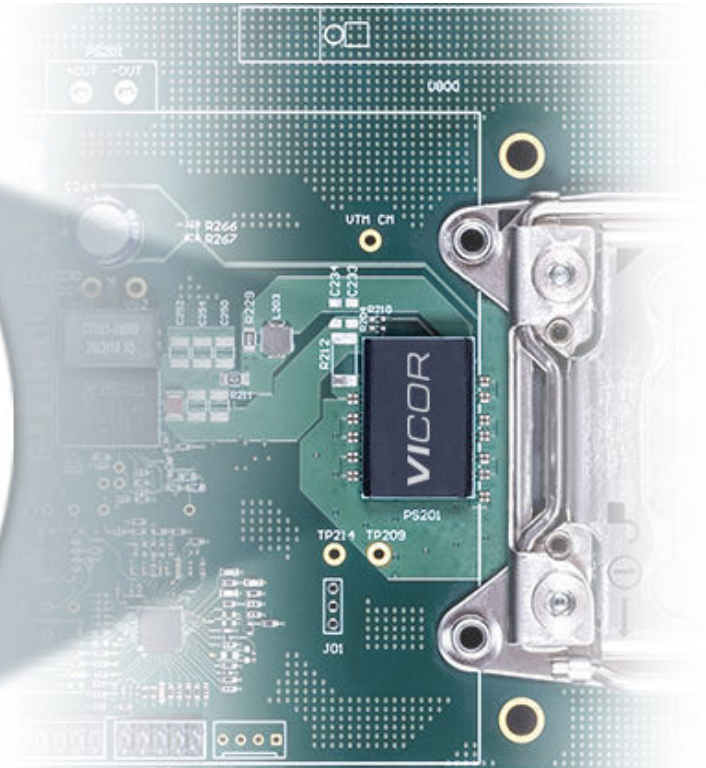
AC - 48 V Direct Power Distribution



Latest 100 A+ VTM  
(and 200 A turbo mode)  
consumes only 13 x 23 mm area

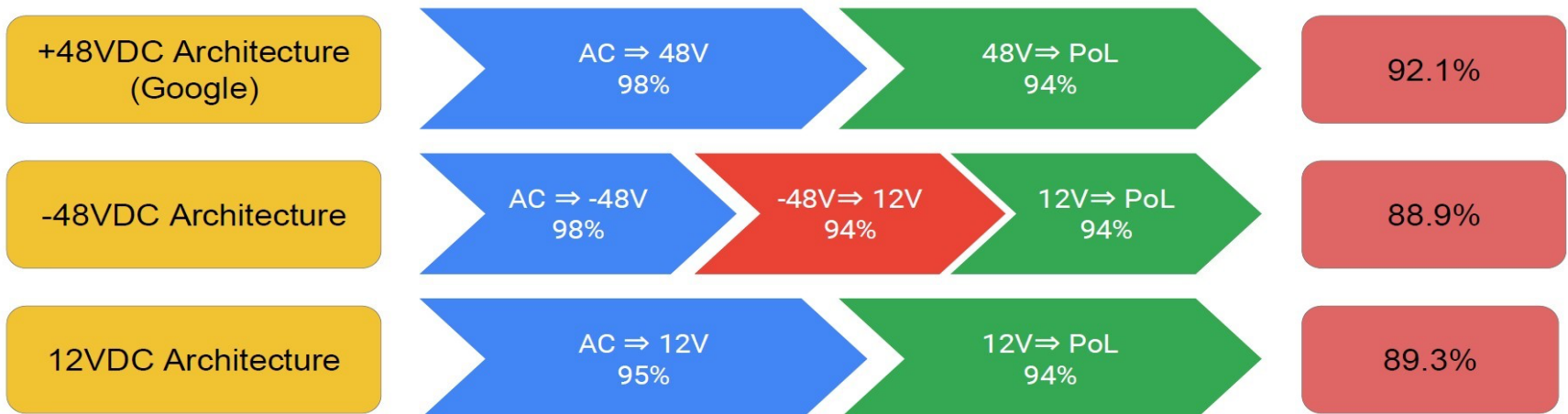


Single VTM replaces  
multiple conventional DRMO5  
and inductor stages.



