

ECE 122A VLSI Principles

Lecture 2

Prof. Kaustav Banerjee
Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of California, Santa Barbara
E-mail: kaustav@ece.ucsb.edu

History of Computing.....The first computer



Charles Babbage (1791-1871)



The Babbage Difference Engine (1832)

25,000 parts cost: £17,470

A mechanical digital calculator...

Mechanical computing devices

Used decimal number system

Could perform basic arithmetic operations

Even store and execute

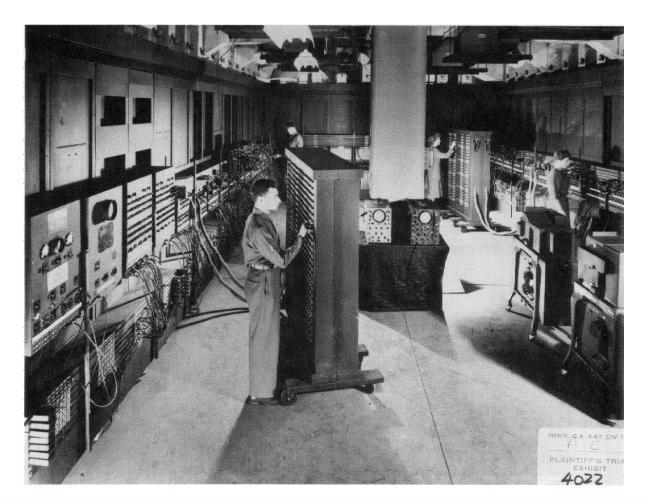
Problem: Too complex and expensive!

Further Reading....

- □ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Difference_engine
- How Computers Do Math

(ISBN: 0471732788) Wiley, Clive Maxfield and Alvin Brown.

ENIAC - The first electronic computer (1946)



Vacuum tube based computer...

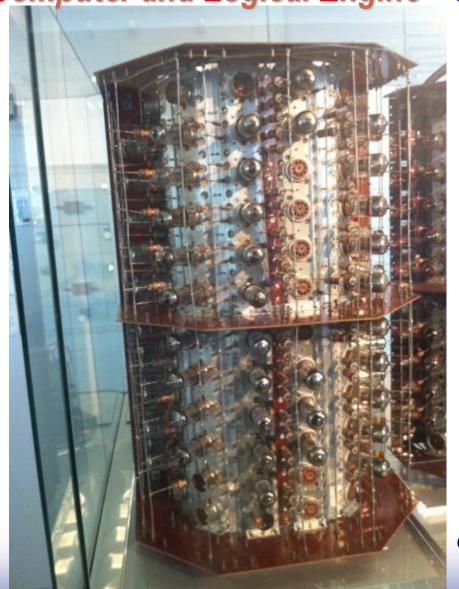
For Military applications...

80 ft long, 8.5 ft high, several ft wide...

With ~18,000 vacuum tubes!

Problem: Reliability issues and excessive power consumption!

Parts of the ORACLE Computer — Oak Ridge Automatic Computer and Logical Engine—Oak Ridge National Lab (1950-54)



Used vacuum tubes, transistors, and diodes.

Addition time: 70 microseconds

Multiplication time: 370-590 microseconds

Division time: 590 microseconds

These times include the storage access time, which was about 62 microseconds.

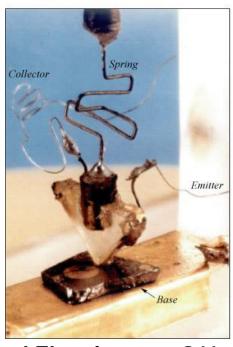
Credit: Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany

The Transistor Revolution...

http://www.nobelprize.org/educational/physics/integrated_circuit/history/

The first point contact transistor

William Shockley, John Bardeen, and Walter Brattain Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey (1947)





Bell Labs, 1947 (Ge point contact-Bipolar transistor) Bardeen and Brattian -Nobel Laureates

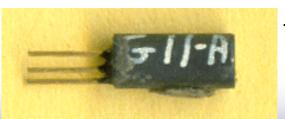
First transistor

BJT (1948)
Schockley

— Nobel Laureate

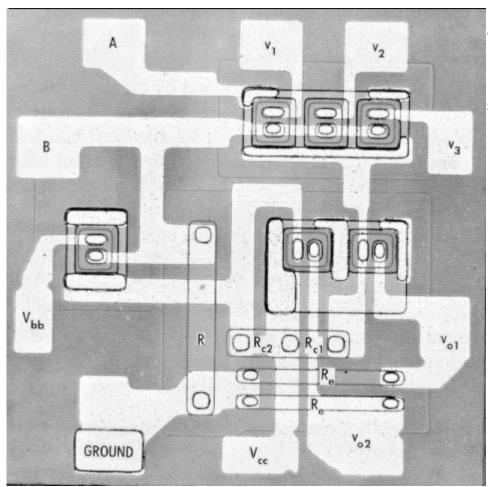
General Electric types G11 and G11A commercial point contact transistors





Transistor Size (1/8" OD X 3/8")

The First Integrated Circuits



ECL 3-input Gate Motorola 1966

Jack Kilby, Texas Instruments (1958), the first integrated circuit, (Ge based) or microchip (patent #3,138,743), Nobel Prize in 2000



Robert Noyce (1927-1990), co-founder of Fairchild and Intel, the first monolithic integrated circuit, (U.S. Patent 2,981,877 July 1959). Si based with Cu interconnects, more practical than Kilby's IC.

