

**TAYLOR L. BOOTH**

DIGITAL  
NETWORKS  
AND  
COMPUTER  
SYSTEMS

**2nd edition**

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# **Digital Networks and Computer Systems**

Second Edition

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## Preface

A major shift has occurred in the field of the design and application of digital systems and computers. Integrated circuit technology has so sharply reduced the price of both digital computers and basic logic modules that many tasks traditionally performed by analogue circuits and systems are now carried out by digital techniques. The programmable hand calculator and microprocessor have become a commonplace engineering tool while the speed and capability of minicomputers have allowed them to replace larger computer systems in a great number of applications. As a result, many engineers and scientists have found it necessary to understand the basic operation of digital systems and how these systems can be designed if they are to carry out particular information-processing tasks associated with their work.

This trend has produced a need for an introductory undergraduate course in the digital-system area designed to provide a unified overview of the interrelationship between digital system design, computer organization, and machine-language-level programming techniques. In 1971 when the first edition of this text was published no book existed that presented such a combination of topics. The broad acceptance of the first edition has proved that the perceived need did exist. Most up-to-date computer science curriculums include one or more basic courses that provide students with an understanding of computer organization. In other areas, such as engineering, the physical or life sciences, similar courses also have been developed to provide the understanding needed to effectively employ digital devices and computers as basic laboratory tools. Students completing an introductory course based on this book are also prepared to go on to more advanced courses that specialize in one particular aspect of digital system design.

This book is organized to provide an integrated overview of the various classes of digital information-processing systems and the interrelationship between the hardware and software techniques that can be used to solve a particular problem. The unifying theme throughout the book is the concept that the steps involved in solving a problem must first be represented by an algorithm. It is then the designers task to choose the best techniques to realize the given algorithm. In some cases it is obvious that either a hardware or a software solution should be used. However, there is an ever-increasing gray area between these two approaches in which many different alternatives must be considered before the best solution can be identified. By giving the student a view of the interdependencies of logic design,

digital system design, and machine-level programming, it is possible to provide an appreciation of how all of these different areas of computer technology interact.

At the University of Connecticut this book is used in the first professional-level computer science course. Since the only prerequisite to this course is an introductory programming course, many students from areas such as engineering, mathematics, statistics, the physical sciences, the life sciences, as well as students planning on majoring in computer science take this course. This serves the dual purpose of preparing students for advanced study in the computer science area and of giving other students an overview of *digital networks and computers* beyond that presented in the introductory programming course.

All computer science and electrical engineering majors take this course as a required course. Because of scheduling considerations, most of these students take the course during the first semester of their sophomore or junior year. However, many freshmen have completed this course without difficulty since there is no specific mathematical background required of the student other than an understanding of high-school-level mathematics.

At other schools this book is suitable for an introductory digital systems course such as envisioned by the COSINE Committee of the Commission on Education of the National Academy of Engineering or for courses I3 or I6 of the ACM Curriculum 68 (Communications of the ACM, March 1968, pp. 151-197). A revised ACM curriculum recommendation is currently being developed and this text would be ideal for course CS-4\*, *Introduction to Computer Organization*, contained in that curriculum.

The sequence in which the material is presented provides an orderly and logical transition from the basic ideas of representing digital information and performing basic logical operations through the idea of complex information processing systems and programs. Chapter 1 gives a brief overview of the various topics discussed in the book and their interrelationships. Chapters 2, 3, and 4 present a discussion of the techniques that can be used to represent and operate upon information in digital form. The material in Chapters 5, 6, and 7 provide an introduction to basic switching theory and *combinational logic network design*. The main concepts of switching theory are presented in a straightforward manner without excessive formalism. This material also illustrates many of the standard logical circuits encountered in digital systems.

Chapters 8, 9, 10, and 11 deal with the idea of digital networks with memory. Several of the basic memory elements are first discussed and then the idea of a synchronous sequential network is introduced. No attempt is made to treat asynchronous networks. Chapters 10 and 11 are particularly important since they show how the simple digital networks treated in the earlier chapters can be combined to form complex digital systems.

Chapter 12 introduces the general ideas behind the operation of stored program digital computers. In particular, a special simulated educational computer,

\* Working report of ACM Committee on Curriculum in Computer Science ACM SIGCSE Bulletin Vol. 9, No. 2, June 1977.

called SEDCOM, is introduced to illustrate these ideas. SEDCOM is then used in Chapter 13 to illustrate the idea of machine-language programming and the various programming techniques that can be used to carry out different types of information processing tasks on a small computer. Chapters 14 and 15 then discuss the general structure of assembler- and procedure-oriented languages and the translator programs that can be used to transfer source-language programs into object-language programs.

At the University of Connecticut we cover the first 14 chapters in detail and briefly discuss the material in Chapter 15 as time permits at the end of the semester. Dr. Bernard Lovell of our faculty has developed a program to simulate SEDCOM on our Computer Center's IBM 360/65. We therefore require our students to actually write and run a number of home problems in Chapters 13 through 15 on this simulated computer. Students can also use special logic breadboards in our digital system laboratory to obtain additional insight into the operation of digital networks.