## Typical Conversion Efficiency

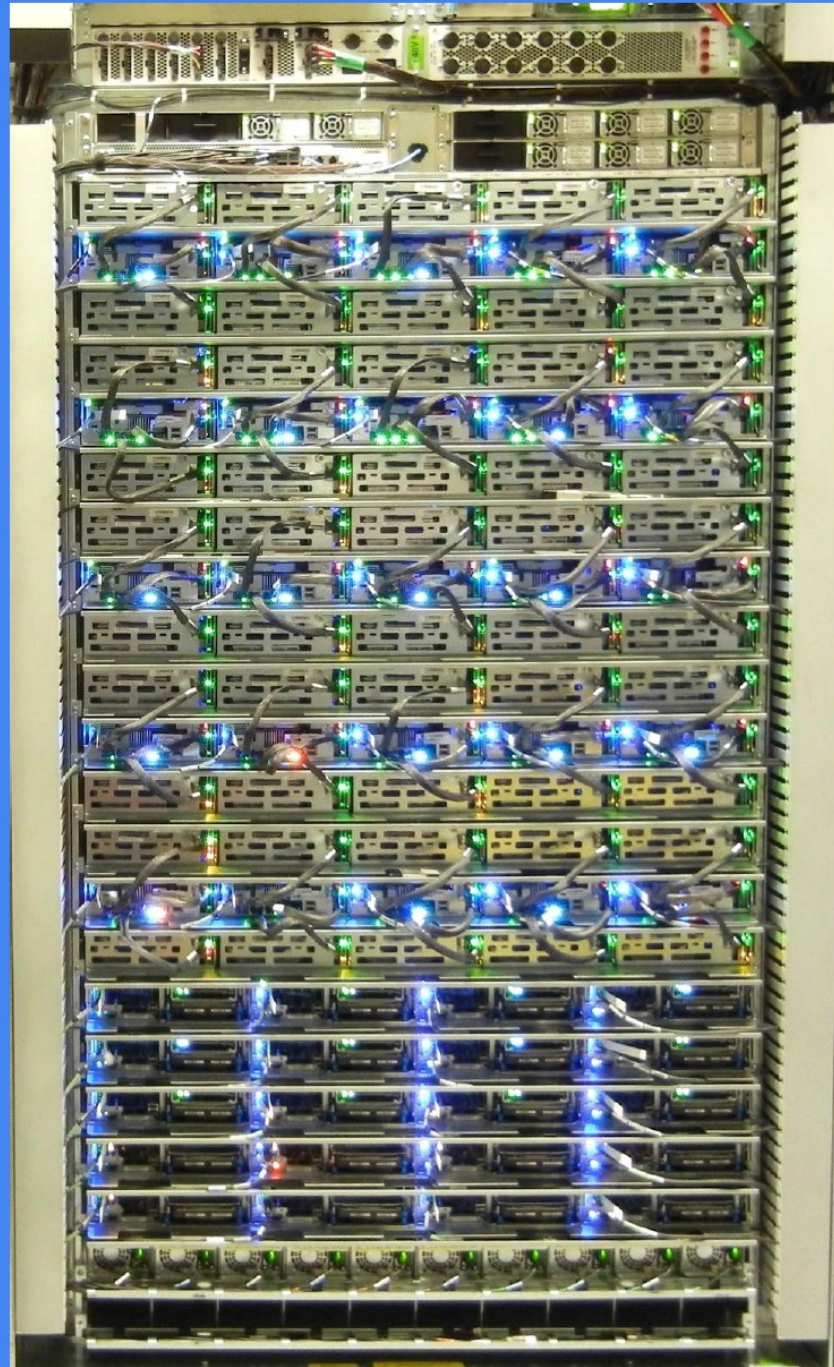
### System Efficiency



AC-to-48VDC

