普通高等学校专业课系列 21世纪高等学校规划教材

## FUNDAMENTAL OF DIGITAL ELE CTRONIC TECHNOLOGY

数字电子技术基础(上)

Feng Yu & Qiang Liu



# Fundamental of Digital Electronic Technology

Feng Yu & Qiang Liu

#### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

数字电子技术基础 / 于枫, 刘强主编. 一成都: 电子科 技大学出版社, 2013. 11

ISBN 978 -7 -5647 -2042 -1

I. ①数… II. ①于… ②刘… III. ①数字电路—电子技术 IV. ①TN79

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2013) 第 277022 号

## 数字电子技术基础 主 编 于 枫 刘 强

版: 电子科技大学出版社(成都市一环路东一段159号电子信息产业大厦邮编:610051)

策划编辑:张鹏

责任编辑:张鹏 胡海波 余 浪

主 页: www. uestcp. com. cn

电子邮箱: uestcp@ uestcp. com. cn

发 行:新华书店经销

印 刷:北京市彩虹印刷有限责任公司

成品尺寸: 185mm×260mm 印张 40.75 字数 955 千字

版 次: 2014年1月第1版

印 次: 2014年1月第1次印刷

书 号: ISBN 978-7-5647-2042-1

定 价: 68.00元(上下册)

#### ■ 版权所有 侵权必究 ■

- ◆ 本社发行部电话: 028-83202463; 销售电话: 010-59416880
- ◆ 本书如有缺页、破损、装订错误,请寄回印刷厂调换。

#### PREFACE

This book is written in English to help students whose first language is not English, while they learn technical knowledge, to familiarize with technical English expressions and to learn reading and writing for academic English. From our teaching experience it is realized that learning a technical topic with the text book in English, the students will gradually master the fast reading and comprehensive understanding skills, and also build up confidence for academic discussion, presentation and writing in English. These skills are essential for students going abroad to study and enable them to get quickly accustomed with the English study environment, such as lecturing, seminars and tutorials in English. Moreover, after leaving university, as an electronic or control engineer one will often exchange ideas or work collaboratively with western engineers or academics. The experience of using English text book will be realized more and more important.

In organizing the contents and writing this book several aspects have been considered, including the requirements by pursuing a higher degree in both national and overseas high quality universities. To achieve this purpose, several world-widely popular text and reference books in this subject have been refereed, including "Digital Fundamentals" by Thomas L. Floyd in USA and "Fundamentals of Digital Electronic Technology" by Shi Yan in China. In line with the trend in today's world in the Digital Electronics field and closely following the new techniques is one of the unique features of the book.

About using of the book, I recommend that the book is used as a major text book for college students in majors of electrical and electronics engineering, control engineering, or communication engineering, etc. I do not recommend using one or two chapters of the book separately, such as CPLD, FPGA or Microprocessors, as the book is written with chapters systematically related and it is not effective to select a single chapter to learn.

Finally, I would be grateful if readers could generously let me know any mistakes or inappropriate use of technical content or English in the book, which must exist inevitably due to our limited knowledge in using English. The author would like to express my gratitude to professor Ding\_ Li Yu of Liverpool John Moores University for compiling and checking on the book.

Electrical & Information college of Changchun Architecture and Civil Engineering College Feng Yu

### **CONTENTS**

Chap	ter 1	INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PRINCIPLES
. 1	-1	DIGITAL AND ANALOG QUANTITIES
1	-2	BINARY DIGITS, LOGIC LEVELS AND DIGITAL WAVEFORMS 3
1	-3	BASIC LOGIC OPERATIONS 7
1	-4	DIGITAL INTEGRATED CIRCUITS
		1-4-1 Manufacturing, Packaging, and Numbering ICs
		1 - 4 - 2 Pin Numbering
		1 - 4 - 3 Digital Integrated Circuit Technologies
P	ROBL	EMS
Chap	ter 2	NUMBER SYSTEMS, OPERATIONS AND CODES 14
2	-1	DECIMAL NUMBER SYSTEM 14
2	-2	THE BINARY NUMBER SYSTEM 15
		2 - 2 - 1 Binary-to-Decimal Conversion
		2-2-2 Decimal-to-Binary Conversion ····· 16
2	-3	BINARY ARITHMETIC
		2 – 3 – 1 Binary Addition
		2 – 3 – 2 Binary Subtraction
		2 – 3 – 3 Binary Multiplication
		2 – 3 – 4 Binary Division
2	-4	1'S AND 2'S COMPLEMENTS OF BINARY NUMBERS 21
2	-5	SIGNED NUMBERS 23
2	-6	ARITHMETIC OPERATIONS WITH SIGNED NUMBERS 28
2	-7	HEXADECIMAL NUMBERS
2	-8	OCTAL NUMBERS
2	-9	BINARY CODED DECIMAL (BCD) 40
2	- 10	THE GRAY CODE 42