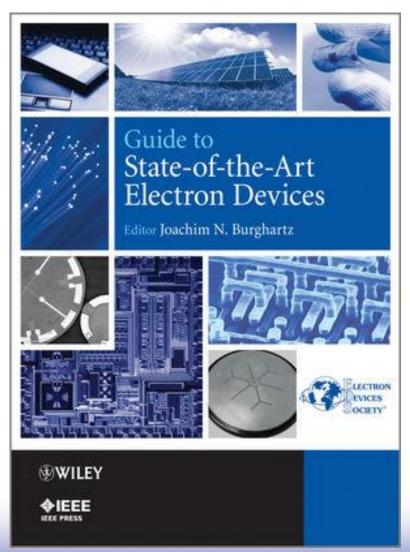
Bipolar logic – built with BJTs Early 1960's (TTL, ECL)

TTLs offered higher integration density—composed largest fraction of semiconductor market until the 1980s

Integrated Circuits (Early) History

- □ Invention of BJT (1948)
- □ First silicon transistor (1954)
- MOS transistor (1960)
- MOS integrated circuit (1962)
- DRAM cell (1968)
- Intel formed (1968) (Intel: short form of integrated electronics)
- AMD formed (1969)
- Microprocessor invented (1971)
- □ 32-bit microprocessors (1980)

For more historical perspectives....



Chapter 11

VLSI Technology and Circuits

by K. Banerjee and S. Ikeda

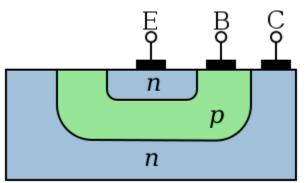
BJT vs FETs

Both are based on basic properties of pn junctions

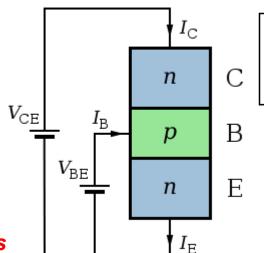
- □ A Bipolar Junction Transistor (BJT) is a 3 terminal device
- Uses the injection of minority carriers (under a forward bias)
- □ A BJT is a "bipolar" device (both electrons are holes are involved in its operation)
- □ It is an asymmetric device....why?
- □ A Field Effect Transistor (FET) is also a 3 terminal device (plus a substrate terminal)
- A FET is a "unipolar" device (majority carrier only)
- □ It is based on controlling the depletion width of a--- junction (JFET) or a Schottky Barrier (MESFET) through a control (gate) voltage

Power has been the main driver for various technologies.....vacuum tubes, BJT, PMOS, NMOS, CMOS.....???

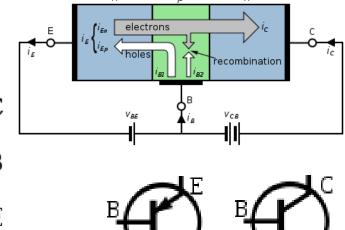
Recalling the BJT.....



Schematic cross-sectional view of a planar NPN bipolar junction transistor...emitter is more heavily doped than collector....depth of "p" region must be smaller than the diffusion length of electrons



Basic structure of an NPN BJT



Schematic symbols for PNP and NPN type BJTs

- > Both electrons and holes are involved in the operation.....hence the name "bipolar"
- ➤ For NPN BJT: electrons are injected from a high-concentration emitter (n++) into the p-type base.....where they are minority carriers that diffuse toward the collector (n+)....hence BJTs are minority-carrier devices
- ➤ Quiescent power (drawn even in idle circuits) due to small base current limits largescale integration

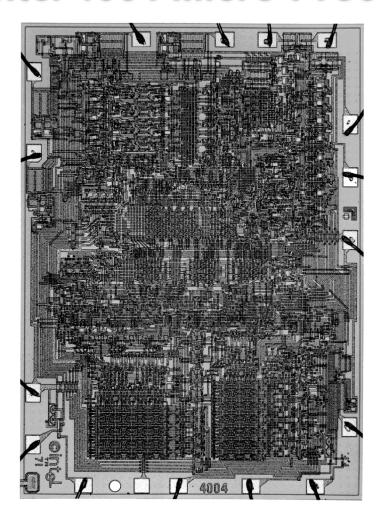
Other FETs.....

- □ If the metal gate electrode is separated from the semiconductor by an insulator—metal-insulator-semiconductor FET (MISFET)
- □ Also called an IGFET (insulated gateFET)
- Most commonly called as MOSFET (metal-oxidesemiconductor FET)
- FETs have high input impedance—since the control voltage is applied to a reverse biased junction or Schottky Barrier or across an insulator----they are better suited (than BJTs) for controlled switching between conducting (ON) and non-conducting (OFF) states---therefore better for digital circuit implementation....low-power
- □ FETs are also more integrable...processing perspective

Strange History of FETs.....

