

- Consider the MUX type ET FF as shown in Fig. 1. Assume the propagation delays of I_x and T_x are 2ns and 4ns respectively. The delay between clk and $!clk$ is 0 (5%)
 - Find the setup time. (2.5%)
 - Find the propagation clock-to-q-delay t_{pcq} . (2.5%)

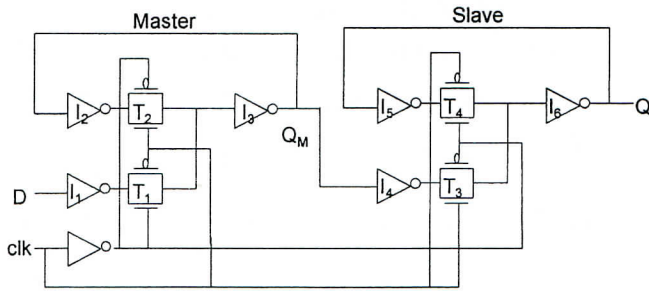


Fig. 1

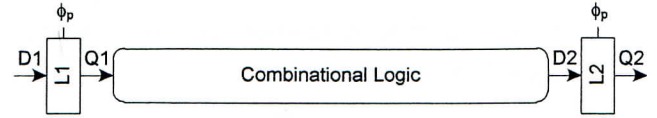


Fig. 4

- Consider the sequential circuit as shown in Fig. 5. Assume period of $\phi_1 = \phi_2 = 20ns$, $t_{ccq1} = t_{ccq2} = 1ns$, $t_{pcq1} = t_{pcq2} = 6ns$, $t_{hold} = 4ns$ and the clock skew = 2ns. (5%)
 - Assume the minimum delay $t_{cd1} = t_{cd2} = 1ns$, design $t_{nonoverlap}$ to meet the hold time requirement. (2.5%)
 - Find the maximum delay t_{pd} with and without clock skew. (2.5%)

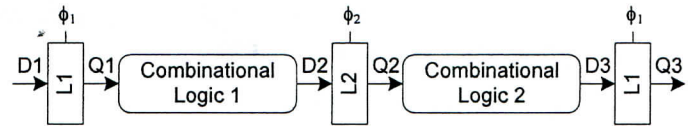


Fig. 5

- Use Fig. 1. to state the condition and explain the following problems from clock skew of clk and $!clk$. (5%)
 - Race. (2.5%)
 - Dynamic Storage. (2.5%)
- Design a 2-phase clock generator with NAND and INV gates. (5%)
 - Sketch the schematic. (3%)
 - Identify the added delay chain in your schematic to program the non-overlapped interval. (2%)
- A sequential circuit using pulse latch is shown in Fig. 4. Assume the period of $clk = 10ns$, max data-to-q delay $t_{pdq} = 4ns$, max clk -to-q delay $t_{pcq} = 2ns$, setup time = 0.5ns. (5%)
 - With pulse width $t_{pw} = 4ns$, find the max delay of combination logic t_{pd} . (2.5%)
 - With pulse width $t_{pw} = 2ns$, find the max delay of combination logic t_{pd} . (2.5%)

- Consider the design and condition in question 5, assume the minimum clk -to-q-delay t_{ccq} is 1.5ns, the minimum delay of combination logic $t_{cd} = 4ns$, and pulse width $t_{pw} = 2ns$. (5%)
 - Find the hold time. (2.5%)
 - Redesign the latch with a hold time = 1ns, find the maximum tolerant clock skew. (2.5%)
- Consider a full adder with inputs A and B; carry-in C_{in} , sum S, and carry-out C_{out} . (5%)
 - Write the Boolean expressions of sum S and carry-out C_{out} . (2.5%)
 - Write the Boolean expressions of sum S and carry-out C_{out} in term of G (Generate), P (Propagate) and carry-in (C_{in}). (2.5%)

8. Explain the design concept of the following 3 types of adder. (10%)
 - (a) Carry-Lookahead. (2%)
 - (b) Carry-Select. (2%)
 - (c) Carry-Skip. (2%)
 - (d) Order in speed of these 3 adders. (2%)
 - (e) Pick one type of adder and sketch the block diagram. (2%)
9. Sketch the block diagram and Boolean equation of addition of four 3-bit words (011, 101, 100, 110) with the following 2 types of adder. (10%)
 - (a) Carry-Save Adder. (5%)
 - (b) Carry-Propagation Adder. (5%)