	PROBI	LEMS ····		4
Ch	apter 3	BOOL	EAN ALGEBRA AND LOGIC SIMPLIFICATION 4	.9
	3 - 1	BOOLEAN	OPERATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS 4	.9
	3 – 2	LAWS AN	D RULES OF BOOLEAN ALGEBRA 5	0
	3 – 3	DEMORGA	AN'S THEOREMS 5	14
	3 – 4	APPLICAT	TON THEOREM OF BOOLEAN ALGEBRA 5	7
		3 -4 -1	Substitution Theorem	7
		3 -4 -2	Inversion theorem	7
		3 - 4 - 3	Duality theorem	8
	3 – 5	SIMPLIFIC	CATION USING BOOLEAN ALGEBRA 5	8
	3 - 6	STANDAR	D FORMS OF BOOLEAN EXPRESSIONS	1
	3 – 7	BOOLEAN	EXPRESSIONS AND TRUTH TABLES	8
	3 -8	THE KAR	NAUGH MAP 7	1
	3 – 9	KARNAU	GH MAP SOP MINIMIZATION 7	13
	3 – 10	KARNAU	JGH MAP POS MINMIZATION	19
	3 – 11	FIVE-VA	RIABLE KARNAUGH MAPS 8	32
	PROBI	LEMS		34
Ch	apter 4	IC GA	TES AND CHARACTERISTICS	13
	4 - 1	SWITCH A	AND LOGIC	)3
	4 - 2	COMMON	SWITCH DEVICES	)4
		4-2-1	Diode Property of Acting As a Switch	)4
		4-2-2	The Switch Characteristics of Transistor	)5
		4-2-3	Voltage-Controlled Switch-Mosfet	6
	4 – 3	EVOLUTIO	ON OF IC LOGIC FAMILIES 10	0
	4 - 4	TRANSIST	COR-TRANSISTOR LOGIC 10	)2
		4 - 4 - 1	Basic Ttl Nand Gate	)2
		4-4-2	Operation Theory of The Basic Ttl Nand Gate	)3
		4 - 4 - 3	Significance of The Totem-Pole Output Circuit · · · · · 10	)3
		4 - 4 - 4	Voltage Propagation Characteristics of Ttl Inverter 10	)4
		4 - 4 - 5	Noise Immunity of Ttl Inverter 10	)5