- □ Actually FET was invented (proposed) in 1925!! (by Julius Lilienfeld)
- □ But.....it never worked....Why?.....
 - Role of surface defects....dangling bonds etc. causing large number of surface states....Fermi level pinning
 - Silicon dioxide....a key material for Silicon's success.....
- Bardeen and Brattain accidentally discovered the first (bipolar) transistor: the Ge point contact transistor----while trying to experimentally demonstrate the FET
- □ First MOSFET demonstrated in 1960 by Kahng and Atalla at Bell Labs
- □ First logic gates using MOSFETs (both n-type and p-type...thus Complementary-MOS-FET)— Frank Wanlass at Fairchild in 1963

Intel 4004 Micro-Processor



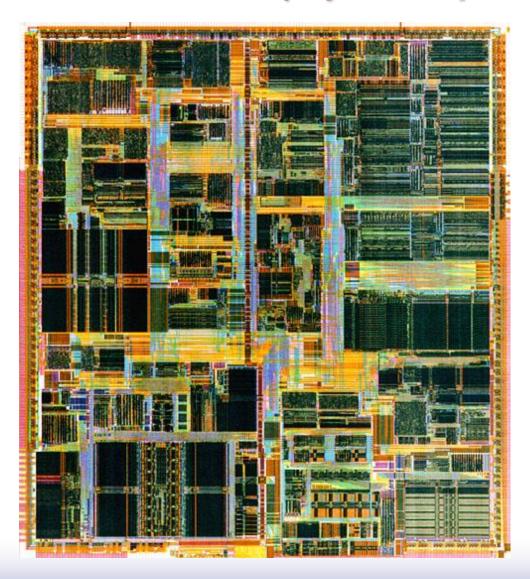
Nov 1971
~2300 transistors
Max. CPU Clk rate: 750 KHz
PMOS only (10 um process)

Note: although NMOS was conceived in the early 1960s—application in wrist watches and portable electronics (of 1960s)---but device quality was poor, hence PMOS was used until 1974

The 1971 4004 Microprocessor (10 um process) was PMOS only

---Intel 8080 (8-bit) Microprocessor (1974) 6 thousand transistors, 2 MHz NMOS only (6 um process)

Intel Pentium (IV) Microprocessor



2003:

CMOS based

- > 50 million transistors
- > 3GHz operation

Economic Implications

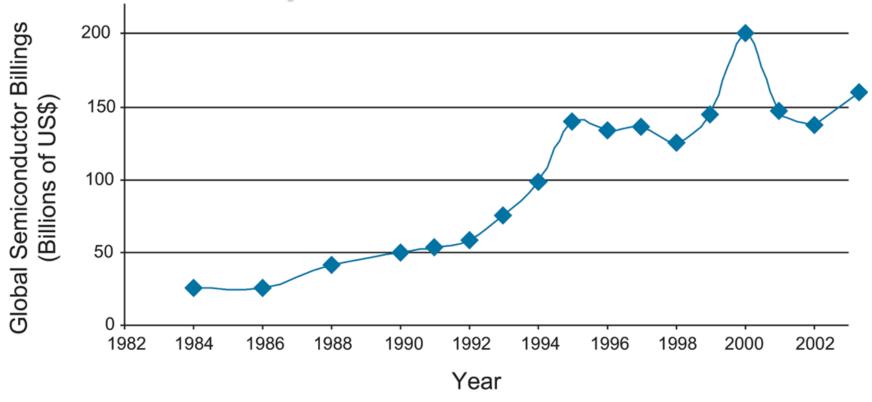


FIG 1.1 Size of worldwide semiconductor market

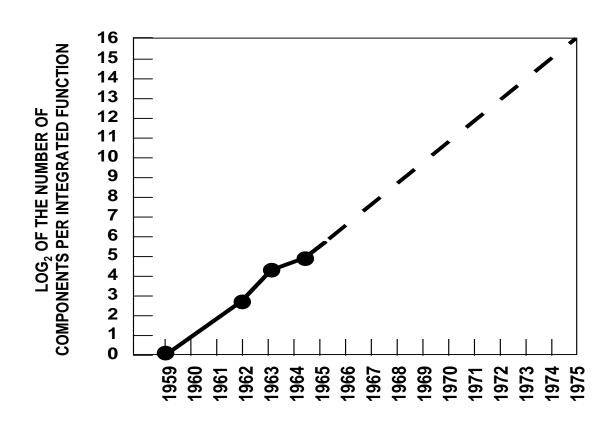
Source: Semiconductor Industry Association.

For more up to date info. go to the International Technology Roadmap for semiconductors (ITRS) http://public.itrs.net/

Moore's Law

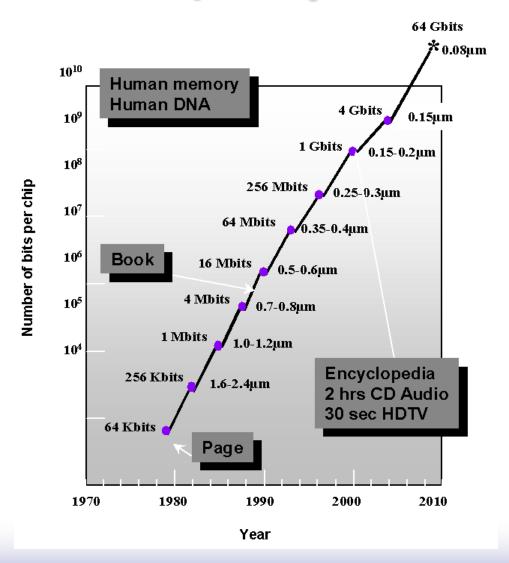
- In 1965, Gordon Moore (co-founder of Intel) noted that the number of transistors on a chip doubled every 18 to 24 months
- He made a prediction that semiconductor technology will double its effectiveness every 18 (24) months

Moore's Law



Electronics, April 19, 1965.