10. The 4-bits array multiplier as shown in Fig. 11 is implemented by adders with $C_{in}-C_{out}$ delay = 4ns, $S_{in}-S_{out}$ delay = 5ns. (5%)
 - (a) Find the critical path and delay in Fig. 11.1. (2.5%)
 - (b) Sketch the circuit of Fig. 11.2 with the adder in Fig. 11.3 and necessary supporting combination logic. (2.5%)

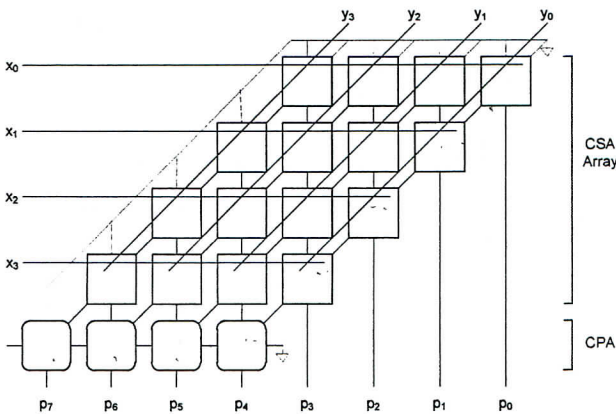


Fig. 11.1

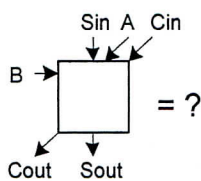


Fig. 11.2

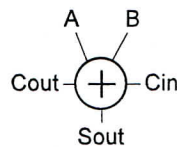


Fig. 11.3

11. Find the output patterns of the following shift functions with input pattern 10011. (5%)
 - (c) Logical shift "Left" 2 bits. (2.5%)
 - (d) Arithmetic shift "Right" 2 bits. (2.5%)
12. Consider the 6T SRAM cell in Fig. 12. (5%)
 - (a) Explain the read-disturb behavior (in read operation) and index the cell ratio design concern to overcome it. (2.5%)
 - (b) Based on the design concern in (a), explain the pull-up ratio design concern to get a correct write operation. (2.5%)

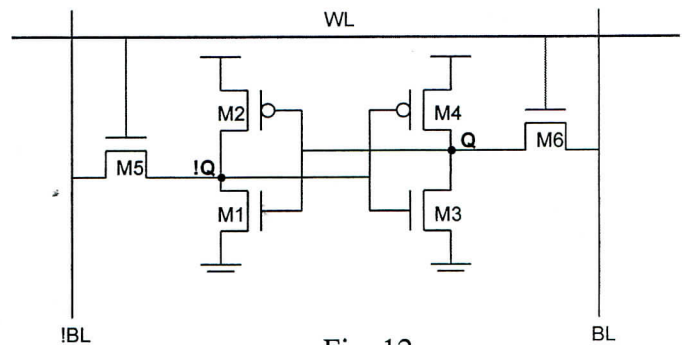


Fig. 12

13. Explain the functions and purposes of the following peripheral blocks of SRAM. (5%)
 - (a) Bit-line conditioning. (2.5%)
 - (b) Sense amplifier. (2.5%)
14. Assume the bit line of a 1T DRAM cell is pre-charged to $V_{DD}/2$, the cell capacitance is 50fF, and the bit line capacitance is 1pF. (5%)
 - (a) Find the data 0 and 1 voltage level on bit line during readout with $V_{DD} = 1.8V$. (2.5%)
 - (b) List two approaches to double the signal swing. (2.5%)
15. Answer the following about Memory: (10%)
 - (a) Explain the purpose of "Twisted bitline" in SRAM. (2%)
 - (b) Explain the purpose of "equalization" in bitline conditioning of SRAM. (2%)
 - (c) Explain the purpose of isolation transistor in sense amplifier. (2%)

- (d) Write down two common methods to improve the yield of memory. (2%)
- (e) What's the 6x4 code in the ROM as shown in Fig. 15. (2%)