In order to aid the student and help the independent reader, several simple exercises are included at the end of each section to illustrate the material of that section. The answers to many of these exercises are included in Appendix 2. Several home problems are included at the end of each chapter. These problems are comprehensive in nature; they extend the material contained in the chapter and start the student thinking about one or more new concepts that will be discussed in one of the following chapters. The references at the end of the chapter guide the reader who is interested in the further exploration of a given area. A *Teacher's Manual* is available from the publisher on request for those instructors who adopt the text for classroom use.

I am indebted to the many faculty members who used the first edition of this book and who have sent me helpful suggestions about ways to improve presentations of particular topics or new material to be included. Another very important and continuing source of suggestions and comments have been from my colleagues; Bulent Dervisoglu, Bernard Carey, Yi-Tzue Chien, Thomas Gilkey, Richard Hart, Ralph Kochenberger, Bernard Lovell, Howard Sholl, and John White who have made many useful comments over the past six years as they have taught from this book. The revision of the text was made much easier by the ability of Mrs. Jean Hayden to transform my rough notes and corrections into manuscript form. Finally, I thank my wife, Aline, for her patience and encouragement throughout the whole revision process.

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## Introduction to Digital Systems

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

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Because of the increasing complexity of civilization, man has been forced to continually develop better and more efficient techniques to process and utilize information. Initial attempts at developing information processing aids centered around improving methods of carrying out mechanical manipulations of numbers. During the 17th century many of the leading mathematicians and scientists developed calculating devices to aid them in their research. As industrial technology developed during the 18th and 19th centuries, these basic ideas were refined and extended to develop complex mechanical devices that could be used to control machines and aid businessmen in performing repetitive calculations and bookkeeping tasks.

In the early 1800's Charles Babbage proposed and attempted to construct a device that he referred to as an analytical engine. Conceptually this device was similar to our modern digital computers. Although he was able to build a simple model of his machine, he was never able to complete the construction of a machine that would handle practical problems. One of the reasons for his failure was that the design called for so many moving mechanical parts that the inherent friction between the various parts prevented satisfactory operation of the complete machine. Even though Babbage failed to build a practical device, many of the concepts that he developed laid the foundation for the design concepts of modern computers.

Computers, as we know them today, have become practical only because we have been able to replace mechanical devices with electronic devices. In the late 1930's and early 1940's a series of relay computers were built through the joint effort of Harvard University, Bell Telephone Laboratories, and IBM. Although these computers operated satisfactorily, they were quickly superseded by electronic computers.

In 1946 J. P. Eckert and Dr. J. W. Mauchly developed the first electronic computer, the ENIAC, at the Moore School of Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. This computer contained 18,000 vacuum tubes. Vacuum tubes were so unreliable at that time that the predicted mean time to failure was shorter than the mean time to repair the device. Nevertheless the computer did work and was used by the U.S. Army for a number of years.

As the capability of computers and digital systems became better understood, many major technical advances were made. With the introduction of the transistor in the early 1950's, it became possible to design and construct highly reliable computers. Discrete transistor circuits have given way to integrated circuit technology. It is now possible to place thousands of electronic components on a silicon chip that is at most a few centimeters square. The most visible result of this development is the hand calculator, which can be used to carry out complex numerical calculations.

Integrated circuits have had a major impact on both the design and applications of digital networks and computer systems. Their low cost has greatly expanded the areas of application as well as reduced the price of complete computer systems. We have also reached the point where a large number of manufacturers are producing computers of various sizes and capabilities with prices that range from a few thousands to many millions of dollars.

The majority of people who come in contact with computers can be classified as occasional computer users. Their main interest is to use the computer to carry out the routine data processing task or calculations needed as part of their work. By using procedure-oriented languages such as FORTRAN, COBOL, or PL/1, these people are able to carry out data processing tasks without worrying about the internal organization or structure of the computer.

The high information processing rates of modern computers, however, makes it possible to apply computers to a variety of information processing tasks that were not even conceived of before the development of modern computers. Consequently just as engineers or scientists must understand the limitations of the physical laws of nature they must also develop an understanding and appreciation of the laws dealing with the utilization, processing, and transmission of information.

This book has been designed for the person who has reached the point where a computer is viewed as more than a calculating device to solve routine problems. Consequently we first investigate the mathematical techniques that are used to describe and analyze digital networks and systems. Next, the methods that may be used to design combinational and sequential logic networks, which are found in every digital system and computer, are presented. Once the operation of these basic building blocks is understood we then consider how they can be used to form complex data processing devices and general purpose digital computers. Finally, we consider the various types of programming systems that can be used to program a computer and how they are related to the efficiency of the overall information processing system.

## 2. ALGORITHMIC PROCESSES

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Two of the major problems in designing a complex digital information processing system concern:

1. The identification of the various fundamental information processing tasks that must be accomplished.
2. The specification of the component parts of the system needed to carry out these tasks.