Evolution in Complexity

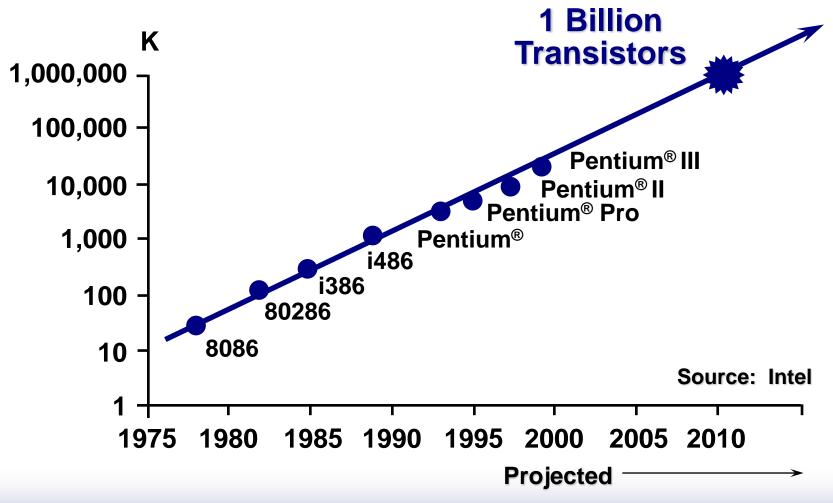


IC Classification

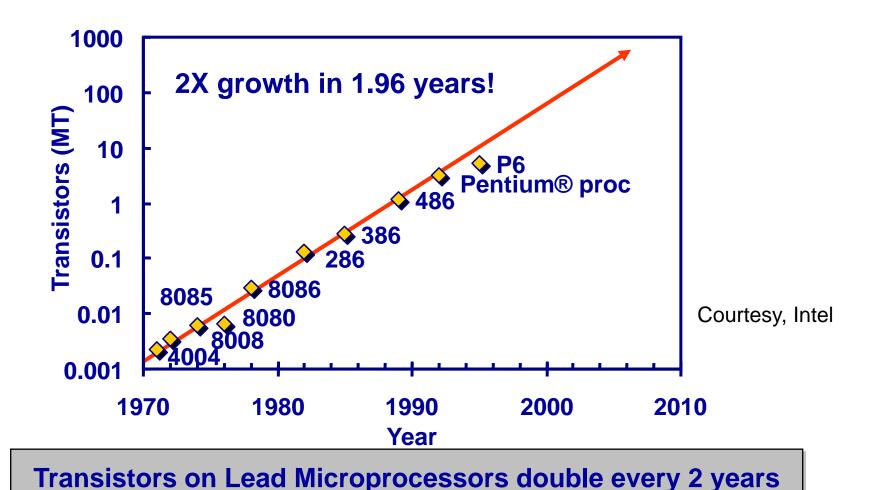
- Circuit size (transistor count)
- □ Circuit technology (BJT, BiCMOS, NMOS, CMOS)
- Design style
 - standard cell
 - gate array
 - custom
- □ Size classification (historical)

| <100 | SSI | 1963 |
|-----------------|------|------|
| 100-3000 | MSI | 1970 |
| 3000-30,000 | LSI | 1975 |
| 30,000-1,000000 | VLSI | 1980 |
| >1,000000 | ULSI | 1990 |
| >1 billion | GSI | 2010 |