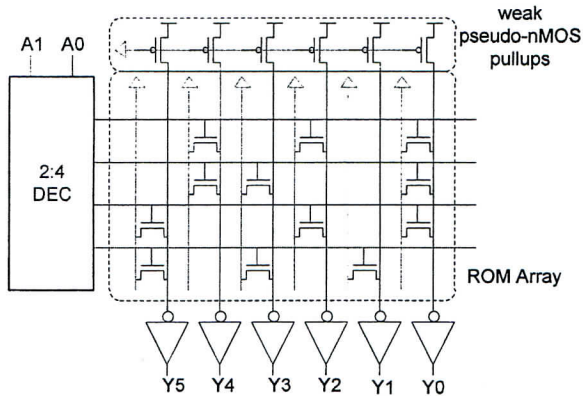


Fig. 15

- 16. Design a tapered buffer to drive a 256-unit loading (relative to C_{in} of unit inverter) as shown in Fig. 16. (5%)
 - (a) Design stage number N to get the minimum delay. (2.5%)
 - (b) Find the minimum stage effort delay f_i and the total path delay D . (2.5%)

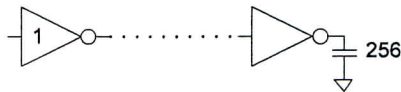


Fig. 16

- 17. Using pseudo-nMOS logic to implement NOR-5 with a relative pMOS size as 2/3 and design nMOS sizes to get an effective pulling low current as unity compared to unit inverter. (5%)
 - (a) Find logical effort g_u , g_d , and g_{avg} . (2.5%)
 - (b) Find parasitic delay p_u , p_d , and p_{avg} . (2.5%)
- 18. Sketch the transistor-level schematic of the gate computing $F = \overline{(A \bullet B) + (C \bullet D)}$: (5%)
 - (c) Find logical effort g_A and g_C . (2.5%)
 - (d) Find parasitic delay p . (2.5%)

- 19. There are 2 adjacent wires X and Y. Each wire in a pair of 1mm lines has capacitance of 0.3 fF/ μm to ground and 0.6 fF/ μm to its neighbor. The wire resistance is 0.2 Ω / μm . Each line is driven by an inverter with a 1k Ω effective resistance and 20fF parasitic capacitance. Use L-model to find the propagation delay of X line with the following conditions. (5%)

- (a) $X = 0 \rightarrow 1, Y = 0$. (2.5%)
- (b) If Y is floating, find the cross talk value ΔV_Y when $X = 1 \rightarrow 0$. (2.5%)

- 20. Answer the following questions with TRUE or FALSE: (10%)

- (a) Sequential logic using flip-flop is skew tolerant. (1%)
- (b) Time borrowing range of 2-phase latch depends on period and hold time. (1%)
- (c) Latch is edge triggered and Flip-flop is level triggered. (1%)
- (d) Minimum delay of sequential logic depends on hold time. (1%)
- (e) *Drift* is kind of skew that can be removed by careful layout. (1%)
- (f) *Random* skew is caused by time-dependent environmental variations. (1%)
- (g) *Gray code* is a common skill for low power and jitter free decoder design. (1%)
- (h) Clock distribution with H-Tree results in higher systematic skew. (1%)
- (i) Wide clock wire is segmented to be narrower to avoid conductance effect. (1%)
- (j) *Boundary Scan test* is used to decrease the probe contacts at wafer test stage. (1%)

- 21. Answer the following questions with TRUE or FALSE: (10%)

- (a) *Design for test* means to design circuit with fault observability and controllability. (1%)
- (b) The soft error in Memory can be solved by redundancy and ECC. (1%)

- (c) SRAM and DRAM are nonvolatile and ROMs are volatile memory. (1%)
- (d) Compare to single-level decoder, multi-level decoder can be implemented to match smaller memory cell pitch with better glitch performance. (1%)
- (e) The read operation of DRAM is single ended and need following refresh. (1%)
- (f) PRSG is usually implemented for built-in-self-test pattern generation. (1%)
- (g) Bi-directional I/O is used for analog signal's input and output. (1%)
- (h) Cost, form factor, heat removal, and little delay/distortion are all functions of package. (1%)
- (i) Bypassing capacitors are used to stabilize voltage and normally implemented with identical capacitances in parallel. (1%)
- (j) Schmitt trigger is used to filter out noise of output. (1%)