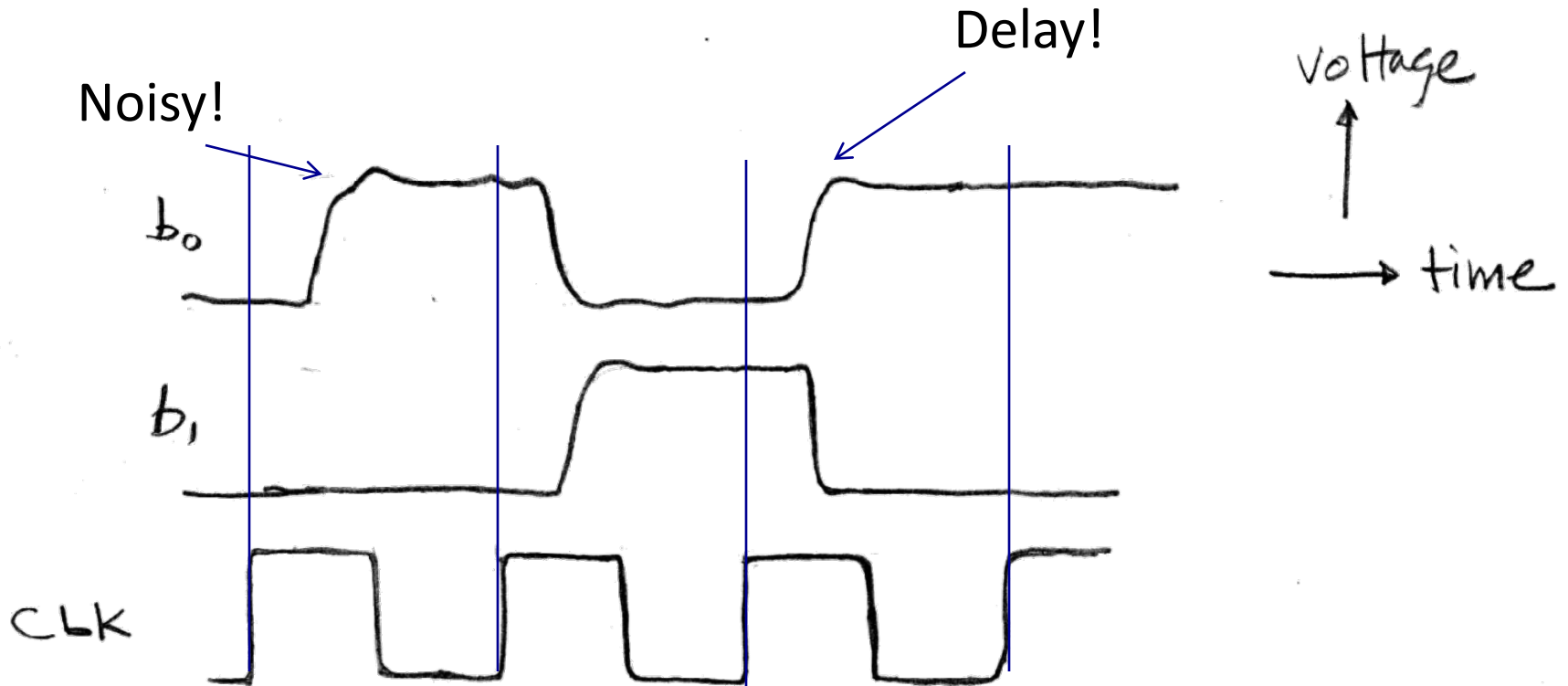
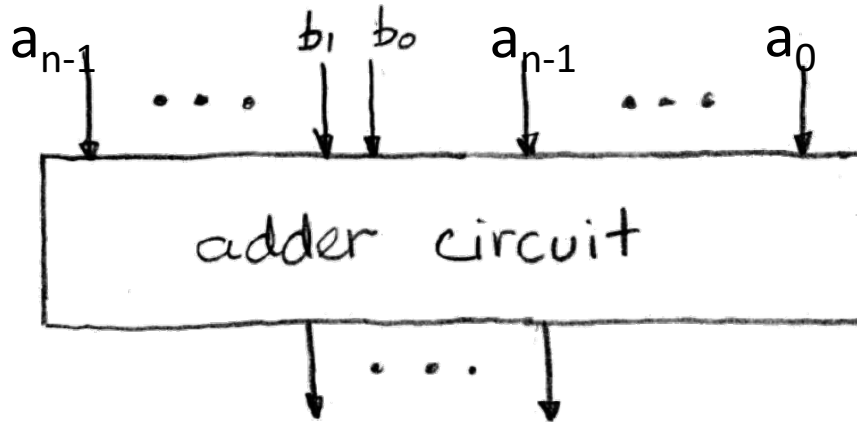
48V to PoL  
Payloads