#### CONTENTS

101		Si	П.	
W	8	П	ш	
W		ы	E.	
- 98			-18	8

	4 - 4 - 6	Static Input Characteristic of Ttl Inverter	107
	4 - 4 - 7	Ttl Dynamic Characteristics	112
4 - 5	THE TTL	LOGIC FAMILY	116
4 - 6	CHARACT	TERISTICS OF STANDARD TTL	116
	4 - 6 - 1	Noise Margins	116
	4 - 6 - 2	Propagation Delay	117
	4 - 6 - 3	Power Dissipation of Ttl Nand-Gate	118
4 - 7	CHARACT	TERISTICS OF LOW-POWER TTL	118
4 - 8	CHARACT	TERISTICS OF HIGH-SPEED TTL	119
4 - 9	CHARACT	TERISTICS OF SCHOTTKY CLAMPED TTL	119
4 – 10	CHARAC	CTERISTICS OF LOW-POWER SHCOTTKY TTL	120
4 - 11	LOADIN	G CONDITIONS FOR TTL	120
4 – 12	SPEED-F	POWER PRODUCT FOR THE TTL FAMILY	121
4 – 13		INPUTS ON TTL DEVICES	
4 – 14	THE OT	HER TTL IC GATES	122
4 – 15	MOS INT	TEGRATED CIRCUITS	131
4 – 16	CHARA	CTERISTICS MOS LOGIC DEVICES	132
4 – 17		S LOGIC FAMILY	
4 – 18	CMOS F	AMILIES	135
4 – 19	POWER	DISSIPATION VERSUS FREQUENCY FOR CMOS DEVICES	138
4 - 20	UNUSED	INPUTS ON CMOS DEVICES	139
4 – 21	HIGH-SI	PEED CMOS ·····	139
4 – 22	CMOS SI	ILICION-ON-SPPHIRE DEVICES	139
4 – 23	CMOS T	RANSMISSION GATES	139
4 - 24	INTERF	ACING CMOS AND TTL DEVICES	140
4 – 25	CAUTIO	NS FOR HANDLING MOS DEVICES	141
4 – 26	EMITTE	R-COUPLED-LOGIC DEVICES	141
4 - 27	INTEGR	ATED-INJECTION-LOGIC DEVICES	144
4 – 28	GALLIU	M-ARSENIDE ICs	146
4 – 29	SUMMAI	RY	146
PROB	LEMS ·····		147



Chapter 5 CIRCUITS OF COMBINATIONAL LOGIC	153
5 – 1 LOGIC FUNCTIONS, LOGIC CIRCUITS AND EXPRESSIO	N METHODS ····· 153
5 - 2 ANALYSIS AND DESIGN OF COMBINATIONAL LOGIC	158
5-2-1 Combinational logic analysis ·····	158
5-2-2 Design Application Specific Combinational Logic	160
5-3 BASIC ADDERS ·····	163
5 - 4 PARALLEL BINARY ADDERS ·····	
5-5 COMPARATORS ·····	
5 - 6 DECODERS ·····	174
5 – 7 ENCODERS	
5 – 8 CODE CONVERTERS ·····	186
5-9 MULTIPLEXERS (DATA SELECTORS) ······	190
5 – 10 DEMULTIPLEXERS ·····	198
5-11 PARITY GENERATORS/CHECKERS	199
5 – 12 RACE-HAZARD	202
PROBLEMS ·····	204
Chapter 6 FLIP-FLOPS	216
6-1 LATCHES	216
6 – 2 EDGE-TRIGGERED FLIP-FLOPS ·····	221
6 – 3 MASTER-SLAVE FLIP-FLOPS ·····	232
6 - 4 FLIP-FLOP OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS ·····	234
6 – 5 FLIP-FLOP APPLICATIONS ·····	237
6 - 6 THE LOGIC FUNCTION AND DESCRIPTION METHOD OF	F FLIP-FLOPS ····· 239
6 - 7 THE RELATIONSHIP OF CIRCUIT STRUCTURE AND	LOGIC FUNCTION OF
FLIP-FLOPS	242
PROBLEMS ·····	243
Chapter 7 SEQUENTIAL CIRCUITS	251
7 – 1 ANALYSIS METHOD OF SEQUENTIAL LOGIC CIRCUIT	252
7-1-1 Analysis method of synchronous sequential logic	circuit 252
7-1-2 State table, state diagram and waveform of seque	ential circuit 253

