



PART II: ALGORITHMS, MACHINES, and THEORY

# 19. Combinational Circuits

# COMPUTER SCIENCE SEDGEWICK/WAYNE

PART II: ALGORITHMS, MACHINES, and THEORY

# **19. Combinational Circuits**

- Building blocks
- Boolean algebra
- Digital circuits
- Adder circuit
- Arithmetic/logic unit

CS.19.A.Circuits.Basics

### Context

- Q. What is a combinational circuit?
- A. A digital circuit (all signals are 0 or 1) with no feedback (no loops).

analog circuit: signals vary continuously

Q. Why combinational circuits?

A. Accurate, reliable, general purpose, fast, cheap.

#### Basic abstractions

- On and off.
- Wire: propagates on/off value.
- Switch: controls propagation of on/off values through wires.

#### Applications. Smartphone, tablet, game controller, antilock brakes, *microprocessor*, ...



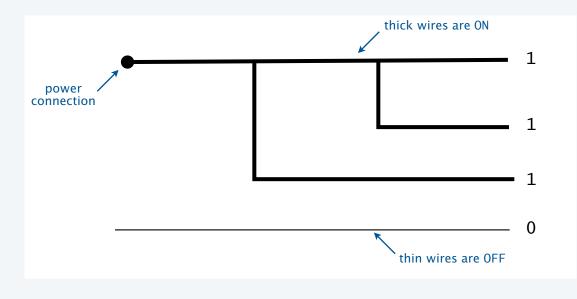
*sequential* circuit: loops allowed (stay tuned)

#### Wires

#### Wires propagate on/off values

- ON (1): connected to power.
- OFF (0): not connected to power.
- Any wire connected to a wire that is ON is also ON.
- Drawing convention: "flow" from top, left to bottom, right.

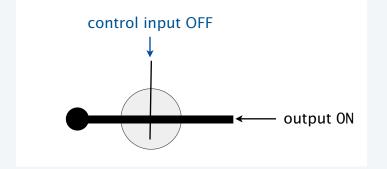


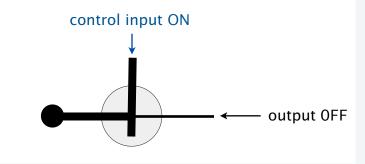


# **Controlled Switch**

#### Switches control propagation of on/off values through wires.

- Simplest case involves two connections: control (input) and output.
- control OFF: output ON
- control ON: output OFF

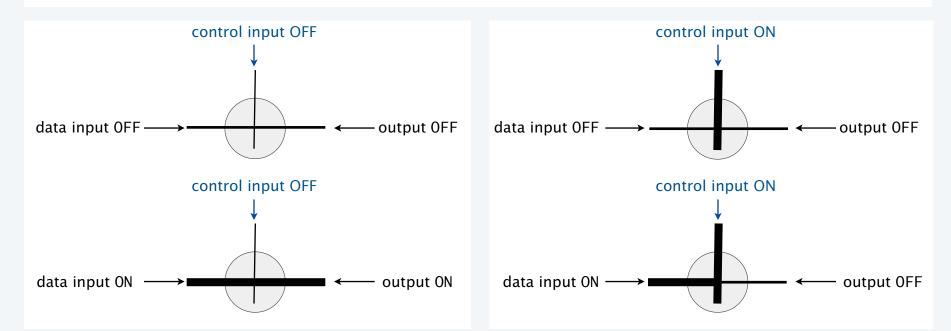




# **Controlled Switch**

#### Switches control propagation of on/off values through wires.

- General case involves three connections: control input, data input and output.
- control OFF: output is connected to input
- control ON: output is disconnected from input

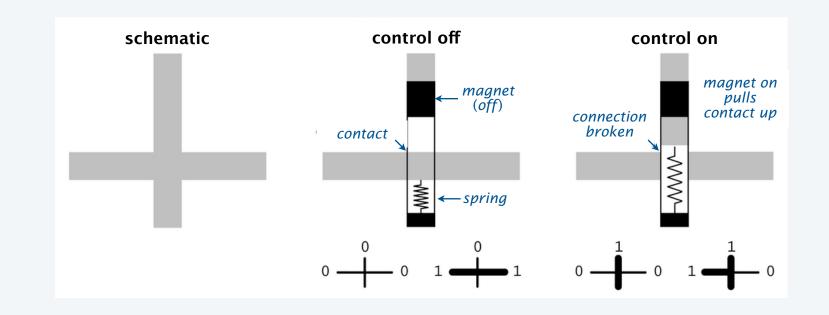


Idealized model of *pass transistors* found in real integrated circuits.

## Controlled switch: example implementation

A *relay* is a physical device that controls a switch with a magnet

- 3 connections: input, output, control.
- Magnetic force pulls on a contact that cuts electrical flow.



# First level of abstraction

Switches and wires model provides separation between physical world and logical world.

- We assume that switches operate as specified.
- That is the only assumption.
- Physical realization of switch is irrelevant to design.

Physical realization dictates performance

- Size.
- Speed.
- Power.

New technology immediately gives new computer.

Better switch? Better computer.

Basis of Moore's law.





all built with "switches and wires"



				technology	switch
technology	"information"	switch		relay	Ť
	air pressure	STATES A		(1940s)	
pneumatic				vacuum tube	
fluid	water pressure			transistor	
				"pass transistor" in	_
relay	electric	1		integrated circuit	
(now)	potential			atom-thick transistor	
Amus	ing attempts t	hat do not			25

# Switches and wires: a first level of abstraction

scale but prove the point

Real-world examples that prove the point

# Switches and wires: a first level of abstraction

VLSI = Very Large Scale Integration

#### Technology

Deposit materials on substrate.

#### Key properties

Lines are wires. Certain crossing lines are controlled switches.

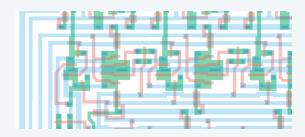
#### Key challenge in physical world

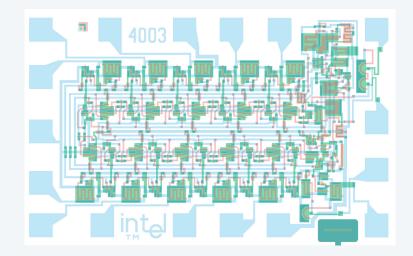
Fabricating physical circuits with billions of wires and controlled switches