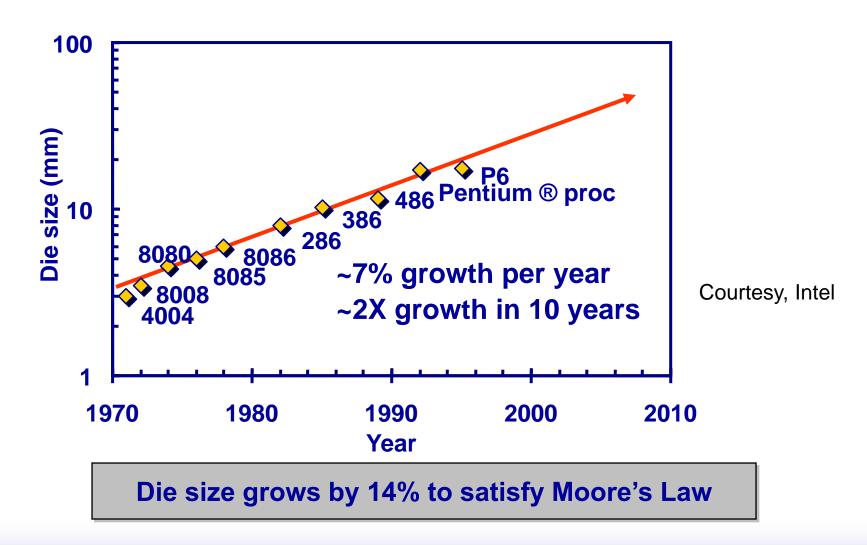
Transistor Counts



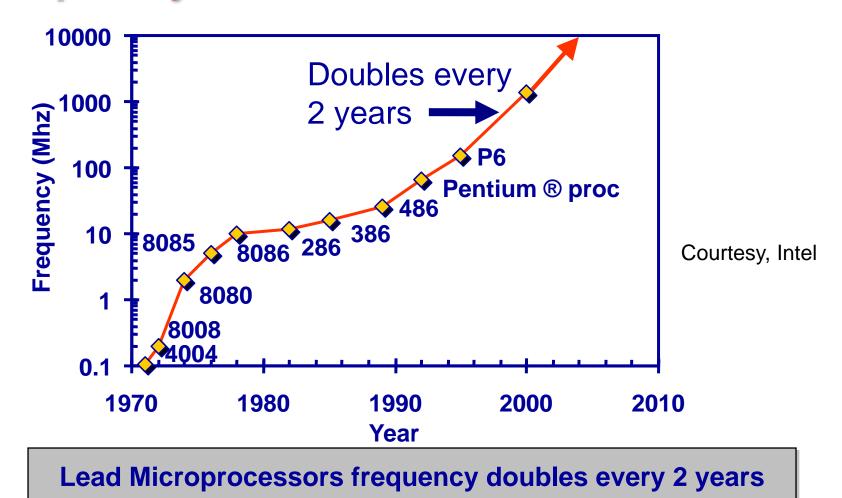
Moore's Law in Microprocessors



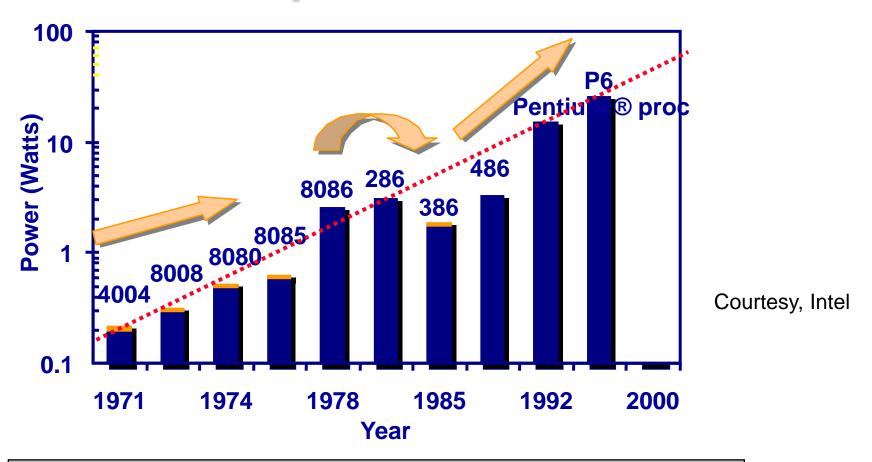
Die Size Growth



Frequency

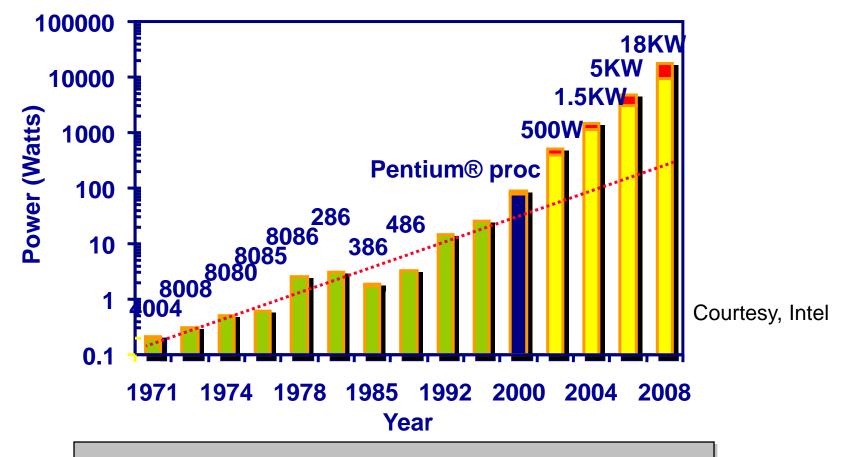


Power Dissipation



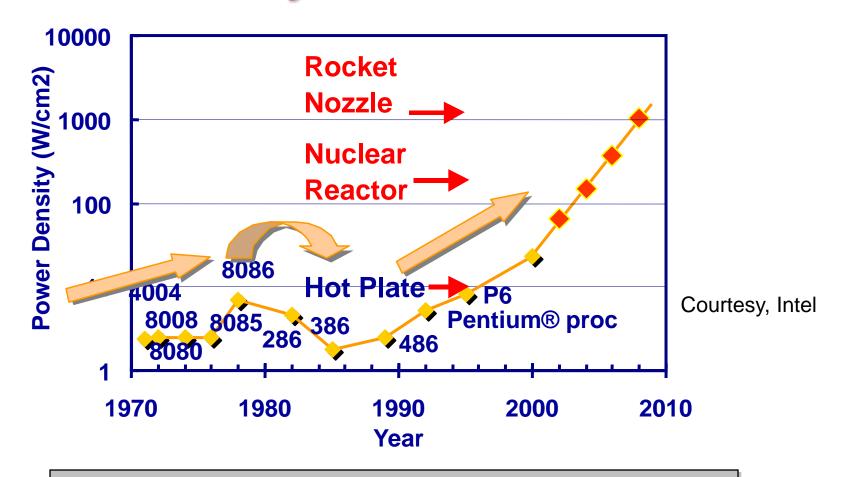
Lead Microprocessor power continues to increase

Power is a major problem....