48VDC UPS

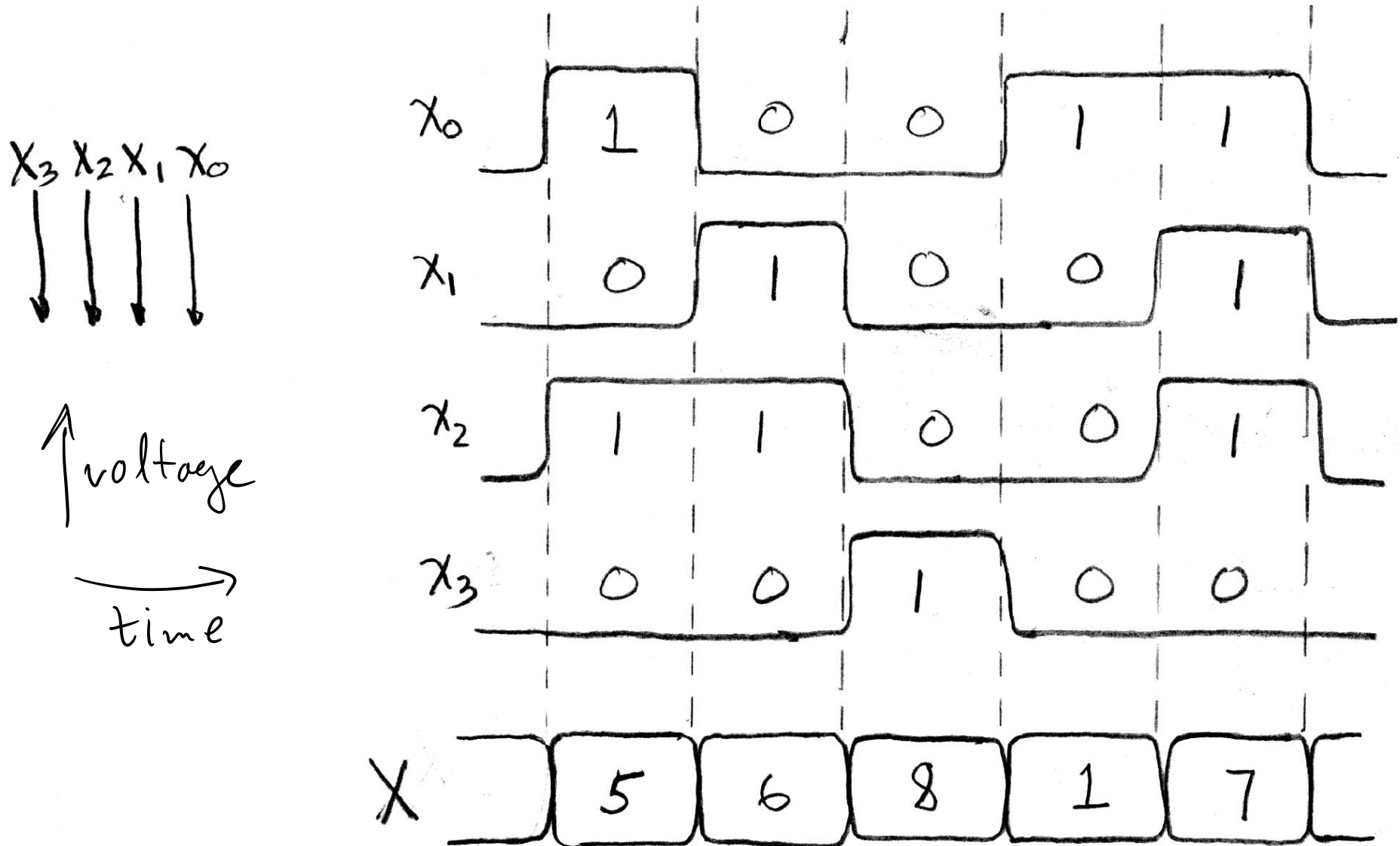




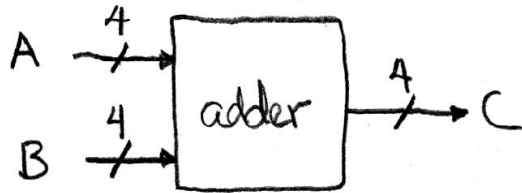
# Signals and Waveforms