#### Key challenge in "abstract" world

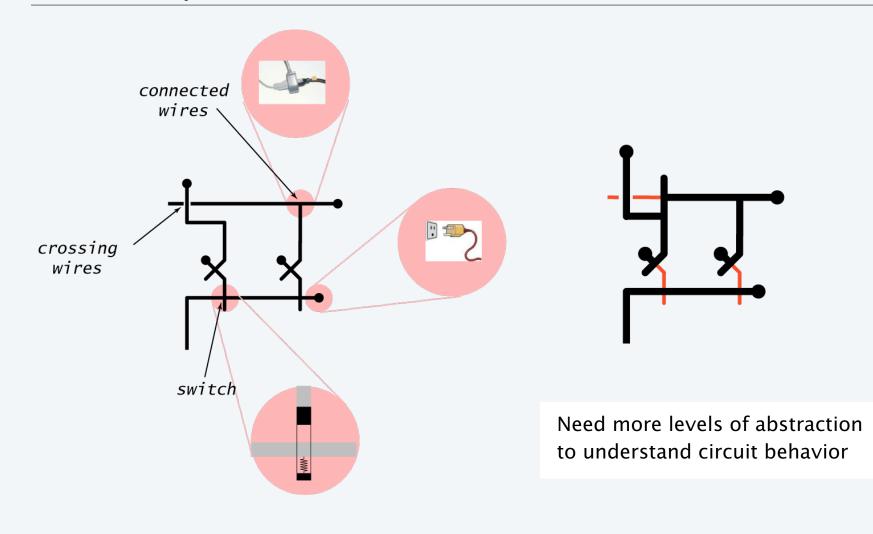
Understanding behavior of circuits with billions of wires and controlled switches

Bottom line. Circuit = Drawing (!)





# Circuit anatomy





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#### Image sources

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f4/1965\_c1960s\_vacuum\_tube%2C\_7025A-12AX7A%2C\_QC%2C\_Philips%2C\_Great\_Britain.jpg http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/relay.htm



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CS.19.B.Circuits.Algebra

## Boolean algebra

Developed by George Boole in 1840s to study logic problems

• Variables represent *true* or *false* (1 or 0 for short).

• Basic operations are AND, OR, and NOT (see table below). Widely used in mathematics, logic and computer science.



George Boole 1815–1864

operation	Java notation	logic notation	circuit design (this lecture)		
AND	х && у	$x \wedge y$	xy		
OR	х    у	$x \lor y$	x + y	<ul> <li>various notations in common use</li> </ul>	-
NOT	! x	$\neg x$	<i>x</i> '		

Example: (stay tuned for proof)

$$(xy)' = (x' + y')$$
  
 $(x + y)' = x'y'$ 

Relevance to circuits. Basis for next level of abstraction.



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# Truth tables

A truth table is a systematic way to define a Boolean function

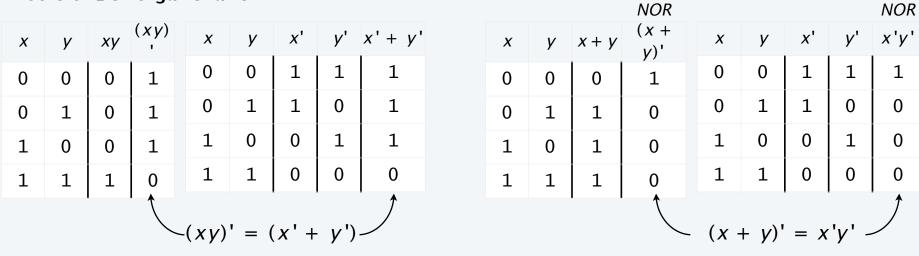
- One row for each possible set of arguments.
- Each row gives the function value for the specified arguments.
- *N* inputs: 2<sup>*N*</sup> rows needed.

x	<i>x</i> '		x	Y	xy	x	У	x + y	x	Y	NOR	x	У	XOR
0	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	0		0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
NOT		1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	
			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0
		AND			OR			NOR			XOR			

### Truth table proofs

#### Truth tables are convenient for establishing identities in Boolean logic

- One row for each possibility.
- Identity established if columns match.



#### **Proofs of DeMorgan's laws**

# All Boolean functions of two variables

- Q. How many Boolean functions of two variables?
- A. 16 (all possibilities for the 4 bits in the truth table column).

x	У	ZERO	AND		x		У	XOR	OR	NOR	EQ	¬y		¬ <i>X</i>		NAND	ONE
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1

#### Truth tables for all Boolean functions of 2 variables

# Functions of three and more variables

- Q. How many Boolean functions of *three* variables?
- A. 256 (all possibilities for the 8 bits in the truth table column).

x	y	z	AND	OR	NOR	MAJ	ODD
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1	0	0	0	1 0		0	1
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1

Some Boolean functions of 3 variables

		all extend to N variables
Example	es	$\downarrow$
AND	logical AND	0 iff <i>any</i> inputs is 0 (1 iff all inputs 1)
OR	logical OR	1 iff <i>any</i> input is 1 (0 iff all inputs 0)
NOR	logical NOR	0 iff <i>any</i> input is 1 (1 iff all inputs 0)
MAJ	majority	1 iff more inputs are 1 than 0
ODD	odd parity	1 iff an odd number of inputs are 1

#### Q. How many Boolean functions of N variables?

	Ν	number of Boolean functions with N variables
	2	24 = 16
A. $2^{(2^N)}$	3	2 <sup>8</sup> = 256
A. 2 <sup>(2)</sup>	4	$2^{16} = 65,536$
	5	$2^{32} = 4,294,967,296$
	6	$2^{64} = 18,446,744,073,709,551,616$

# Universality of AND, OR and NOT

Every Boolean function can be represented as a sum of products

- Form an AND term for each 1 in Boolean function.
- OR all the terms together.

									x'yz + xy'z + xyz' + xyz = MA
x	У	Ζ	MAJ	x'yz	xy'z	xyz'	xyz	1	x yz + xy z + xyz + xyz = MAj
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
0	1	1	$\left(1\right)$	$\left(1\right)$	0	0	0	1	Def. A set of op
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	every Boolean f
1	0	1	$\left(1\right)$	0	(1)	0	0	1	using just those
1	1	0	$\left( 1\right)$	0	0	$\left( 1\right)$	0	1	Fact. { AND, OR
1	1	1	$\left( 1\right)$	0	0	0	$\left(1\right)$	1	
6	voro	ccina		26.2	cum (	of pro	duct	c	

Expressing MAJ as a sum of products

Def. A set of operations is *universal* if every Boolean function can be expressed using just those operations.

Fact. { AND, OR, NOT } is universal.

