

# 国外大学优秀教材 — 微电子类系列 (影印版)

Jan M. Rabaey, Anantha Chandrakasan, Borivoje Nikolić

# 数字集成电路

——设计透视(第2版)

# Digital Integrated Circuits

A DESIGN PERSPECTIVE SECOND EDITION



JAN M. RABAEY ANANTHA CHANDRAKASAN BORIVOJE NIKOLIĆ

PRENTICE HALL ELECTRONICS AND VLSI SERIES CHARLES G. SODINI, SERIES EDITOR



清华大学出版社



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Digital Integrated Circuits
A Design Perspective(Second Edition)

Jan M. Rabaey Anantha Chandrakasan Borivoje Nikolić

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Original English language title from Proprietor's edition of the Work.

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Published by arrangement with the original publisher, Pearson Education, Inc., publishing as Prentice Hall.

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北京市版权局著作权合同登记号 图字: 01-2003-8776

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#### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

数字集成电路:设计透视=Digital Integrated Circuits: A Design Perspective:第2版/拉贝(Rabaey, J. M.),钱德拉卡山(Chandrakasan, A.),尼科利奇(Nikolić, B.)著.一影印本.一北京:清华大学出版社,2004(国外大学优秀教材——微电子类系列(影印版))

ISBN 7-302-07968-4

I. 数··· II. ①拉··· ②钱··· ③尼··· III. 数字集成电路—电路设计—高等学校—教材—英文 IV. TN431.2 中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2004)第 003405 号

出版者:清华大学出版社

地 址: 北京清华大学学研大厦

http://www.tup.com.cn

邮 编: 100084

社总机: (010) 6277 0175

客户服务: (010) 6277 6969

责任编辑: 邹开颜

印刷者:北京牛山世兴印刷厂

装 订 者: 北京鑫海金澳胶印有限公司

发行者: 新华书店总店北京发行所

开 本: 185×230 印张: 49.25 插页: 2

版 次: 2004年3月第1版 2004年3月第1次印刷

书 号: ISBN 7-302-07968-4/TN • 169

印 数: 1~3000

定 价: 68.00 元

本书如存在文字不清、漏印以及缺页、倒页、脱页等印装质量问题,请与清华大学出版社出版部联系调换。联系电话: (010) 62770175-3103 或 (010) 62795704

### 出版前言

微电子技术是信息科学技术的核心技术之一,微电子产业是当代高新技术产业群的核心和维护国家主权、保障国家安全的战略性产业。我国在《信息产业"十五"计划纲要》中明确提出:坚持自主发展,增强创新能力和核心竞争力,掌握以集成电路和软件技术为重点的信息产业的核心技术,提高具有自主知识产权产品的比重。发展集成电路技术的关键之一是培养具有国际竞争力的专业人才。

微电子技术发展迅速,内容更新快,而我国微电子专业图书数量少,且内容和体系不能反映科技发展的水平,不能满足培养人才的需求,为此,我们系统挑选了一批国外经典教材和前沿著作,组织分批出版。图书选择的几个基本原则是:在本领域内广泛采用,有很大影响力;内容反映科技的最新发展,所述内容是本领域的研究热点;编写和体系与国内现有图书差别较大,能对我国微电子教育改革有所启示。本套丛书还侧重于微电子技术的实用性,选取了一批集成电路设计方面的工程技术用书,使读者能方便地应用于实践。本套丛书不仅能作为相关课程的教科书和教学参考书,也可作为工程技术人员的自学读物。

我们真诚地希望,这套丛书能对国内高校师生、工程技术人员以及科研人员的学习和工作有所帮助,对推动我国集成电路的发展有所促进。也衷心期望着广大读者对我们一如既往的关怀和支持,鼓励我们出版更多、更好的图书。

清华大学出版社 理工出版事业部 2003.9

# Digital Integrated Circuits: A Design Perspective(2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.) 影 印 版 序

从事数字集成电路设计的人对于 Jan M. Rabaey 所著的 Digital Integrated Circuits: A Design Perspective(《数字集成电路——设计透视》)一书应该不陌生。该书第 1 版于 1996 年由 Pearson Education 公司出版, 1998 年清华大学出版社出版了该书的英文影印版,并 多次增印,成为国内集成电路设计人员以及相关专业学生手中经典的参考书。时隔 7 年后的 2003 年,Jan M. Rabaey, Anantha Chandrakasan 以及 Borivoje Nikolić 三人终于合著出版了该书的第 2 版。