# Signals and Waveforms: Grouping

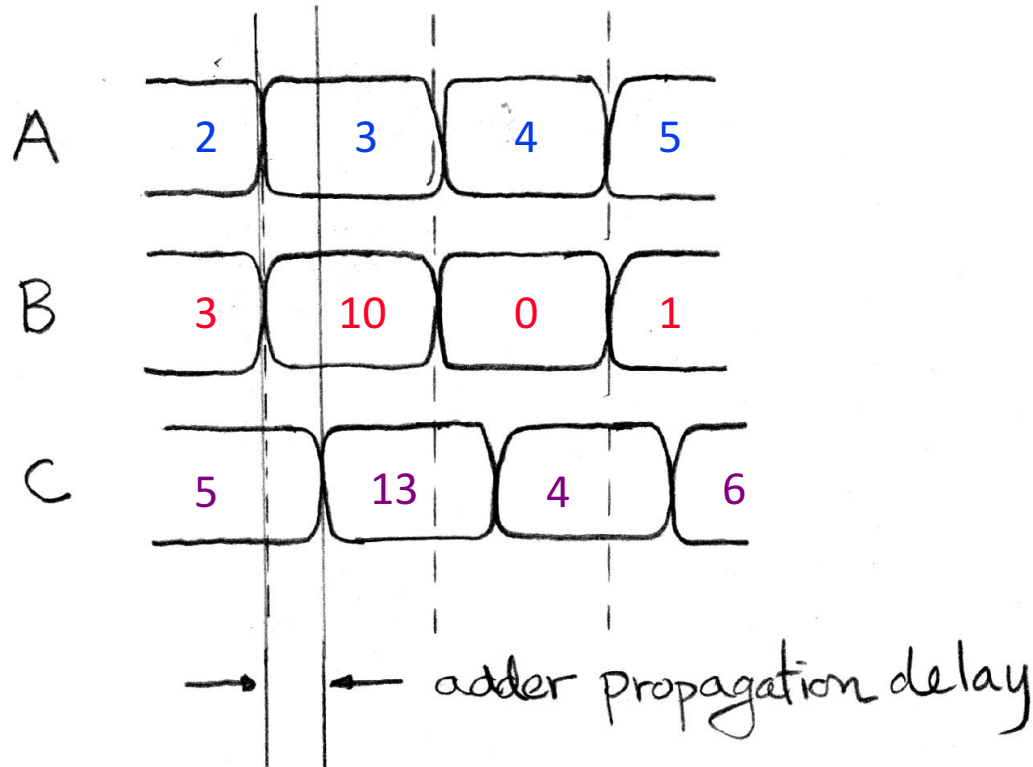
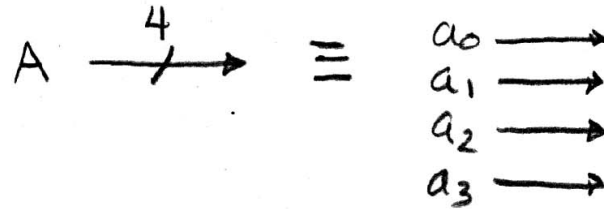