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Image sources
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George\_Boole#/media/File:George\_Boole\_color.jpg

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# A basis for digital devices

#### Claude Shannon connected *circuit design* with Boolean algebra in 1937.

" Possibly the most important, and also the most famous, master's thesis of the [20th]

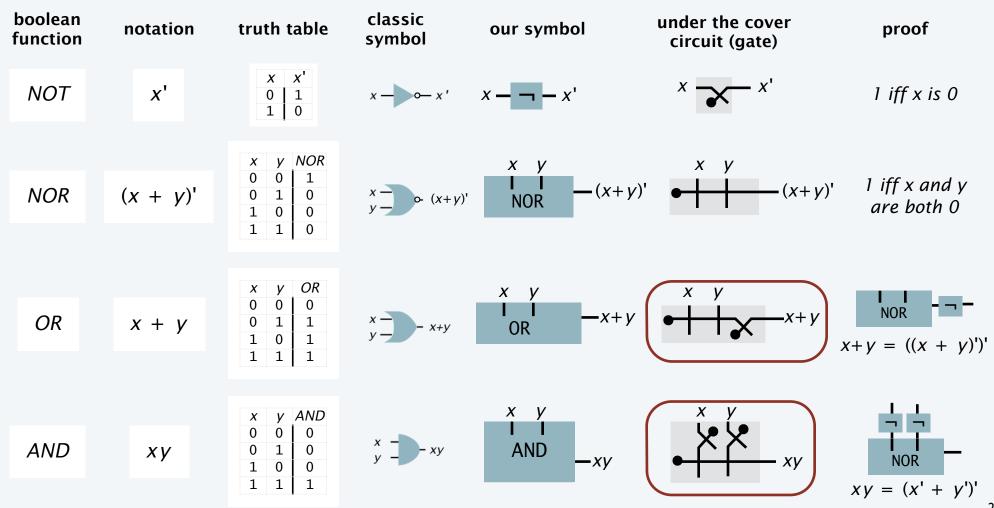
- Howard Gardner

Key idea. Can use Boolean algebra to systematically analyze circuit behavior.

<text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text>	Circuits SHONON SHONON SHONON SHONON The short of legic. For the synthesis problem the desired characteristics are the form ergession system of equations, and the	cait in parallel with a closed circuit is a closed cuit in series with an open circuit is an open equit in series with a closed circuit in stiker sheather the open circuit. The closed circuit could be appendent in the closed circuit is a closed cuit in parallel with an open circuit is an open cuit in parallel with an open circuit is an open cuit in parallel with an open circuit is an open cuit in parallel with an open circuit is an open l. These are sufficient to develop all the behaverus which will be used in connection with circuits containing only series and parallel contexions. The postulates are arranged in pairs to emphasize a duality relationship between the operations of addition and multiplication and the quantities area and one. Thus, if in plantlel by ome's and the multiplications pland by ome's and the multiplications	Claude Shannon 1916–2001
most of which are similar to ordinary algebraic algorisms. This calculus is shown to be exactly analogous to the	FUNDAMENTAL DEFINITIONS AND POSTULATES We shall limit our treatment to cir-	relationship between the operations of addition and multiplication and the quantities zero and one. Thus, if in any of the $a$ postulates the zero's are re-	
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# A second level of abstraction: logic gates

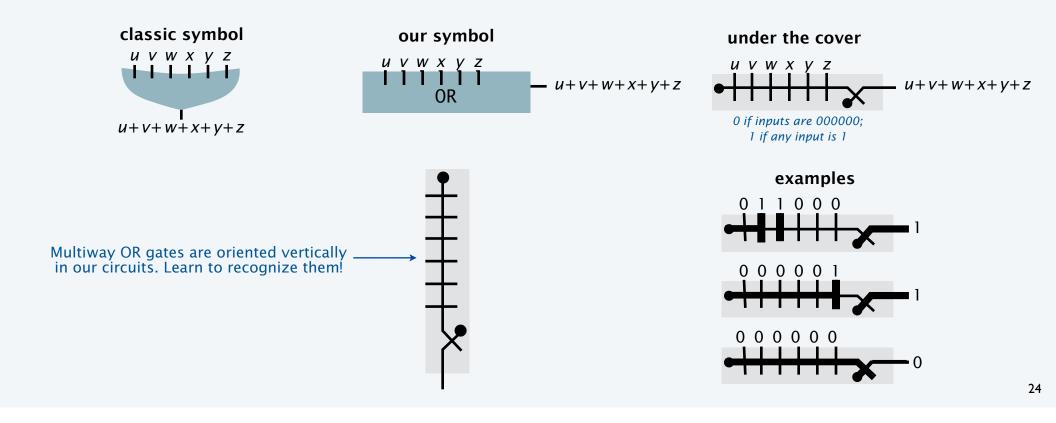


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# Multiway OR gates

#### OR gates with multiple inputs.

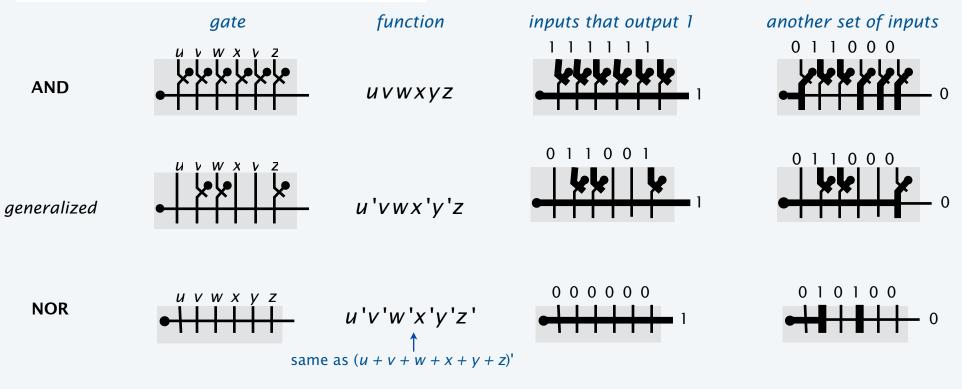
- 1 if any input is 1.
- 0 if *all* inputs are 0.



# Multiway generalized AND gates

#### Multiway generalized AND gates.

- 1 for *exactly 1* set of input values.
- 0 for *all other* sets of input values.

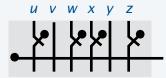


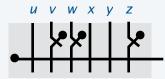
Might also call these "generalized NOR gates"; we consistently use AND.

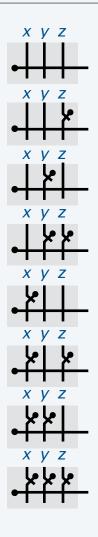
# Pop quiz on generalized AND gates

Q. Give the Boolean function computed by these gates.

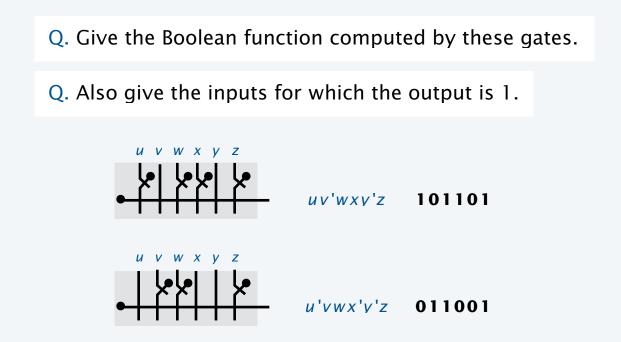
Q. Also give the inputs for which the output is 1.