#### CONTENTS



		*7-1-3	Analysis method of asynchronous sequential logic circuit	257
	7 – 2	USUAL SE	EQUENTIAL LOGIC CIRCUITS	259
		7 - 2 - 1	Registers	259
		7 -2 -2	Shift Registers	261
		7 - 2 - 3	Counters ·····	270
	7 – 3	DESIGN C	OF SYNCHRONOUS SEQUENTIAL CIRCUITS	288
	7 -4	CASCADE	D COUNTERS	303
	7 – 5	COUNTER	APPLICATIONS	306
	7 - 6	LOGIC SY	MBOLS WITH DEPENDENCY NOTATION	309
	PROBI	LEMS ·····		310
Cha	apter 8	B PULS	E GENERATOR AND RESHAPING CIRCUITS	319
	8 – 1	SCHMITT	TRIGGER	319
		8 - 1 - 1	Schmitt Trigger Composed of Gate Circuits	319
		8 -1 -2	Integrated Schmitt Trigger ·····	322
		8 - 1 - 3	The Application of Schmitt Trigger	325
	8 – 2	MONOSTA	ABLE MULTIVIBRATORS	327
		8 - 2 - 1	Monostable Multivibrators Composed of Gate	327
		8 - 2 - 2	Integrated Monostable Multivibrators ·····	331
	8 – 3	THE ASTA	ABLE MULTIVIBRATORS	336
		8 - 3 - 1	Symmetry mode multivibrator	336
		8 - 3 - 2	Nonsymmetry mode multivibrator	339
		8 - 3 - 3	Ring Oscillator ·····	341
		8 - 3 - 4	To compose multivibrator by Schmitt trigger ······	344
	8 – 4	THE 555	ΓΙΜΕR ·····	345
	PROB	LEMS ·····		350
Cha	apter 9	MEM	ORY	356
	9 – 1	BASIC OF	SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY	356
	9 - 2	RANDOM	-ACCESS MEMORIES	359
	9 – 3	READ-ON	LY MEMORIES	• 370
	9 - 4	PROGRAM	MMABLE ROMS ·····	. 374



#### Fundamental of Digital Electronic Technology

	9 - 5	FLASH MEMORIES	77
	9 - 6	MEMORY EXPANSION 3	81
	PROBI	LEMS 3	85
Ch	apter 1	10 D/A AND A/D CONVERTER 3	86
	10 – 1	DIGITAL TO ANALOG (D/A) CONVERTER 3	86
	10 -2	ANALOG-TO-GIGITAL (A/D) CONVERSION 3	92
	PROB	LEMS 4	01
AN	SWERS	S TO PROBLEMS 4	04

## Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL PRINCIPLES

#### 1-1 DIGITAL AND ANALOG QUANTITIES

Analog quantity is one having continuous values with continuous time. A digital quantity is one having a discrete set of values at a series of instants. Most things that can be measured quantitatively appear in nature in analog form. For example, the air temperature changes over a continuous range of values. During a given day, the temperature does not go from, say, 20℃ to 21℃ instantaneously; it takes on all the infinite values in between. If you graphed the temperature on the day, you would have a smooth, continuous curve similar to the curve in Fig. 1 − 1.

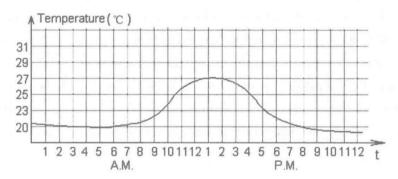


Fig. 1 - 1 Temperature versus time

Other examples of analog quantities are time, pressure, distance, and sound.

Rather than graphing the temperature on a continuous basis, suppose you just take a temperature reading every hour. Now you have sampled values representing the temperature at discrete points in time (every hour) over a 24 – hour period, as indicated in Fig. 1 – 2. You have effectively converted an analog quantity to a form that can now be digitized by representing each sampled value by a digital code. (Each value represented by a dot can be digitized by representing it as a digital code.) It is important to realize that Fig. 1 – 2 itself is not the digital representation of the analog quantity.

#### The digital Advantage

Digital has certain advantages over analog in electronics applications. For one thing, digital data can be processed and transmitted more efficiently and reliably than analog data. Also, digital data has a great advantage when storage is necessary. For example, music when converted to digital form can be stored more compactly and reproduced with greater accuracy and clarity than is possible when it is in analog form. Noise (unwanted voltage fluctuations) does not affect digital data



nearly as much as it does analog signals.