在这7年中,CMOS 制造技术依然保持着快速的发展步伐,最小线宽已经进入100nm以内,电路变得越来越复杂,超深亚微米的制造工艺使得器件的行为变得更加复杂;由此带来了数字集成电路可靠性、成本、性能、功耗等多方面的新问题,对电路设计者提出了新的挑战。因此本书作者们在第2版中特别关注了深亚微米效应、互连线、信号完整性、高性能与低功耗设计、时序优化与时钟分布等问题,并通过最新的设计实例介绍了这些方面的进展。另外超过99%的数字集成电路产品采用了MOS技术,因此第2版删除了双极电路和砷化镓器件的内容。针对设计方法学在当今设计流程中的重要性,在第2版中还加入了若干"设计方法学"章节(design methodology insert),专门介绍设计流程中的某个具体的方面。

全书共分为 12 章, 3 个部分。其中第一部分为第 1 章至第 4 章, 分别介绍了 MOS 制造过程、半导体器件模型以及在深亚微米设计中非常重要的互连线。第二部分为第 5 章至第 7 章, 这部分从电路的角度分析了数字集成电路,包括全书最重要也是最基础的反相器分析以及其他门电路的知识,第 7 章还给出了时序电路的基本概念。第三部分为第 8 章至第 12 章, 从系统的角度分析了数字集成电路设计,包括互连线在深业微米条件下对系统功能和性能的影响、时序约束和时钟分布问题等。

#### 本书的特点主要包括:

- (1)将数字集成电路设计中电路与系统的视角统一起来,在系统深入地介绍了深亚微米条件下半导体器件的知识和最基本的反相器后,作者逐渐将这些基础知识引入到更加复杂的模块,比如门、寄存器、控制器、加法器、乘法器和存储器等。在深亚微米的设计条件下,设计者不仅仅需要考虑整个系统的设计问题,还要随时警惕在电路级——比如器件和连线所带来的问题。
- (2)本书是第一本将数字集成电路设计问题集中在深亚微米条件下的参考书,并且提供了一个深亚微米条件下的简单晶体管模型。另外针对深亚微米条件下设计人员所面对的

新挑战,例如互连线问题、信号完整性问题、时钟分布问题、功耗问题等,全书都做了非常详细的论述。

- (3)书中的内容紧扣当今数字集成电路设计的核心问题,并通过大量的设计实例向读者介绍了最新的设计技术和工程发展现状与趋势。
- (4) 与本书相配套的互联网站点 http:// bwrc. eecs. berkeley.edu/IcBook/index. htm, 为读者提供了大量的习题和其他实验资料。

全书结构清晰,语言流畅。在讨论深奥的理论问题时,娓娓道来,深入浅出,非常适合作为教材或者自学者使用。相信读者通过阅读参考此书,一定会受益匪浅。

时龙兴 东南大学 2003 年 12 月

# VALUES OF MATERIAL AND PHYSICAL CONSTANTS

Name	Symbol	Value	Units
Room temperature	T	300 (= 27°C)	K
Boltzman constant	<i>k</i>	$1.38 \times 10^{-23}$	J/K
Electron charge	q	$1.6 \times 10^{-19}$	C
Thermal voltage	$\phi_T = kT/q$	26	mV (at 300 K)
Intrinsic Carrier Concentration (Silicon)	$n_i$	$1.5 \times 10^{10}$	cm <sup>-3</sup> (at 300 K)
Permittivity of Si	$oldsymbol{arepsilon}_{si}$	$1.05 \times 10^{-12}$	F/cm
Permittivity of SiO <sub>2</sub>	$oldsymbol{arepsilon}_{ox}$	$3.5 \times 10^{-13}$	F/cm
Resistivity of Al	$\rho_{Al}$	$2.7\times10^{-8}$	Ω-m
Resistivity of Cu	$\rho_{Cu}$	$1.7\times10^{-8}$	Ω-m
Magnetic permeability of vacuum (similar for SiO <sub>2</sub> )	$\mu_0$	$12.6 \times 10^{-7}$	`Wb/Am
Speed of light (in vacuum)	$c_0$	30	cm/nsec
Speed of light (in SiO <sub>2</sub> )	$c_{ox}$	15	cm/nsec