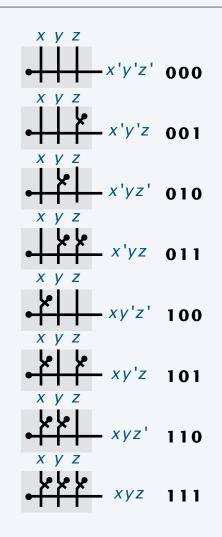


# Pop quiz on generalized AND gates



Get the idea? If not, replay this slide, like flash cards.

Note. From now on, we will not label these gates.

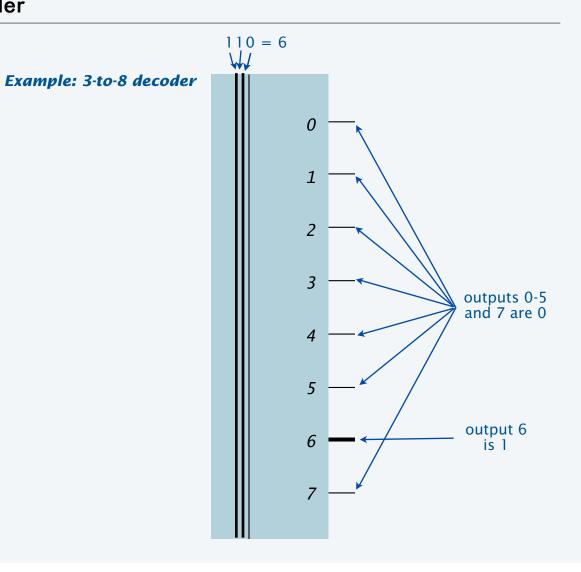


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# A useful combinational circuit: decoder

#### Decoder

- *n* input lines (address).
- 2<sup>n</sup> outputs.
- Addressed output is 1.
- All other outputs are 0.



# A useful combinational circuit: decoder

#### Decoder

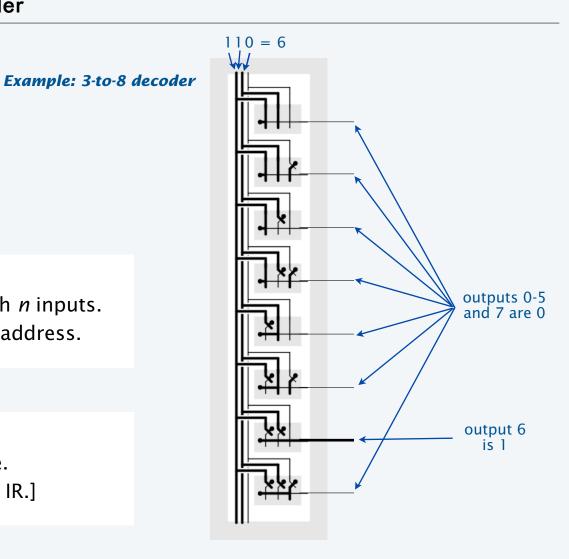
- *n* input lines (address).
- 2<sup>n</sup> outputs.
- Addressed output is 1.
- All other outputs are 0.

#### Implementation

- Use all 2<sup>*n*</sup> generalized AND gates with *n* inputs.
- Only one of them matches the input address.

#### Application (next lecture)

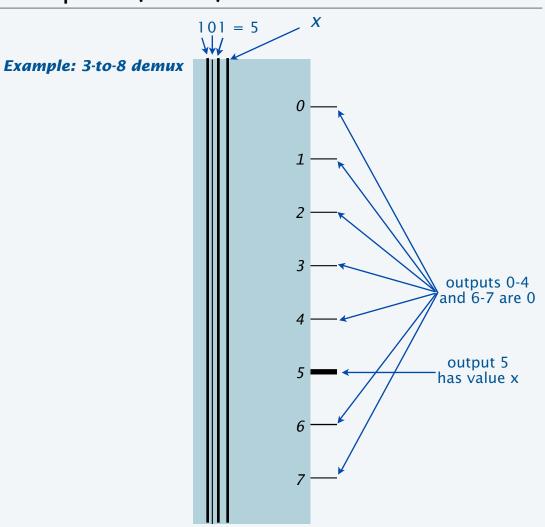
- Select a memory word for read/write.
- [Use address bits of instruction from IR.]



# Another useful combinational circuit: demultiplexer (demux)

#### Demultiplexer

- *n* address inputs.
- 1 data input with value *x*.
- 2<sup>n</sup> outputs.
- Addressed output has value *x*.
- All other outputs are 0.



# Another useful combinational circuit: demultiplexer (demux)

#### Demultiplexer

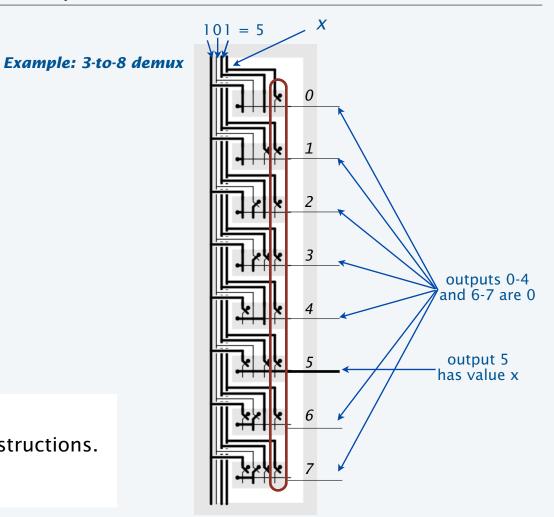
- *n* address inputs.
- 1 data input with value *x*.
- 2<sup>n</sup> outputs.
- Addressed output has value *x*.
- All other outputs are 0.

#### Implementation

- Start with decoder.
- Add AND x to each gate.

#### Application (next lecture)

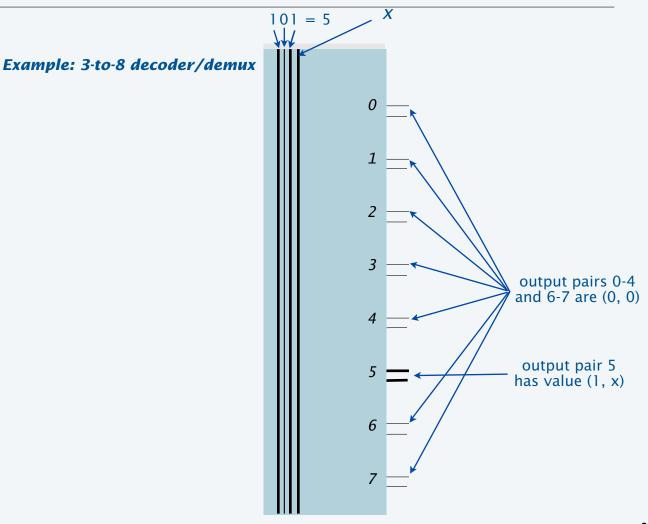
- Turn on control wires to implement instructions.
- [Use opcode bits of instruction in IR.]