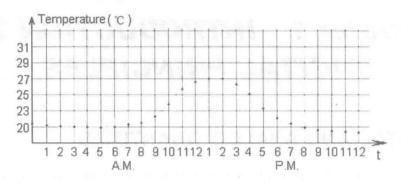


Fig. 1-2 Sampled value representation of the analog in Fig. 1-1

#### An Analog Electronic System

An audio frequency power amplifier system, used to amplify voice and music so that it can be heard by a large audience, is one example of an application of analog electronics. The basic diagram in Fig. 1 – 3 illustrates that sound waves, which are analog in nature, are. Picked up by a microphone and convinced to a small analog voltage called the audio signal, This voltage varies continuously as the volume and frequency of the sound changes and is applied to the input of a linear amplifier. The output of the amplifier, which is an increased reproduction of input voltage, goes to the speaker(s). The speaker changes the amplified audio signal back to sound waves having a much greater volume than the original sound waves picked up by the microphone.

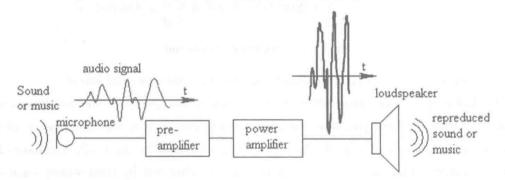


Fig. 1 - 3 An audio power amplifier system

#### A System Using Digital and Analog Methods

The compact disk (CD) player is an example of a system in which both digital and analog circuits are used. The simplified diagram in Fig. 1 – 4 illustrates the basic principle. Music in digital form is stored on the compact disk. A laser diode optical system picks up the digital data from the rotating disk and transfers it to the digital to analog converter (DAC). The DAC changes the digital data into an analog signal that is an electrical reproduction of the original music. This signal is amplified and sent to the speaker for you to enjoy. When the music was originally recorded on the CD, a process, essentially the reverse of the one described here, using an analog to digital con-



verter (ADC) was used.

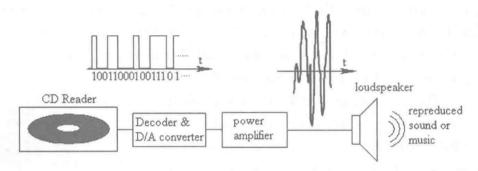


Fig. 1 - 4 Basic principle of a CD player

## 1 – 2 BINARY DIGITS, LOGIC LEVELS AND DIGITAL WAVE-

#### **Binary Digits**

Digital electronics involves circuits and systems in which there are only two possible states. These states are represented by two different voltage levels: A HIGH and a LOW.

We can represent every types of information, such as numbers, symbols, alphabetic characters etc., with combinations of the two states. Those combinations are called codes.

The two-state number system is called binary, and its two digits are 0 and 1. The two digits in the binary system, 1 and 0, are called bits, which is a contraction of the words binary digit. In digital circuits, two different voltage levels are used to represent the two bits. A 1 is represented by the higher voltage, which we will

refer to as a HIGH and a 0 is represented by the lower voltage level, which we will refer to as a LOW.

This is called positive logic and will be used throughout the book.

HIGH = 1 and LOW = 0

A less common System in which a 1 is represented by a LOW and a 0 is represented by a HIGH is called negative logic.

Groups of bits (combinations of 1s and0s), called codes, are used to represent numbers, letters, symbols, instructions, and anything else required in a given application.

#### **Logic Levels**

The voltages used to represent a 1 and a 0 are called logic levels. Ideally, one voltage level represents a HIGH and another voltage level represents a LOW. In a practical distal circuit, however, a HIGH can be any voltage between a specified minimum value and a specified maximum value. Likewise, a LOW can be any voltage between a specified minimum and a specified maximum There can be no overlap between the accepted HIGH levels and the accepted LOW levels.



Fig. 1 – 5 illustrates the general range of LOWs and HIGHs for a digital circuit. The variable  $U_{H(max)}$  represents the maximum HIGH voltage value, and  $U_{H(min)}$  represents the minimum HIGH voltage value. The maximum LOW voltage value is represented by  $U_{L(max)}$ , and the minimum LOW voltage value is represented by  $U_{L(min)}$ . The voltage values between  $U_{L(max)}$  and  $U_{H(min)}$  are unaccept-

able for proper operation. A voltage in the un-acceptable range can appear as either a HIGH or a LOW to a given circuit. Therefore, these unacceptable values are never used. For example, the HIGH values for a certain type of digital circuit called TTL may range from 2 V to 5 V and the LOW values may range from 0 V to 0.8 V. So, for example, if a voltage of 3.5 V is applied, the circuit will accept it as a HIGH or binary 1. If a voltage of 0.5 V is applied, the circuit will accept it as a LOW or binary 0. For this type of circuit, voltages between 0.8 V and 2 V are unacceptable and are never used.