### FORMULAS AND EQUATIONS

#### Diode

$$\begin{split} I_D &= I_S(e^{V_D/\phi_T} - 1) = Q_D/\tau_T \\ C_j &= \frac{C_{j0}}{(1 - V_D/\phi_0)^m} \\ K_{eq} &= \frac{-\phi_0^m}{(V_{high} - V_{low})(1 - m)} \times \\ &[(\phi_0 - V_{high})^{1 - m} - (\phi_0 - V_{low})^{1 - m}] \end{split}$$

#### **MOS Transistor**

$$\begin{split} V_T &= V_{T0} + \gamma (\sqrt{|-2\phi_F + V_{SB}|} - \sqrt{|-2\phi_F|}) \\ I_D &= \frac{k'_n W}{2 L} (V_{GS} - V_T)^2 (1 + \lambda V_{DS}) \text{ (sat)} \\ I_D &= \upsilon_{sat} C_{ox} W \bigg( V_{GS} - V_T - \frac{V_{DSAT}}{2} \bigg) (1 + \lambda V_{DS}) \\ & \text{ (velocity sat)} \\ I_D &= k'_n \frac{W}{L} \bigg( (V_{GS} - V_T) V_{DS} - \frac{V_{DS}^2}{2} \bigg) \text{ (triode)} \\ I_D &= I_S e^{\frac{V_{GS}}{nkT/q}} \bigg( 1 - e^{-\frac{V_{DS}}{kT/q}} \bigg) \text{ (subthreshold)} \end{split}$$

#### **Deep Submicron MOS Unified Model**

$$\begin{split} I_D &= 0 \text{ for } V_{GT} \leq 0 \\ I_D &= k' \frac{W}{L} \bigg( V_{GT} V_{min} - \frac{V_{min}^2}{2} \bigg) (1 + \lambda V_{DS}) \text{ for } V_{GT} \geq 0 \\ \text{with } V_{min} &= \min(V_{GT}, V_{DS}, V_{DSAT}) \\ \text{and } V_{GT} &= V_{GS} - V_T \end{split}$$

#### MOS Switch Model

$$\begin{split} R_{eq} &= \frac{1}{2} \bigg( \frac{V_{DD}}{I_{DSAT} (1 + \lambda V_{DD})} + \frac{V_{DD}/2}{I_{DSAT} (1 + \lambda V_{DD}/2)} \bigg) \\ &\approx \frac{3}{4} \frac{V_{DD}}{I_{DSAT}} \bigg( 1 - \frac{5}{6} \lambda V_{DD} \bigg) \end{split}$$

#### Inverter

$$\begin{split} &V_{OH} = f(V_{OL}) \\ &V_{OL} = f(V_{OH}) \\ &V_{M} = f(V_{M}) \\ &t_{p} = 0.69 R_{eq} C_{L} = \frac{C_{L}(V_{swing}/2)}{I_{avg}} \\ &P_{dyn} = C_{L} V_{DD} V_{swing} f \\ &P_{stat} = V_{DD} I_{DD} \end{split}$$

#### Static CMOS Inverter

$$V_{OH} = V_{DD}$$

$$V_{OL} = GND$$

$$V_{M} \approx \frac{rV_{DD}}{1+r} \quad \text{with} \quad r = \frac{k_{p}V_{DSATp}}{k_{n}V_{DSATn}}$$

$$V_{IH} = V_{M} - \frac{V_{M}}{g} \qquad V_{IL} = V_{M} + \frac{V_{DD} - V_{M}}{g}$$

$$\text{with } g \approx \frac{1+r}{(V_{M} - V_{Tn} - V_{DSATn}/2)(\lambda_{n} - \lambda_{p})}$$

$$t_{p} = \frac{t_{pHL} + t_{pLH}}{2} = 0.69C_{L}\left(\frac{R_{eqn} + R_{eqp}}{2}\right)$$

$$P_{av} = C_{L}V_{DD}^{2}f$$

#### Interconnect

Lumped RC:  $t_p = 0.69 RC$ Distributed RC:  $t_p = 0.38 RC$ RC-chain:

$$\tau_N = \sum_{i=1}^{N} R_i \sum_{j=1}^{N} C_j = \sum_{i=1}^{N} C_i \sum_{j=1}^{i} R_j$$

Transmission line reflection:

$$\rho = \frac{V_{refl}}{V_{inc}} = \frac{I_{refl}}{I_{inc}} = \frac{R-Z_0}{R+Z_o}$$