# Decoder/demux

#### Decoder/demux

- *n* address inputs.
- 1 data input with value *x*.
- 2<sup>n</sup> output *pairs*.
- Addressed output *pair* has value (1, x).
- All other outputs are 0.



# Decoder/demux

#### Decoder/demux

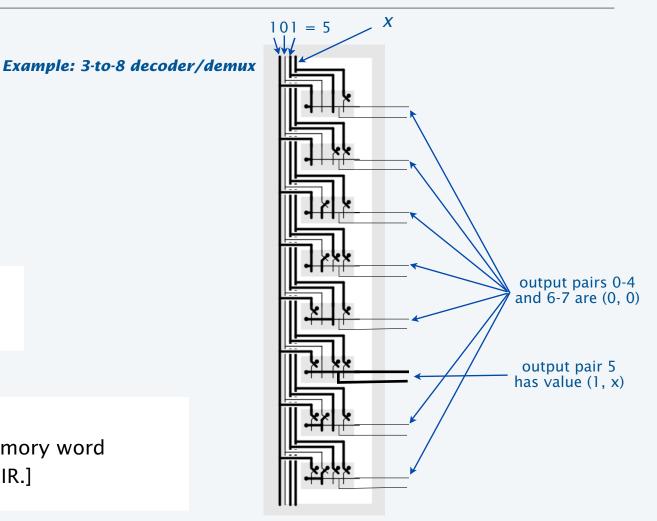
- *n* address inputs.
- 1 data input with value *x*.
- 2<sup>n</sup> output *pairs*.
- Addressed output *pair* has value (1, x).
- All other outputs are 0.

#### Implementation

• Add decoder output to demux.

#### Application (next lecture)

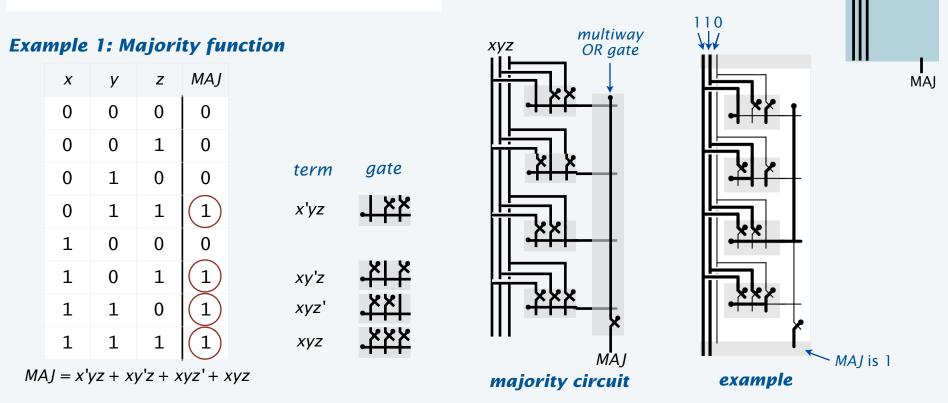
- Access and control write of memory word
- [Use addr bits of instruction in IR.]



# Creating a digital circuit that computes a boolean function: majority

#### Use the truth table

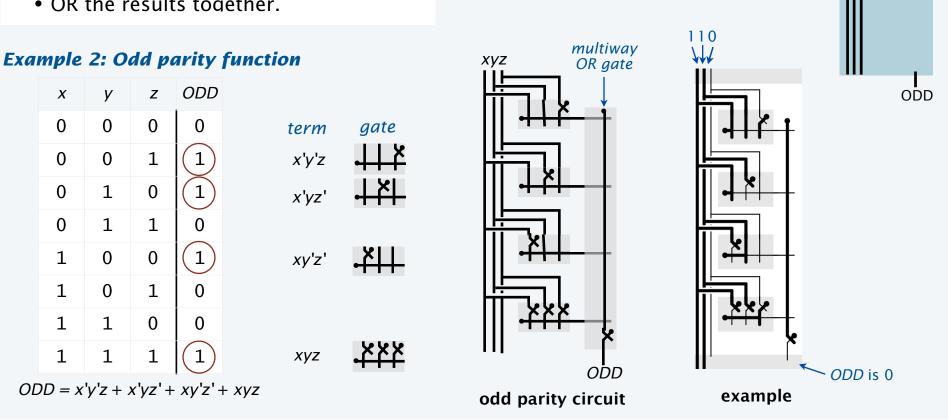
- Identify rows where the function is 1.
- Use a generalized AND gate for each.
- OR the results together.



# Creating a digital circuit that computes a boolean function: odd parity

#### Use the truth table

- Identify rows where the function is 1.
- Use a generalized AND gate for each.
- OR the results together.



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# Combinational circuit design: Summary

Problem: Design a circuit that computes a given boolean function.

#### Ingredients

- OR gates.
- NOT gates.
- NOR gates. 🛩
- Wire.

#### Method

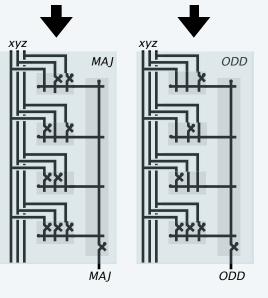
• Step 1: Represent input and output with Boolean variables.

> use to make generalized AND gates

- Step 2: Construct truth table to define the function.
- Step 3: Identify rows where the function is 1.
- Step 4: Use a generalized AND for each and OR the results.

Bottom line (profound idea): Yields a circuit for ANY function. Caveat: Circuit might be huge (stay tuned).

x	y	Z	MAJ	x	У	z	ODD
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	(1)
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	(1)
0	1	1	(1)	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	(1)
1	0	1	(1)	1	0	1	0
1	1	0	(1)	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	(1)	1	1	1	



Pop quiz on combinational circuit design

Q. Design a circuit to implement XOR(x, y).

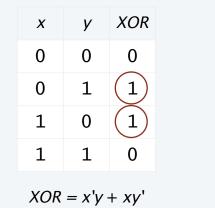
# Pop quiz on combinational circuit design

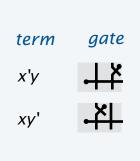
Q. Design a circuit to implement XOR(x, y).

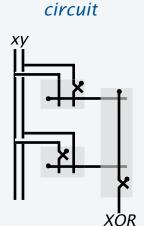
#### A. Use the truth table

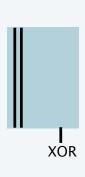
- Identify rows where the function is 1.
- Use a generalized AND gate for each.
- OR the results together.

#### **XOR function**









interface

# Encapsulation

#### Encapsulation in hardware design mirrors familiar principles in software design

- Building a circuit from wires and switches is the *implementation*.
- Define a circuit by its inputs, controls, and outputs is the API.
- We control complexity by *encapsulating* circuits as we do with ADTs.