# Signals and Waveforms: Circuit Delay

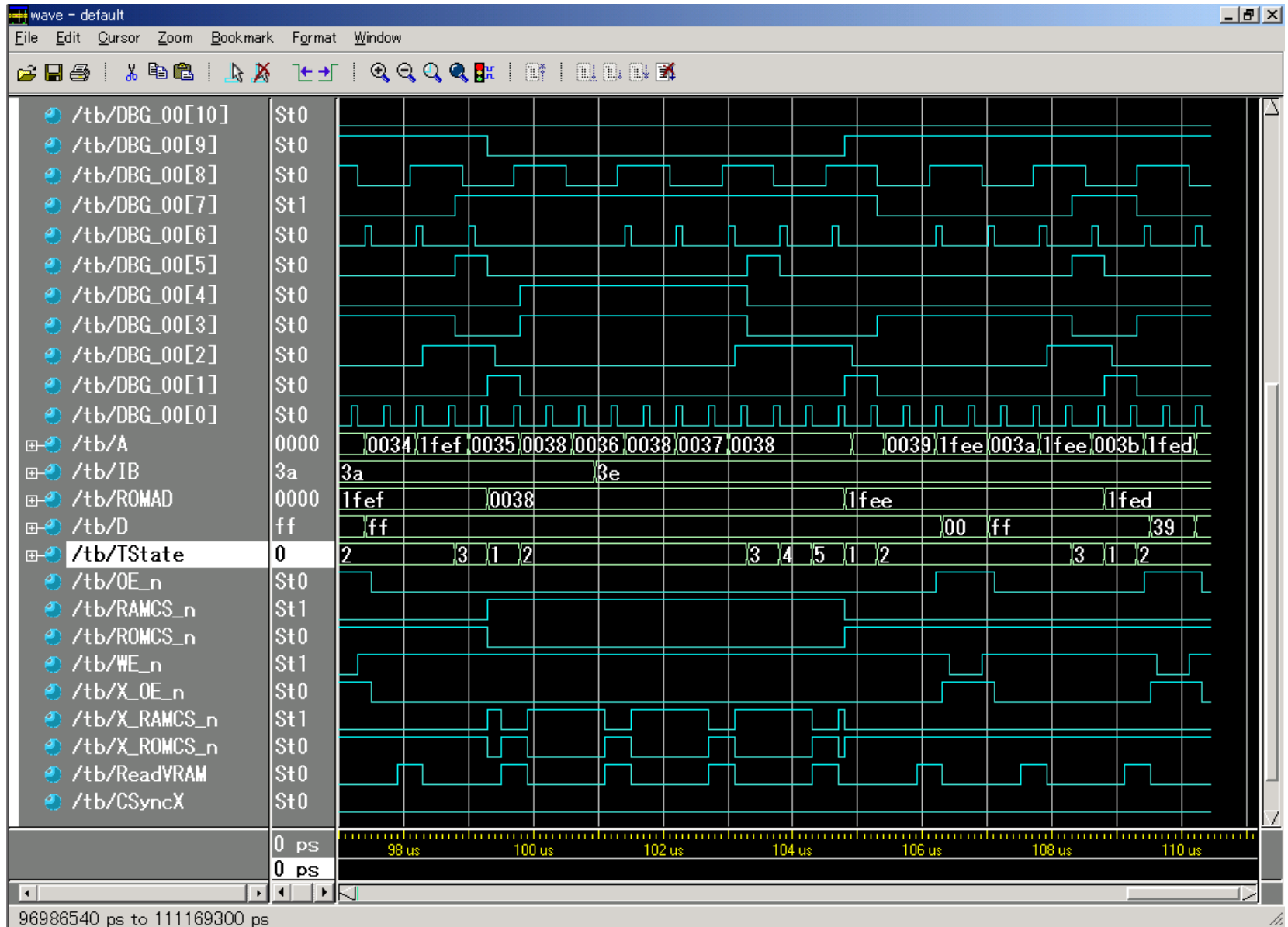


$$A = [a_3, a_2, a_1, a_0]$$

$$B = [b_3, b_2, b_1, b_0]$$



# Sample Debugging Waveform





# Type of Circuits

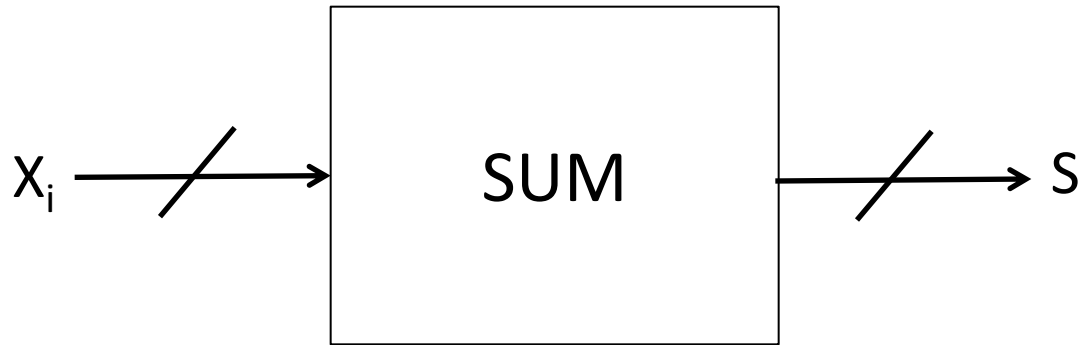
- *Synchronous Digital Systems* consist of two basic types of circuits:
  - Combinational Logic (CL) circuits
    - Output is a function of the inputs only, not the history of its execution
    - E.g., circuits to add A, B (ALUs)
  - Sequential Logic (SL)
    - Circuits that “remember” or store information
    - aka “State Elements”
    - E.g., memories and registers (Registers)

# Uses for State Elements

- Place to store values for later re-use:
  - Register files (like \$1-\$31 in MIPS)
  - Memory (caches and main memory)
- *Help control flow of information between combinational logic blocks*
  - State elements hold up the movement of information at input to combinational logic blocks to allow for orderly passage

# Accumulator Example

Why do we need to control the flow of information?