Power delivery and dissipation will be prohibitive

Power density

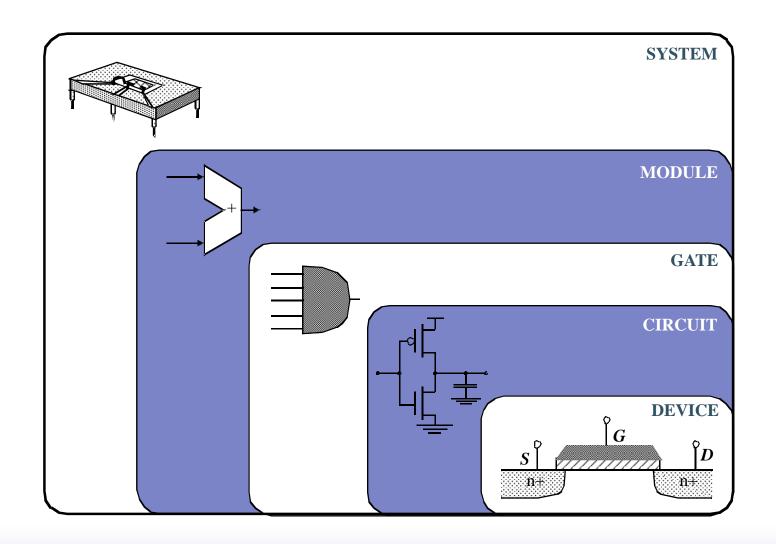


Power density too high to keep junctions at low temp

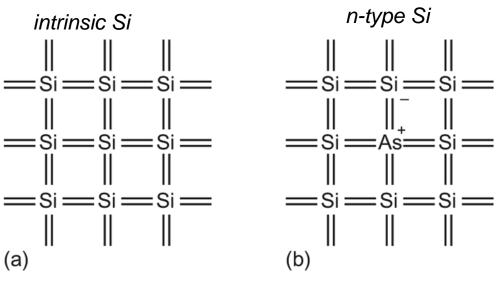
Why Scaling?

- □ Technology shrinks by 0.7/generation
- With every generation can integrate 2x more functions per chip; chip cost does not increase significantly (Dennard's (IBM) scaling law transistors become faster, consume less power and become cheaper)
- □ Cost of a function decreases by 2x
- But ...
 - How to design chips with more and more functions?
 - Design engineering population does not double every two years...
- □ Hence, a need for more efficient design methods
 - Exploit different levels of abstraction

Design Abstraction Levels



Silicon and Dopant Atoms



p-type Si
|| || ||
|| ||
|| ||
|| ||
|| ||
|| ||
|| ||
|| ||
|| ||
|| (c)

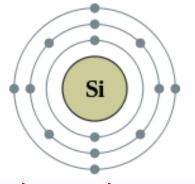
Free carriers are electrons

Free carriers are holes

FIG 1.6 Silicon lattice and dopant atoms

Atomic number of Si: 14

Eighth most abundant element on earth!! Electronic configuration: [1sf[2sf[2p]6[3sf[3pf]



4 valence electrons

Pn-junction Diode

p-type n-type

Forward Bias:

connect Vdd to p-type and GND to n-type (current flows)

Anode Cathode

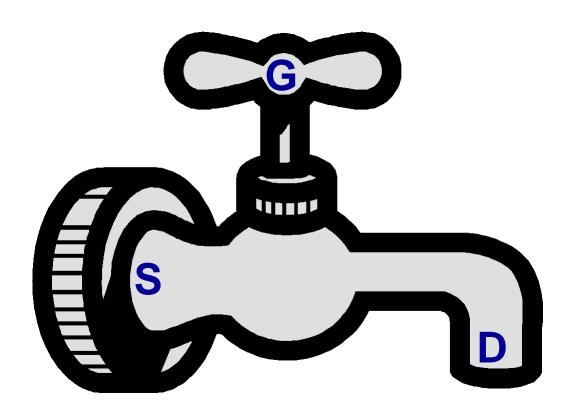


Reverse Bias:

connect Vdd to n-type and GND to p-type (no current) FIG 1.7

p-n junction diode structure and symbol

MOS Transistor is like a tap....



Think about how you want your tap to function....

MOS (Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor) Transistor

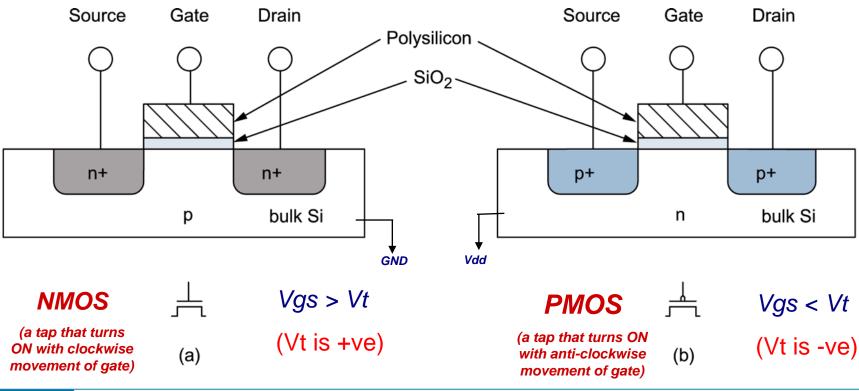


FIG 1.8 nMOS transistor (a) and pMOS transistor (b)

Gate controls the flow of charge from source to drain.....