### **Preface**

#### What is New?

Welcome to second edition of "Digital Integrated Circuits: A Design Perspective." In the six years since the publication of the first, the field of digital integrated circuits has gone through some dramatic evolutions and changes. IC manufacturing technology has continued to scale to ever-smaller dimensions. Minimum feature sizes have scaled by a factor of almost ten since the writing of the first edition, and now are approaching the 100 nm realm. This scaling has a double impact on the design of digital integrated circuit. First of all, the complexity of the designs that can be put on a single die has increased dramatically. Dealing with the challenges this poses has led to new design methodologies and implementation strategies. At the same time, the plunge into the deep-submicron space causes devices to behave differently, and brings to the forefront a number of new issues that impact the reliability, cost, performance, and power dissipation of the digital IC. Addressing these issues in-depth is what differentiates this edition from the first.

A glance through the table of contents reveals extended coverage of issues such as deepsub micron devices, circuit optimization, interconnect modeling and optimization, signal integrity, clocking and timing, and power dissipation. All these topics are illustrated with state-of-theart design examples. Also, since MOS now represents more than 99% of the digital IC market,
older technologies such as silicon bipolar and GaAs have been deleted (however, the interested
reader can find the old chapters on these technologies on the web site of the book). Given the
importance of methodology in today's design process, we have included *Design Methodology Inserts* throughout the text, each of which highlights one particular aspect of the design process.
This new edition represents a major reworking of the book. The biggest change is the addition of
two co-authors, Anantha and Bora, who have brought a broader insight into digital IC design and
its latest trends and challenges.

#### Maintaining the Spirit of the First Edition

While introducing these changes, our intent has been to preserve the spirit and goals of the first edition—that is, to bridge the gap between the **circuit and system visions** on digital design. While starting from a solid understanding of the operation of electronic devices and an in-depth analysis of the nucleus of digital design—the inverter—we gradually channel this knowledge into the design of more complex modules such as gates, registers, controllers, adders, multipliers, and memories. We identify the compelling questions facing the designers of today's

complex circuits: What are the dominant design parameters, what section of the design should he focus on and what details could she ignore? Simplification is clearly the only approach to address the increasing complexity of the digital systems. However, oversimplification can lead to circuit failure since global circuit effects such as timing, interconnect, and power consumption are ignored. To avoid this pitfall it is important to design digital circuits with both a circuits and a systems perspective in mind. This is the approach taken in this book, which brings the reader the knowledge and expertise needed to deal with complexity, using both analytical and experimental techniques.

#### How to Use This Book

The core of the text is intended for use in a senior-level digital circuit design class. Around this kernel, we have included chapters and sections covering the more advanced topics. In the course of developing this book, it quickly became obvious that it is difficult to define a subset of the digital circuit design domain that covers everyone's needs. On the one hand, a newcomer to the field needs detailed coverage of the basic concepts. On the other hand, feedback from early readers and reviewers indicated that an in-depth and extensive coverage of advanced topics and current issues is desirable and necessary. Providing this complete vision resulted in a text that exceeds the scope of a single-semester class. The more advanced material can be used as the basis for a graduate class. The wide coverage and the inclusion of state-of-the-art topics also makes the text useful as a reference work for professional engineers. It is assumed that students taking this course are familiar with the basics of logic design.

The organization of the material is such that the chapters can be taught or read in many ways, as long as a number of precedence relations are adhered to. The core of the text consists of Chapters 5, 6, 7, and 8. Chapters 1 to 4 can be considered as introductory. In response to popular demand, we have introduced a short treatise on semiconductor manufacturing in Chapter 2. Students with a prior introduction to semiconductor devices can traverse quickly through Chapter 3. We urge everyone to do at least that, as a number of important notations and foundations are introduced in that chapter. In addition, an original approach to the modeling of deep-submicron transistors enabling manual analysis, is introduced. To emphasize the importance of interconnect in today's digital design, we have moved the modeling of interconnect forward in the text to Chapter 4.

Chapters 9 to 12 are of a more advanced nature and can be used to provide a certain focus to the course. A course with a focus on the circuit aspects, for example, can supplement the core material with Chapters 9 and 12. A course focused on the digital system design should consider adding (parts of) Chapters 9, 10, and 11. All of these advanced chapters can be used to form the core of a graduate or a follow-on course. Sections considered *advanced* are marked with an *asterisk* in the text.