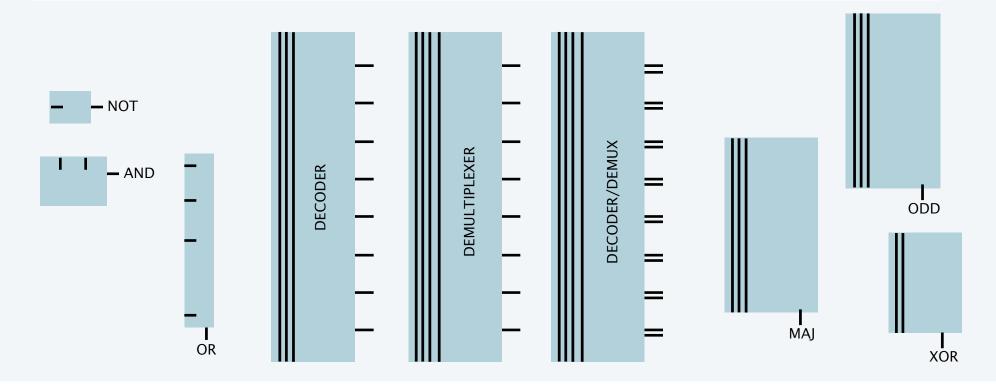


Image sources

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claude\_Shannon#/media/File:Claude\_Elwood\_Shannon\_(1916-2001).jpg

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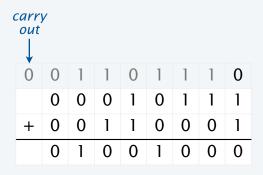
- Building blocks
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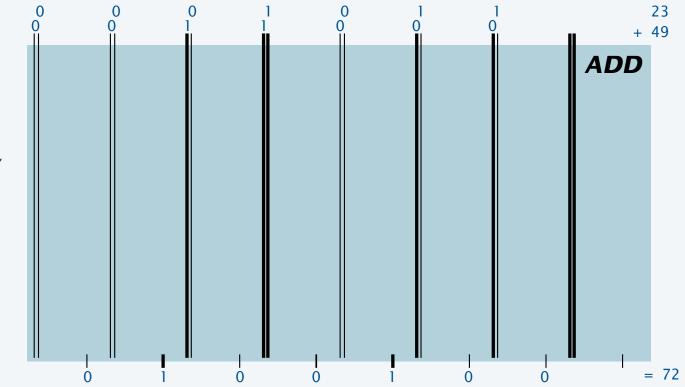
CS.19.D.Circuits.Adder

#### Adder

- Compute z = x + y for *n*-bit binary integers.
- 2*n* inputs.
- *n* outputs.
- Ignore overflow.



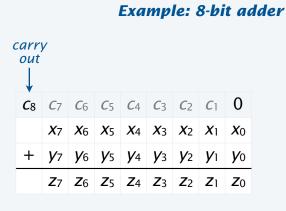


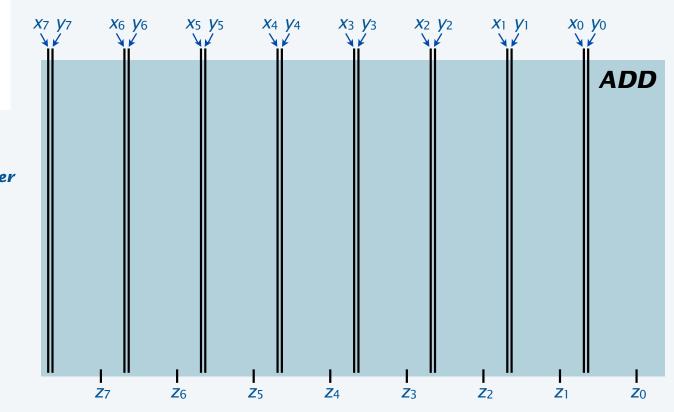


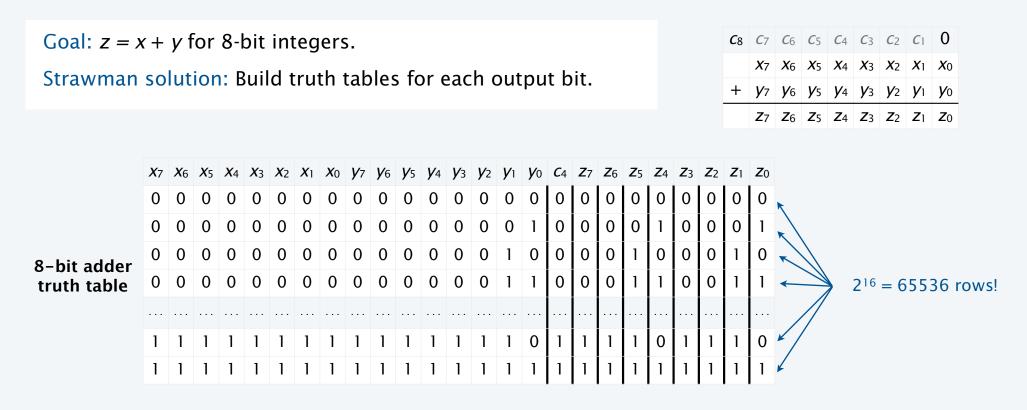
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#### Adder

- Compute z = x + y for *n*-bit binary integers.
- 2*n* inputs.
- *n* outputs.
- Ignore overflow.







Q. Not convinced this a bad idea?

A. 128-bit adder: 2<sup>256</sup> rows >> # electrons in universe!

#### Do one bit at a time.

- Build truth table for carry bit.
- Build truth table for sum bit.

	Xi	<b>y</b> i	Ci	<b>C</b> i+1	MAJ
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	1	0	0
	0	1	0	0	0
carry bit	0	1	1	1	1
	1	0	0	0	0
	1	0	1	1	1
	1	1	0	1	1
	1	1	1	1	1

А	su	rp	ri	S	e!

- Carry bit is MAJ.
- Sum bit is ODD.

<b>C</b> 8	С7	<b>C</b> 6	<b>C</b> 5	<b>C</b> 4	<b>C</b> 3	<b>C</b> 2	<i>C</i> 1	0
	<b>X</b> 7	<b>X</b> 6	<b>X</b> 5	<b>X</b> 4	<b>X</b> 3	<b>X</b> 2	<b>X</b> 1	<b>X</b> 0
+	<b>y</b> 7	<b>y</b> 6	<b>y</b> 5	<b>Y</b> 4	<b>y</b> 3	<b>y</b> 2	<b>y</b> 1	<b>y</b> 0
	<b>Z</b> 7	<b>Z</b> 6	<b>Z</b> 5	<b>Z</b> 4	<b>Z</b> 3	<b>Z</b> 2	<b>Z</b> 1	<b>Z</b> 0

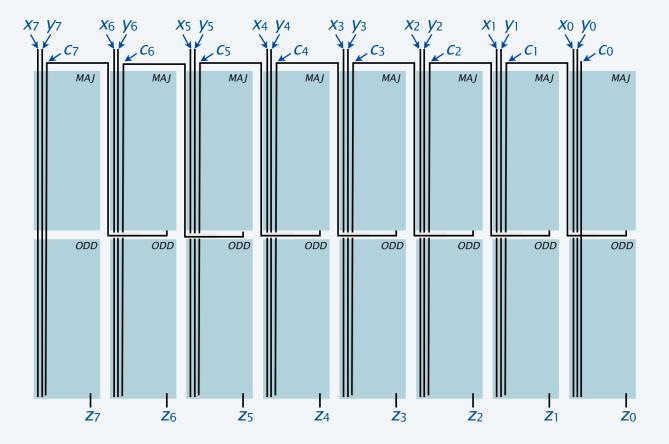
	Xi	<b>y</b> i	Ci	Zi	ODD
sum bit	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	1	1	1
	0	1	0	1	1
	0	1	1	0	0
	1	0	0	1	1
	1	0	1	0	0
	1	1	0	0	0
	1	1	1	1	1

Goal: z = x + y for 4-bit integers.

