Introduction to Sequential Logic; Latches

Tom Kelliher, CS 220 Oct. 27, 2003

1 Administrivia

Announcements

Assignment

Read 4-3.

First four homework problems will be due Monday. Remaining two after, following lab tutorials.

From Last Time

Finished introduction to VHDL. See course web page for VHDL code.

Outline

- 1. Sequential logic.
- 2. SR latch.
- 3. D latch.

Coming Up

Flip-flops

2 Sequential Logic

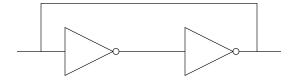
- 1. Combinational logic is nice but...
- 2. Sequential logic: introduces notion of memory.
- 3. Synchronous vs. asynchronous circuits.

There will always be some asynchronous elements in a circuit which interfaces to the real world environment.

4. Clock: frequency, period, edges, duty-cycle.

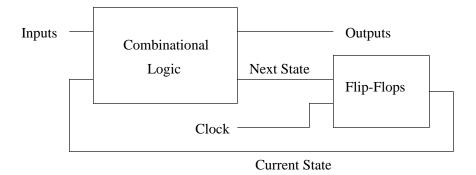
Non-overlapping clocks.

5. How can we achieve memory?



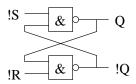
This is the basic idea, to be modified for actual use.

6. General model of a sequential circuit:



3 SR Latch

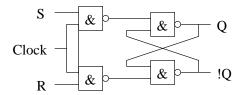
- 1. Active low inputs.
- 2. Schematic:



- 3. Operation: three valid, one invalid input.
- 4. Asynchronous.

3.1 Clocked SR Latch

1. Schematic:



Behavior.

2. Transparent when clock is high.

Latched when clock is low.

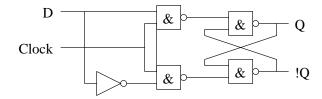
3. Problem with use in circuits: double clocking.

A solution: non-overlapping clocks. (Achieved with master-slave flip-flops.)

4 D Latch

1. SR latches inconvenient when storing data from, say, an ALU.

2. D latch stores data directly:



(Think of this as a logic primitive.)