A number of possible paths through the material for a senior-level class are enumerated below. In the *instructor documentation*, provided on the book's web site, we have included a number of complete syllabi based on courses run at some academic institutions.

Basic circuit class (with minor prior device knowledge):

1, 2.1-3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, (9.1-9.3, 12).

Somewhat more advanced circuit coverage:

1, (2, 3), 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.1–10.3, 10.5–10.6, 12.

Course with systems focus:

1, (2, 3), 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.1–10.4, 11, 12.1–12.2.

The design methodology inserts are, by preference, covered in concurrence with the chapter to which they are attached.

In order to maintain a consistent flow through each of the chapters, the topics are *introduced* first, followed by a detailed and in-depth discussion of the ideas. A *Perspective* section discusses how the introduced concepts relate to real world designs and how they might be impacted by future evolutions. Each chapter finishes with a *Summary*, which briefly enumerates the topics covered in the text, followed by *To Probe Further* and *Reference* sections. These provide ample references and pointers for a reader interested in further details on some of the material.

As the title of the book implies, one of the goals of this book is to stress the design aspect of digital circuits. To achieve this more practical viewpoint and to provide a real perspective, we have interspersed actual *design examples* and layouts throughout the text. These case studies help to answer questions, such as "How much area or speed or power is really saved by applying this technique?" To mimic the real design process, we are making extensive use of design tools such as circuit- and switch-level simulation as well as layout editing and extraction. Computer analysis is used throughout to verify manual results, to illustrate new concepts, or to examine complex behavior beyond the reach of manual analysis.

Finally, to facilitate the learning process, there are numerous examples included in the text. Each chapter contains a number of *problems or brain-teasers* (answers for which can be found in the back of the book), that provoke thinking and understanding while reading.

#### The Worldwide Web Companion

A worldwide web companion (http://bwrc.eecs.berkeley.edu/IcBook/index.htm) provides fully worked-out design problems and a complete set of overhead transparencies, extracting the most important figures and graphs from the text.

In contrast to the first edition, we have chosen **NOT to include problems** sets and **design problems** in the text. Instead we decided to make them available **on the book's web site**. This gives us the opportunity to dynamically upgrade and extend the problems, providing a more effective tool for the instructor. More than 300 challenging *exercises* are currently provided. The goal is to provide the individual reader an independent gauge for his understanding of the material and to provide practice in the use of some of the design tools. Each problem is keyed to the text sections it refers to (e.g., <1.3>), the design tools that must be used when solving the problem (e.g., SPICE) and a rating, ranking the problems on difficulty: (E) easy, (M) moderate, and

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(C) challenging. Problems marked with a (D) include a design or research elements. Solutions to the problem sets are available only to instructors of academic institutions that have chosen to adopt our book for classroom use. They are available through the publisher on a password-protected web site.

Open-ended *design problems* help to gain the all-important insight into design optimization and trade-off. The use of design editing, verification and analysis tools is recommended when attempting these design problems. Fully worked out versions of these problems can be found on the web site.

In addition, the book's web site also offers samples of hardware and software laboratories, extra background information, and useful links.

#### Compelling Features of the Book

- Brings both circuit and systems views on design together. It offers a profound understanding of the design of complex digital circuits, while preparing the designer for new challenges that might be waiting around the corner.
- Design-oriented perspectives are advocated throughout. Design challenges and guidelines are highlighted. Techniques introduced in the text are illustrated with real designs and complete SPICE analysis.
- Is the first circuit design book that focuses solely on deep-submicron devices. To facilitate
  this, a simple transistor model for manual analysis, called the unified MOS model, has
  been developed.
- Unique in showing how to use the latest techniques to design complex high-performance or low-power circuits. Speed and power treated as equal citizens throughout the text.
- Covers crucial real-world system design issues such as signal integrity, power dissipation, interconnect, packaging, timing, and synchronization.
- Provides unique coverage of the latest design methodologies and tools, with a discussion of how to use them from a designers' perspective.
- Offers perspectives on how digital circuit technology might evolve in the future.
- · Outstanding illustrations and a usable design-oriented four-color insert.
- To Probe Further and Reference sections provide ample references and pointers for a reader interested in further details on some of the material.
- Extensive instructional package is available over the internet from the author's web site.
   Includes design software, transparency masters, problem sets, design problems, actual layouts, and hardware and software laboratories.