Want:

```
S=0;
```

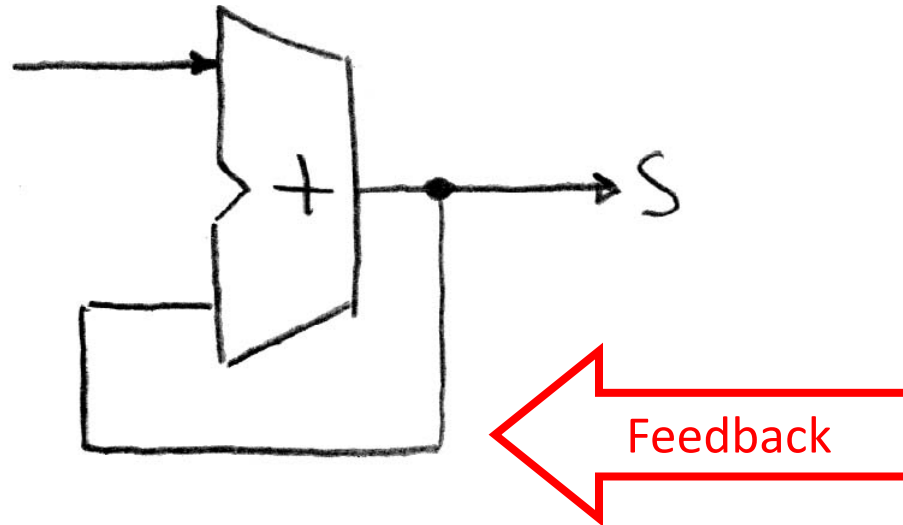
```
for (i=0; i<n; i++)
```

```
    S = S + Xi
```

Assume:

- Each X value is applied in succession, one per cycle
- After n cycles the sum is present on S

# First Try: Does this work?

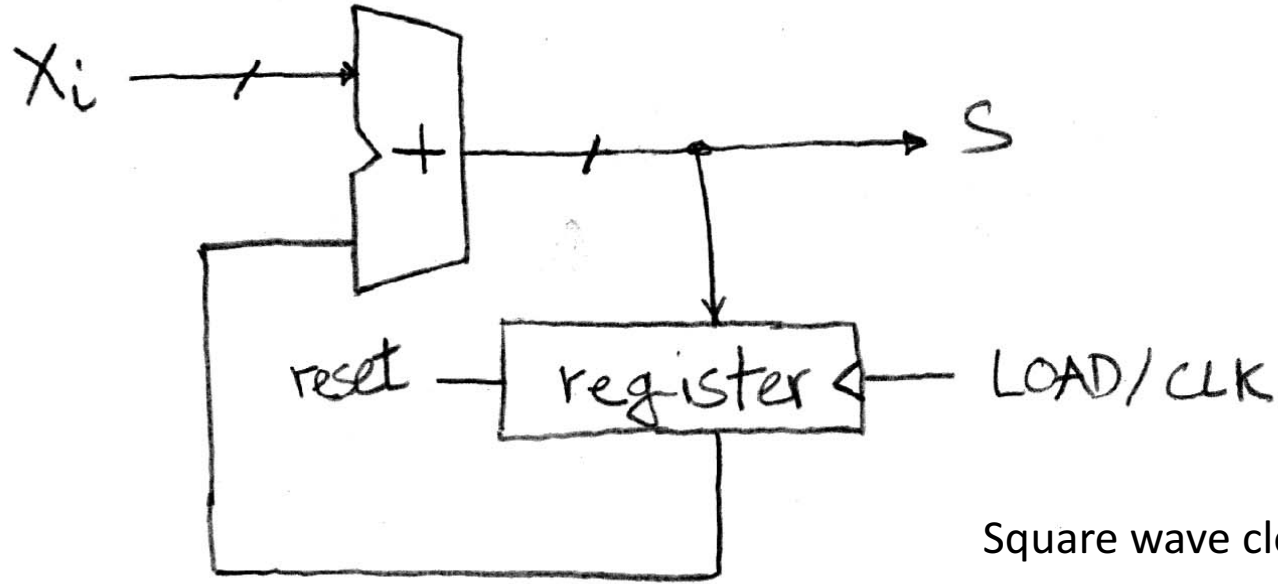


No!

Reason #1: How to control the next iteration of the 'for' loop?

Reason #2: How do we say: 'S=0'?

# Second Try: How About This?



Register is used to hold up the transfer of data to adder

Square wave clock sets when things change

Rough timing ...