Vt is the minimum voltage (threshold voltage) required to turn ON transistors

MOS Transistor as a Switch

$$g = 1$$

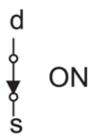


FIG 1.9 Transistor symbols and switch-level models

Inverter (NOT Gate)

| Table 1.1 | Inverter truth table | |
|-----------|----------------------|---|
| Α | | Υ |
| 0 | | 1 |
| 1 | | 0 |

Transistor Level Implementation

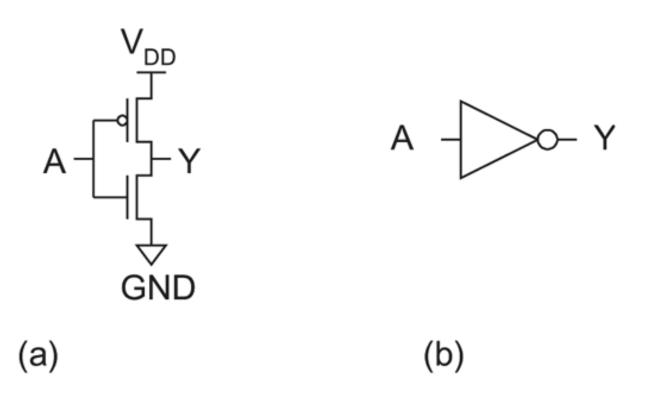


FIG 1.10 Inverter schematic (a) and symbol (b) $Y = \overline{A}$

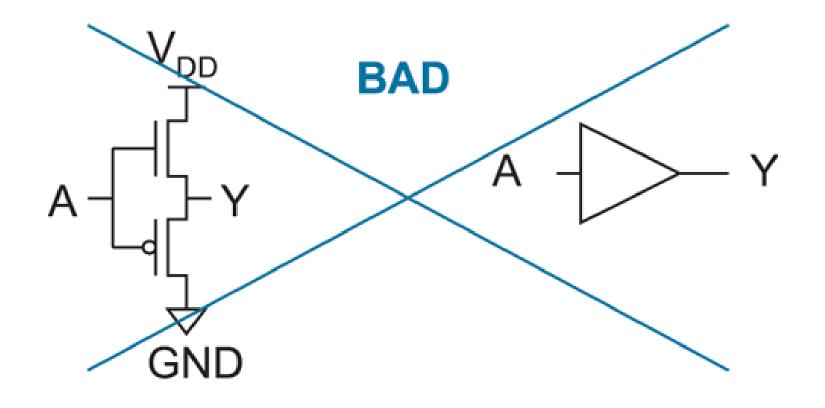
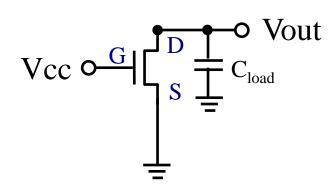
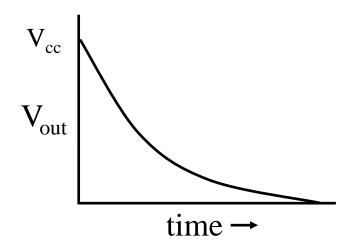


FIG 1.21 Bad noninverting buffer

Case 1: NMOS discharges capacitor

- □ Initially: Vout = Vcc (capacitor fully charged)
- \Box V_{GS} of NMOS = Vcc
- What is final Vout?

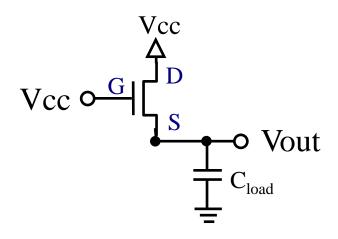


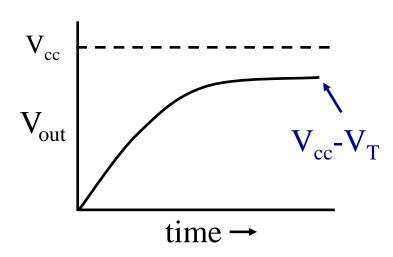


- \square NMOS remains on since $V_{GS} > V_{T}$
- \Box Final output voltage $V_{out} = 0 \text{ V}$
 - Value at source (=0) is transferred to the drain (output)....completely

Case 2: NMOS charges capacitor

- □ Initially: Vout = 0
- \square Initial V_{GS} of NMOS = Vcc
- What is final Vout?

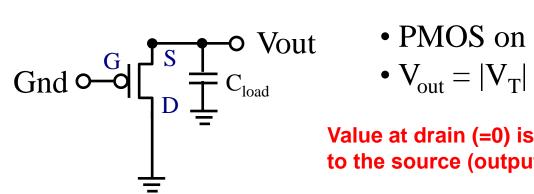




- \square NMOS remains on until $V_{GS} = V_T$
- \Box Final output voltage $V_{out} = V_{cc} V_{T}$
 - Value at drain (=1) not transferred completely to the source (output)...

Repeat for PMOS:

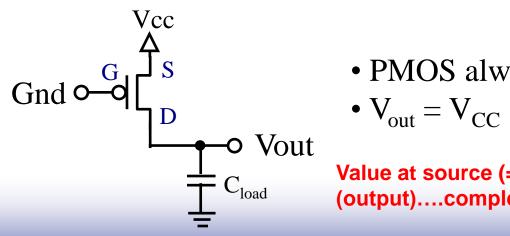
□ Case 1: PMOS discharging capacitor



- PMOS on until $V_{GS} = -V_{T}$

Value at drain (=0) is not transferred completely to the source (output)....