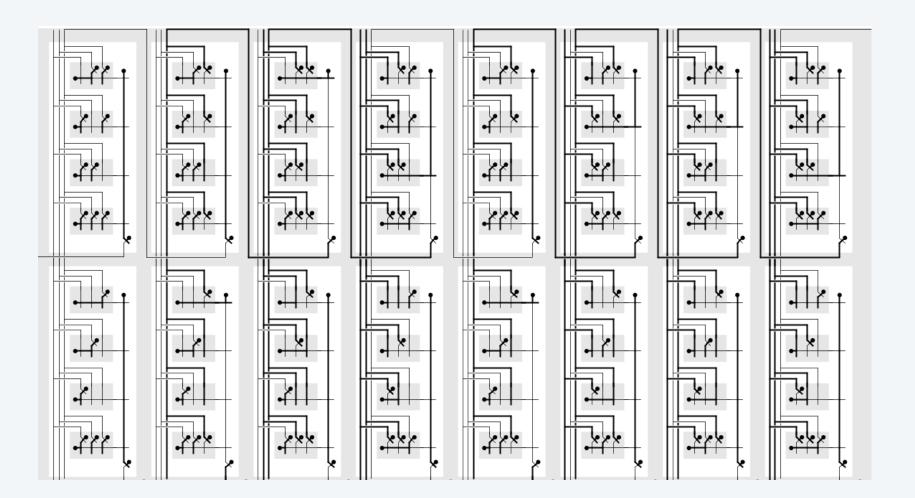


- Carry bit is MAJ.
- Sum bit is ODD.
- Chain 1-bit adders to "ripple" carries.

<b>C</b> 8	С7	<b>C</b> 6	<b>C</b> 5	<b>C</b> 4	<b>C</b> 3	С2	$C_1$	0
	<b>X</b> 7	<b>X</b> 6	<b>X</b> 5	<b>X</b> 4	<b>X</b> 3	<b>X</b> 2	<b>X</b> 1	<b>X</b> 0
+	<b>y</b> 7	<b>y</b> 6	<b>Y</b> 5	<b>Y</b> 4	<b>y</b> 3	<b>y</b> 2	<b>y</b> 1	<b>y</b> 0
	<b>Z</b> 7	<b>Z</b> 6	<b>Z</b> 5	<b>Z</b> 4	<b>Z</b> 3	<b>Z</b> 2	<b>Z</b> 1	<b>Z</b> 0



# An 8-bit adder circuit



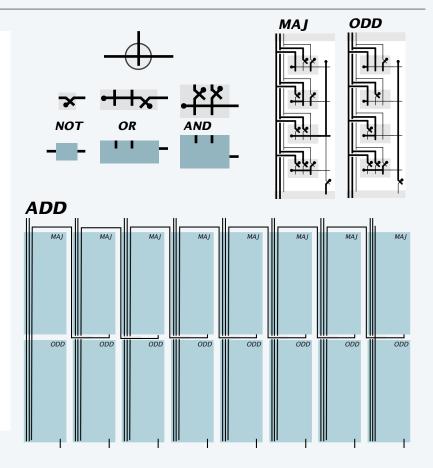
### Layers of abstraction

#### Lessons for software design apply to hardware

- Interface describes behavior of circuit.
- Implementation gives details of how to build it.
- Exploit understanding of behavior at each level.

#### Layers of abstraction apply with a vengeance

- On/off.
- Controlled switch. [relay, pass transistor]
- Gates. [NOT, OR, AND]
- Boolean functions. [MAJ, ODD]
- Adder.
- Arithmetic/Logic unit (next).
- CPU (next lecture, stay tuned).



#### Vastly simplifies design of complex systems and enables use of new technology at any layer



PART II: ALGORITHMS, MACHINES, and THEORY

# **19.** Combinational Circuits

- Building blocks
- Boolean algebra
- Digital circuits
- Adder circuit
- Arithmetic/logic unit

CS.19.E.Circuits.ALU

# Next layer of abstraction: modules, busses, and control lines

#### Basic design of our circuits

- Organized as *modules* (functional units of TOY: ALU, memory, register, PC, and IR).
- Connected by *busses* (groups of wires that propagate information between modules).
- Controlled by *control lines* (single wires that control circuit behavior).

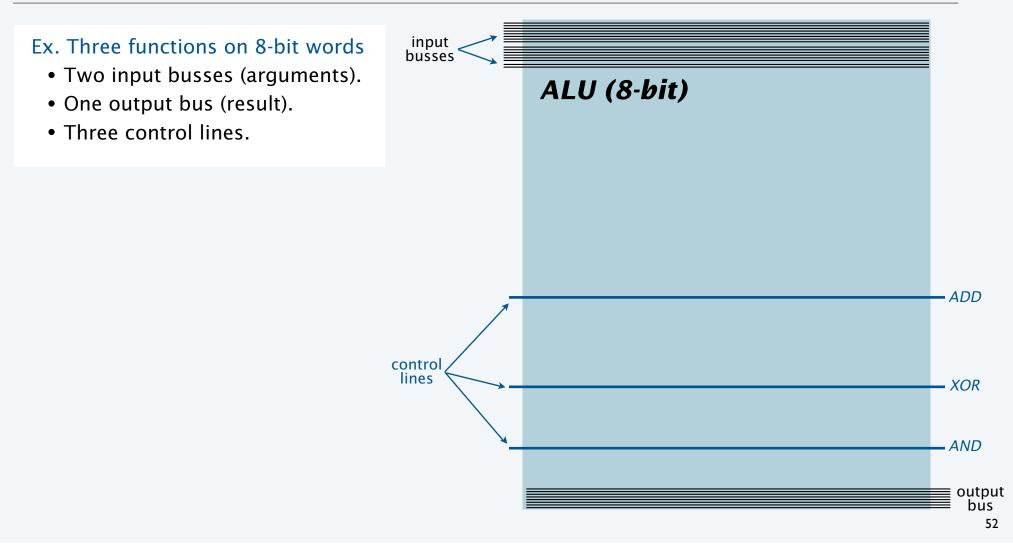
#### Conventions

- Bus inputs are at the top, input connections are at the left.
- Bus outputs are at the bottom, output connections are at the right.
- Control lines are blue.