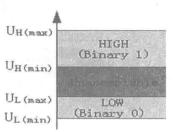


Fig. 1 – 5 Logic level ranges of voltage for a digital circuit

#### **Digital Waveforms**

Digital waveforms consist of voltage levels that are changing back and forth between the HIGH and LOW levels or states. Fig. 1-6(a) shows that a single positive-going pulse is generated when the voltage (or current) goes from its normally LOW level to its HIGH level and then back to its LOW level. The negative-going pulse in Fig. 1-6(b) is generated when the voltage goes from its normally HIGH level to its LOW level and back to its HIGH level. A digital waveform is made up of a series of pulses.

The Pulse As indicated in Fig. 1 – 6, the pulse has two edges: a leading edge that occurs first at time  $t_{\rm o}$  and a trailing edge that occurs last at time  $t_{\rm l}$ . For a positive-going pulse, the leading edge is a rising edge, and the trailing edge is a falling edge. The pulses in Fig. 1 – 6 are ideal because the rising and falling edges are assumed to change in zero time (instantaneously). In practice, these transitions never occur instantaneously, although for most digital work you can assume ideal pulses.

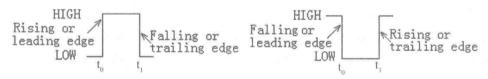


Fig. 1 - 6 Ideal pulses

Waveform Characteristics. Most waveforms encountered in digital systems are composed of series of pulses, sometimes called pulse trains, and can be classified as either periodic or nonperiodic. A periodic pulse waveform is one that repeats itself at a fixed interval, called a period (T). The frequency (f) is the rate at which it repeats itself and is measured in hertz (Hz). A nonperiodic pulse waveform, of course, does not repeat itself at fixed intervals and may be composed of pulses of



randomly differing pulse widths and/or randomly differing time intervals between the pulses. An example of each type is shown in Fig. 1 - 7.

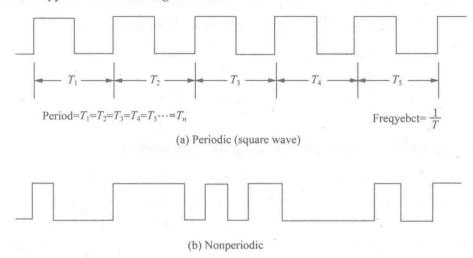


Fig. 1-7 Example of digital waveforms

Thefrequency (f) of a pulse (digital) waveform is the reciprocal of the period. The relationship between frequency and period is expressed as follows:

$$f = \frac{1}{T} \tag{1-1}$$

$$T = \frac{1}{f} \tag{1-2}$$

An important characteristic of a periodic digital waveform is its duty cycle. The duty cycle is defined as the ratio of the pulse width  $(t_w)$  to the period (T) and can be expressed as a percentage.

Duty cycle = 
$$\left(\frac{t_w}{T}\right)100\%$$
 (1-3)

#### EXAMPLE 1-1

A portion of a periodic digital waveform is shown in Fig. 1 - 8.

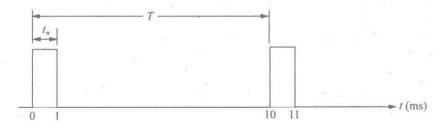


Fig. 1-8

The measurements are in milliseconds. Determine the following: period; (b) frequency; (c) duty cycle.



#### SOLUTION

(a) The period is measured from the edge of one pulse to the corresponding edge of the next pulse. In this case T is measured from leading edge to leading edge, as indicated. T equals 10 ms.