Case 2: PMOS charging capacitor



- PMOS always on $(V_{GS} = -V_{CC})$

Value at source (=1) is transferred to the drain (output)....completely

■ NMOS summary

- Transfers logic '0' completely (good for discharging a node)
- Does not transfer logic '1' completely (bad for charging a node)

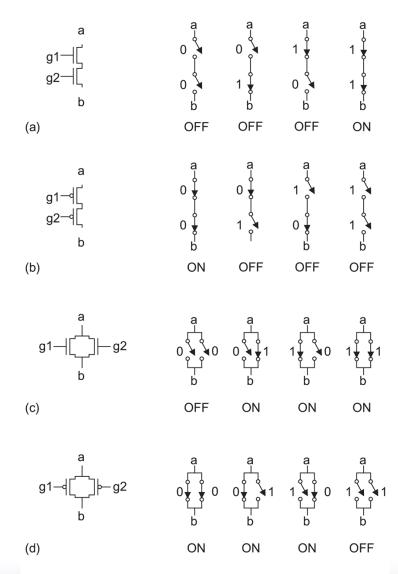
□ PMOS summary

- Transfers logic '1' completely
- Does not transfer logic '0' completely

□ Result:

NMOS used for pull-down, PMOS for pull-up

Switch Behavior of NMOS and PMOS

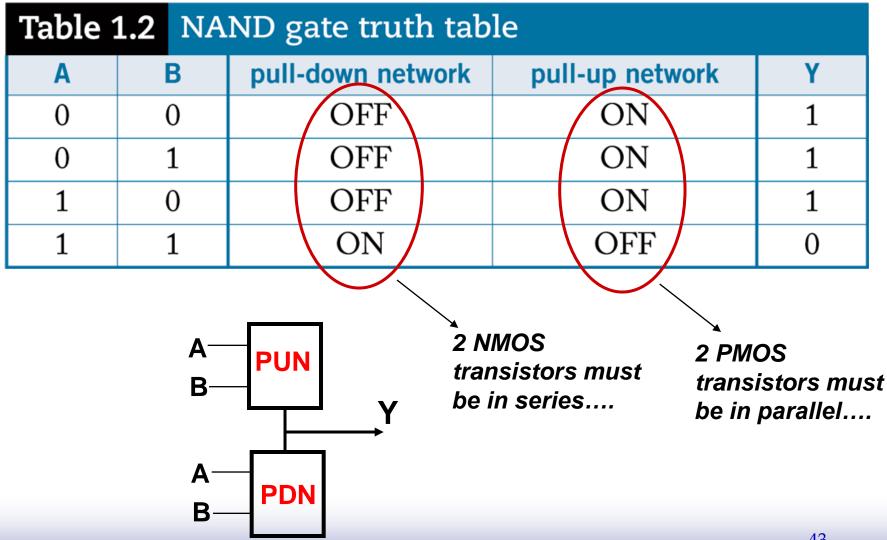


To establish a path between "a" and "b", both g1 AND g2 must be ON

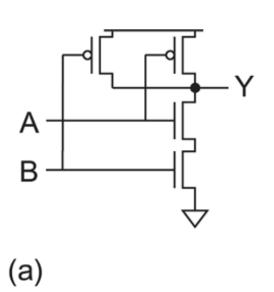
To establish a path between "a" and "b", at least g1 OR g2 must be ON

FIG 1.14 Connection and behavior of series and parallel transistors

2-input NAND Gate

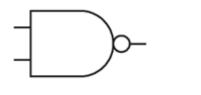


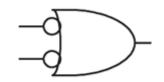
CMOS NAND Implementation



Recall De Morgan's Law.....

$$Y = \overline{A \cdot B} = \overline{A} + \overline{B}$$



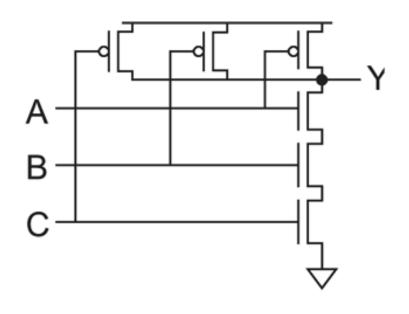


(b)

FIG 1.11 2-input NAND gate schematic (a) and symbol (b) $Y = \overline{A} \cdot \overline{B}$

Also, 2-input NOR: $Y = \overline{A + B} = \overline{A} \cdot \overline{B}$

CMOS 3-input NAND Implementation



Y=0, when A=B=C=1

Hence, A, B, C are in series for the NMOS (pull-down network)

FIG 1.12 3-input NAND gate schematic $Y = \overline{A \cdot B \cdot C}$

Y=1, when A or B or C=0

Hence, A, B, C are in parallel for the PMOS (pull-up network)

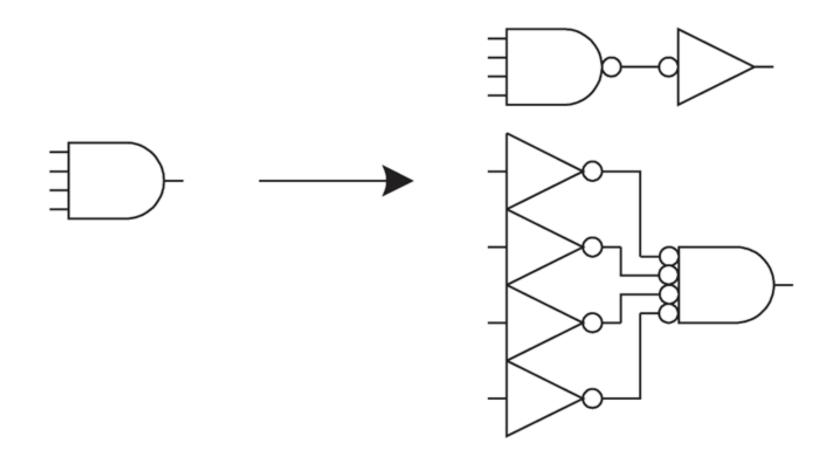


FIG 1.22 Various implementations of a CMOS 4-input AND gate