These conventions *make circuits easy to understand*. (Like style conventions in coding.)



# Arithmetic and logic unit (ALU) module



# Arithmetic and logic unit (ALU) module

#### Ex. Three functions on 8-bit words

- Two input busses (arguments).
- One output bus (result).
- Three control lines.
- Left-right shifter circuits omitted (see book for details).

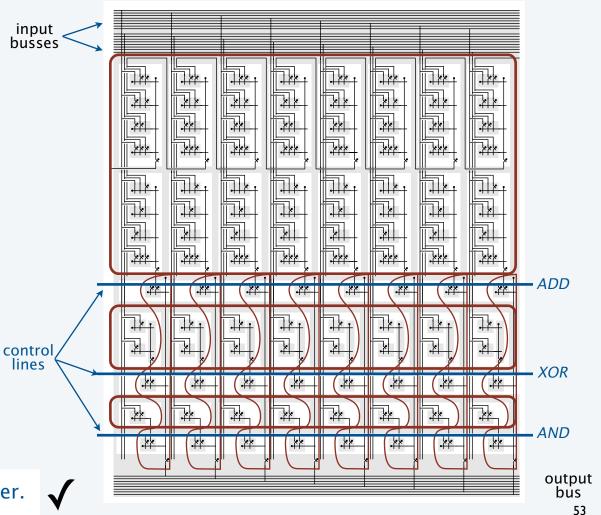
#### Implementation

- One circuit for each function.
- Compute all values in parallel.

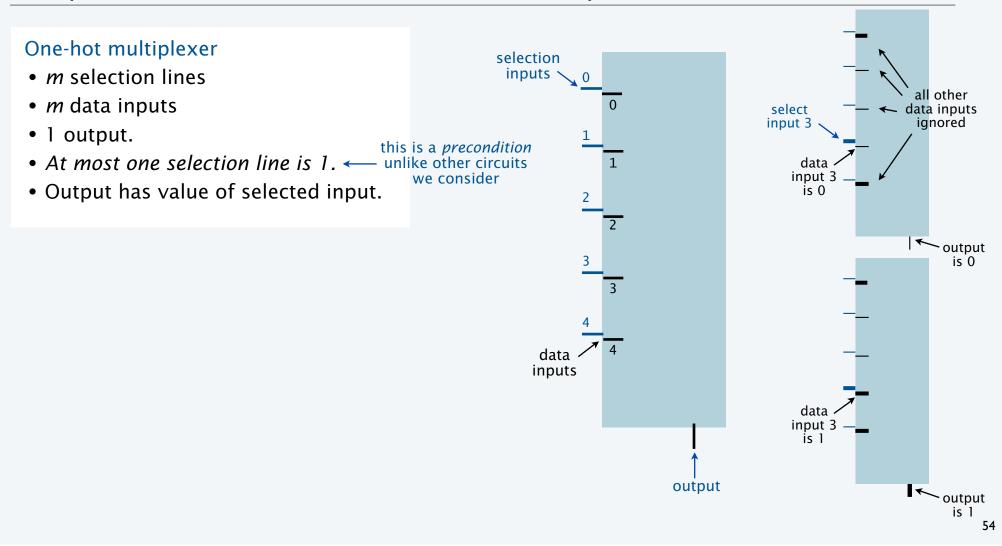
Q. How do we select desired output?

A. "One-hot muxes" (see next slide).

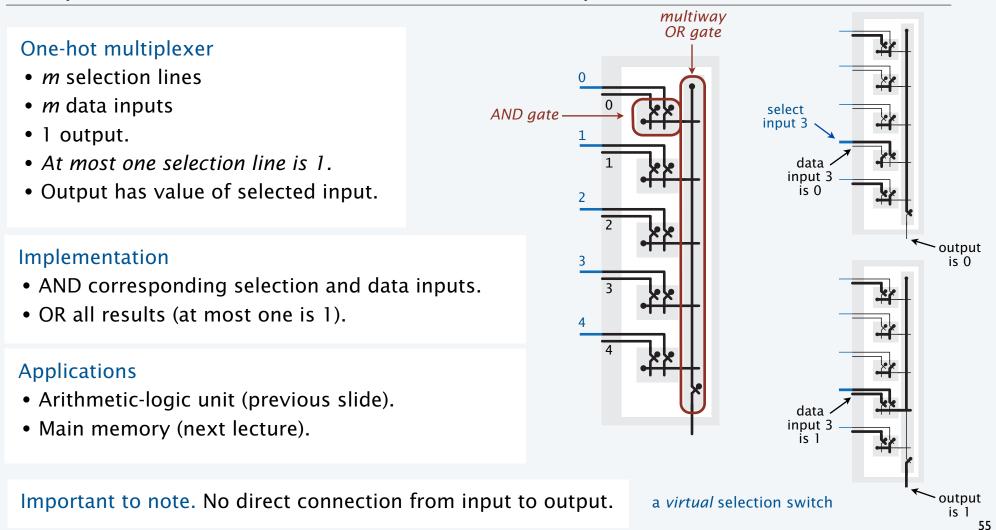
"Calculator" at the heart of your computer.



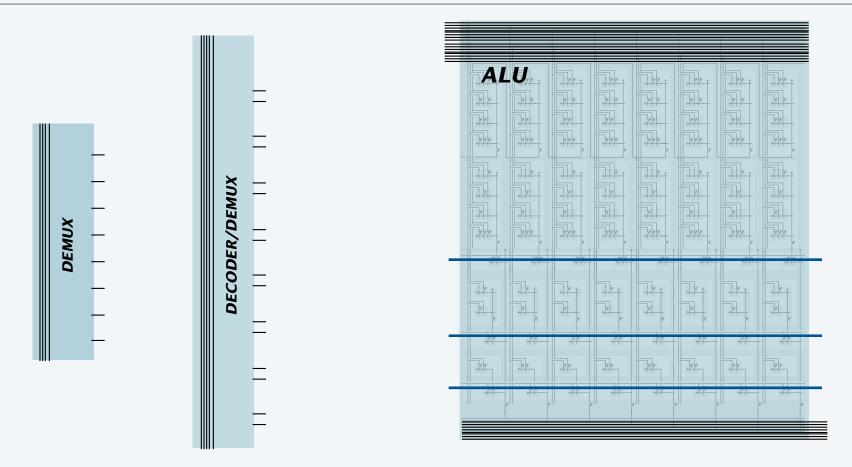
# A simple and useful combinational circuit: one-hot multiplexer



# A simple and useful combinational circuit: one-hot multiplexer



# Summary: Useful combinational circuit modules



Next: Registers, memory, connections, and control.





PART II: ALGORITHMS, MACHINES, and THEORY

# 19. Combinational Circuits