#### The Contents at a Glance

A quick scan of the table of contents shows how the ordering of chapters and the material covered are consistent with the advocated design methodology. Starting from a model of the semi-conductor devices, we will gradually progress upwards, covering the inverter, the complex logic gate (NAND, NOR, XOR), the functional (adder, multiplier, shifter, register) and the system

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module (datapath, controller, memory) levels of abstraction. For each of these layers, the dominant design parameters are identified and simplified models are constructed, abstracting away the nonessential details. While this layered modeling approach is the designer's best handle on complexity, it has some pitfalls. This is illustrated in Chapters 9 and 10, where topics with a global impact, such as interconnect parasitics and chip timing, are discussed. To further express the dichotomy between circuit and system design visions, we have divided the book contents into two major parts: Part II (Chapters 4–7) addresses mostly the circuit perspective of digital circuit design, while Part III (Chapters 8–12) presents a more system oriented vision. Part I (Chapters 1-4) provides the necessary foundation (design metrics, the manufacturing process, device and interconnect models).

Chapter 1 serves as a global *introduction*. After a historical overview of digital circuit design, the concepts of hierarchical design and the different abstraction layers are introduced. A number of fundamental metrics, which help to quantify cost, reliability, and performance of a design, are introduced.

Chapter 2 provides a short and compact introduction to the MOS manufacturing process. Understanding the basic steps in the process helps to create the three-dimensional understanding of the MOS transistor, which is crucial when identifying the sources of the device parasitics. Many of the variations in device parameters can also be attributed to the manufacturing process as well. The chapter further introduces the concept of design rules, which form the interface between the designer and the manufacturer. The chapter concludes with an overview of the chip packaging process, an often-overlooked but crucial element of the digital IC design cycle.

Chapter 3 contains a summary of the primary design building blocks, the semiconductor devices. The main goal of this chapter is to provide an intuitive understanding of the operation of the MOS as well as to introduce the device models, which are used extensively in the later chapters. Major attention is paid to the artifacts of modern submicron devices, and the modeling thereof. Readers with prior device knowledge can traverse this material rather quickly.

Chapter 4 contains a careful analysis of the *wire*, with interconnect and its accompanying parasitics playing a major role. We visit each of the parasitics that come with a wire (capacitance, resistance, and inductance) in turn. Models for both manual and computer analysis are introduced.

Chapter 5 deals with the nucleus of digital design, the *inverter*. First, a number of fundamental properties of digital gates are introduced. These parameters, which help to quantify the performance and reliability of a gate, are derived in detail for two representative inverter structures: the static complementary CMOS. The techniques and approaches introduced in this chapter are of crucial importance, as they are repeated over and over again in the analysis of other gate structures and more complex gate structures.

In **Chapter 6** this fundamental knowledge is extended to address the design of *simple and complex digital CMOS gates*, such as NOR and NAND structures. It is demonstrated that, depending upon the dominant design constraint (reliability, area, performance, or power), other

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CMOS gate structures besides the complementary static gate can be attractive. The properties of a number of contemporary gate-logic families are analyzed and compared. Techniques to optimize the performance and power consumption of complex gates are introduced.

Chapter 7 discusses how memory function can be accomplished using either positive feedback or charge storage. Besides analyzing the traditional bistable flip-flops, other sequential circuits such as the mono- and astable multivibrators are also introduced. All chapters prior to Chapter 7 deal exclusively with combinational circuits, that is circuits without a sense of the past history of the system. Sequential logic circuits, in contrast, can remember and store the past state.

All chapters preceding **Chapter 8** present a circuit-oriented approach towards digital design. The analysis and optimization process has been constrained to the individual gate. In this chapter, we take our approach one step further and analyze how gates can be connected together to form the building blocks of a system. The system-level part of the book starts, appropriately, with a discussion of *design methodologies*. Design automation is the only way to cope with the ever-increasing complexity of digital designs. In Chapter 8, the prominent ways of producing large designs in a limited time are discussed. The chapter spends considerable time on the different implementation methodologies available to today's designer. Custom versus semi-custom, hardwired versus fixed, regular array versus ad-hoc are some of the issues put forward.

Chapter 9 revisits the impact of *interconnect wiring* on the functionality and performance of a digital gate. A wire introduces parasitic capacitive, resistive, and inductive effects, which are becoming ever more important with the scaling of the technology. Approaches to minimize the impact of these interconnect parasitics on performance, power dissipation and circuit reliability are introduced. The chapter also addresses some important issues such as supply-voltage distribution, and input/output circuitry.