(b) 
$$f = \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{10ms} = 100 \text{ Hz}$$

(c) Duty cycle = 
$$(\frac{t_w}{T})100\% = (\frac{1 \text{ ms}}{10 \text{ ms}})100\% = 10\%$$

#### A Digital Waveform Carries Binary Information

Binary information that is handled by digital systems appears as waveforms that represent sequences of bits. When the waveform is HIGH, a binary 1 is present; when the waveform is LOW, a binary 0 is present. Each bit in a sequence occupies a defined time interval called a bit time.

The Clock In digital systems, all waveforms are synchronized with a basic timing waveform called the clock. The clock is a periodic waveform in which each interval between pulses (the period) equals the time for one bit.

An example of a clock waveform is shown in Fig. 1 – 9. Notice that, in this case, each change in level of waveform A occurs at the leading edge of the clock waveform. In other cases, level changes occur at the trailing edge of the clock. During each bit time of the clock, waveform A is either HIGH or LOW. These HIGHs and LOWs represent a sequence of bits as indicated. A group of several bits can be used as a piece of binary information, such as a number or a letter. The clock waveform itself does not carry information.

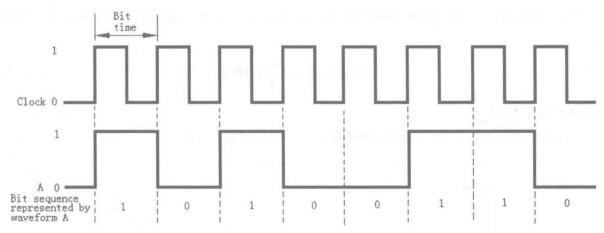


Fig. 1-9 a clock waveform synchronized with a waveform representation of a sequence of bits

#### Timing Diagrams

A timing diagram is a graph of digital waveforms showing the actual time relationship of two or more waveforms and how each waveform changes in relation to the others. Fig. 1 – 9 is an example of a simple timing diagram that shows how the clock waveform and waveform A are related on a time base.



By looking at a timing diagram, you can determine the states (HIGH or LOW) of all the waveforms at any specified point in time and the exact time that a waveform changes state relative to the other waveforms. Fig. 1 – 10 is an example of a timing diagram made up of four waveforms. From this timing diagram you can see, for example, that all three waveforms (A,B, and C) are HIGH only during bit time 7 and they all change back LOW at the end of bit time 7.

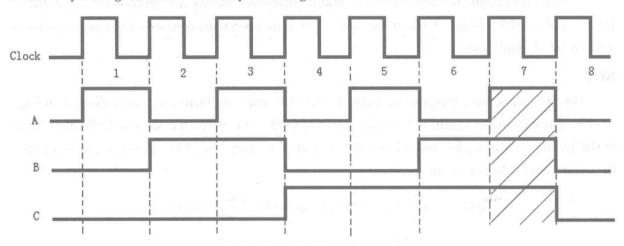


Fig. 1 - 10 Example of a timing diagram

#### 1 – 3 BASIC LOGIC OPERATIONS

Several propositions, when combined, formprepositional, or logic, functions. For example, the prepositional statement "The light is on" will be true if "The bulb is not burned out" is true and "the switch is on" is true. Therefore, this logical statement can be made: The light is on only if the bulb is not burned out and the switch is on. In this example the first statement is true only if the last two statements are true. The first statement ("The light is on") is then the basic proposition, and the other two statements are the conditions on which the proposition depends.

In the 1850s, the Irish logician and mathematician George Boole developed a mathematical system for formulating logic statements with symbols so that problems can be written and solved in a manner similar to ordinary algebra. Boolean algebra, as it is known today, is applied in the design and analysis of digital systems and will be covered in detail in Chapter 3.

The term logic is applied to digital circuits used to implement logic functions. Several kinds of digital logic circuits are the basic elements that form the building blocks for such complex digital systems as the computer. We will now look at these elements and discuss their functions in a very general way. Later chapters will cover these circuits in detail.

Three basic logic operations are indicated by standard distinctive shape symbols in Fig. 1-11. The lines connected to each symbol are the inputs and outputs. The inputs are on the left of each symbol and the output is on the right. A circuit that performs a specified logic operation (AND, OR) is called a logic gate. AND and OR gates can have any number of inputs, as indicated by the dashes in the figure.