In Chapter 10 details how that in order to operate sequential circuits correctly, a strict ordering of the switching events has to be imposed. Without these *timing* constraints, wrong data might be written into the memory cells. Most digital circuits use a synchronous, clocked approach to impose this ordering. In Chapter 10, the different approaches to digital circuit timing and clocking are discussed. The impact of important effects such as clock skew on the behavior of digital synchronous circuits is analyzed. The synchronous approach is contrasted with alternative techniques, such as self-timed circuits. The chapter concludes with a short introduction to synchronization and clock-generation circuits.

In **Chapter 11**, the design of a variety of complex arithmetic building blocks such as adders, multipliers, and shifters, is discussed. This chapter is crucial because it demonstrates how the design techniques introduced in chapters 5 and 6 are extended to the next abstraction layer. The concept of the critical path is introduced and used extensively in the performance analysis and optimization. Higher-level performance models are derived. These help the designer to get a fundamental insight into the operation and quality of a design module, without having to resort to an in-depth and detailed analysis of the underlying circuitry.

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Chapter 12 discusses in depth the different memory classes and their implementation. Whenever large amounts of data storage are needed, the digital designer resorts to special circuit modules, called *memories*. Semiconductor memories achieve very high storage density by compromising on some of the fundamental properties of digital gates. Instrumental in the design of reliable and fast memories is the implementation of the peripheral circuitry, such as the decoders, sense amplifiers, drivers, and control circuitry, which are extensively covered. Finally, as the primary issue in memory design is to ensure that the device works consistently under all operating circumstances, the chapter concludes with a detailed discussion of memory reliability. This chapter as well as the previous one are optional for undergraduate courses.

#### Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank all those who contributed to the emergence, creation and correction of this manuscript. First of all, thanks to all the graduate students that helped over the years to bring the text to where it is today. Thanks also to the students of the eecs141 and eecs241 courses at Berkeley and the 6.374 course at MIT, who suffered through many of the experimental class offerings based on this book. The feedback from instructors, engineers, and students from all over the world has helped tremendously in focusing the directions of this new edition, and in fine-tuning the final text. The continuous stream of e-mails indicate to us that we are on the right track.

In particular, we would like to acknowledge the contributions of Mary-Jane Irwin, Vijay Narayanan, Eby Friedman, Fred Rosenberger, Wayne Burleson, Shekhar Borkar, Ivo Bolsens, Duane Boning, Olivier Franza, Lionel Kimerling, Josie Ammer, Mike Sheets, Tufan Karalar, Huifang Qin, Rhett Davis, Nathan Chan, Jeb Durant, Andrei Vladimirescu, Radu Zlatanovici, Yasuhisa Shimazaki, Fujio Ishihara, Dejan Markovic, Vladimir Stojanovic, SeongHwan Cho, James Kao, Travis Simpkins, Siva Narendra, James Goodman, Vadim Gutnik, Theodoros Konstantakopoulos, Rex Min, Vikas Mehrotra, and Paul-Peter Sotiriadis. Their help, input, and feedback are greatly appreciated. Obviously, we remain thankful to those who helped create and develop the first edition.

I am extremely grateful to the staff at Prentice Hall, who have been instrumental in turning a rough manuscript into an enjoyable book. First of all, I would like to acknowledge the help and constructive feedback of Tom Robbins, Publisher, Daniel Sandin, Production Editor, and David George, Managing Editor. A special word of thanks to Brenda Vanoni at Berkeley, for her invaluable help in the copy editing and the website creation process. The web expertise of Carol Sitea came in very handy as well.

I would like to highlight to role of computer aids in developing this manuscript. All drafts were completely developed on the FrameMaker publishing system (Adobe Systems). Graphs were mostly created using MATLAB. Microsoft Frontpage is the tool of choice for the web-page creation. For circuit simulations, we used HSPICE (Avant!). All layouts were generated using the Cadence physical design suite.

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Finally, some words of gratitude to the people that had to endure the creation process of this book, Kathelijn, Karthiyayani, Krithivasan, and Rebecca. While the generation of a new edition brings substantially less pain than a first edition, we consistently underestimate what it takes, especially in light of the rest of our daily loads. They have been a constant support, help and encouragement during the writing of this manuscript.

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