From an abstract viewpoint, the complete computational process carried out by any digital information processor or computer can be formally represented by the mathematical relationship

$$F(x) = y$$

where  $x$  represents the data presented to the processor,  $F(x)$  represents the computation performed on the data and  $y$  represents the results of this computation. The computation represented by  $F(x)$  can take many forms.

In the simplest case, the processor might be a simple logic network that takes the current value of  $n$  input variables,  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]$ , and immediately produces an output  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . On the other hand, the processor might be a large-scale computer system that measures the status of a chemical production process and produces output signals to control the rate at which certain chemical reactions are allowed to take place.

For each of these information processing tasks or any other tasks that we might wish to perform, there is only one restriction that we must place on the computation represented by  $F(x)$ . We must be sure that there is an explicit and unambiguous set of instructions that tells us how to perform the computation. This set of rules is called an algorithm for the computation of  $F(x)$ .

### Algorithm

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We say that an *algorithm* for the computation  $F(x) = y$  exists if there is an ordered sequence of discrete steps that can be performed mechanically by a device such that given  $x$  the device either:

- (a) forms  $y = F(x)$  by executing these steps in the prescribed order, or
- (b) indicates that no  $y$  exists that satisfies the conditions of the computation.

The device must require only a finite number of steps to reach one or the other of these decisions.

From this definition we see that if we are to implement an algorithm on a digital device we must reduce the steps of the algorithm to a sequence of elementary operations that can be performed by the device. In some cases the device will consist of a simple digital network constructed to perform the complete computation in one step while in other cases the algorithm for the computation will be so complex that it requires a large number of steps and can only be implemented on a large-scale digital computer. We now investigate the general properties of algorithms as they relate to the design and utilization of digital information processing devices. This will, in turn, allow us to gain an insight into the interrelationship between the organization of digital networks and computers and the computational processes that can be carried out by these devices. Our first task is to define what we mean by an "elementary operation".

We automatically carry out an algorithm every time we perform a particular mathematical or logical operation. However, we seldom give any thought to the form that this algorithm takes. This is because our previous experience has taught us to associate fixed reactions and interpretations to different mathematical symbols. However, if we wish to describe how we carried out a given calculation to someone who does not have our background we must explain, in great detail, how the computation is performed.

For example assume that we wish to compute the sum of the three two-digit numbers

$$A = a_2 a_1 \quad B = b_2 b_1 \quad D = d_2 d_1$$

Normally we would probably carry out the addition in our heads, write down the answer

$$Y = A + B + D = y_3 y_2 y_1$$

and consider our problem solved. Most computers cannot simultaneously add three numbers together. They must, instead, perform the calculation in two steps as:

$$\text{Step 1} \quad R_1 = A + B$$

$$\text{Step 2} \quad Y = R_1 + D$$

Thus, if we assume that we can use the elementary operation of adding two numbers together, our calculation can be completed by using a two-step algorithm. However, consider what would happen if the computing device that we had could only add two digits at a time. Should this be the case we would have to replace both step 1 and step 2 with a sequence of steps that would describe how the two numbers are to be added together digit by digit.

The elementary operation in this case would be digit addition which can be formally defined by

$$\begin{array}{r} u_i \\ v_i \\ \hline c_i \quad s_i \end{array}$$

where  $s_i$  is the unit sum of the two digits and  $c_i$  is the carry. For example, let  $u_i = 9$  and  $v_i = 5$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ 5 \\ 1 \overline{) 4} \end{array}$$

and we see that  $c_i = 1$  and  $s_i = 4$ .

It is possible to build a device to compute the two functions

$$s_i = F_1(u_i, v_i)$$

and

$$c_i = F_2(u_i, v_i)$$

If we must use this device to compute

$$Y = A + B + D$$

they we could use the following algorithm:

Algorithm to compute		
$Y = A + B + D$		
First Part		Example of Calculation
Compute $R = A + B$		$Y = 25 + 34 + 98$
Step 1	$r_1 = F_1(a_1, b_1)$	$r_1 = 9 = F_1(5, 4)$
Step 2	$c_1 = F_2(a_1, b_1)$	$c_1 = 0 = F_2(5, 4)$
Step 3	$p_2 = F_1(a_2, b_2)$	$p_2 = 5 = F_1(2, 3)$
Step 4	$r_2 = F_1(p_2, c_1)$	$r_2 = 5 = F_1(5, 0)$
Step 5	$m_2 = F_2(a_2, b_2)$	$m_2 = 0 = F_2(2, 3)$
Step 6	$n_2 = F_2(p_2, c_1)$	$n_2 = 0 = F_2(5, 0)$
Step 7	$c_2 = F_1(m_2, n_2)$	$c_2 = 0 = F_1(0, 0)$
Second Part		
$Y = R + D$		
Step 8	$y_1 = F_1(r_1, d_1)$	$y_1 = 7 = F_1(9, 8)$
Step 9	$c'_1 = F_2(r_1, d_1)$	$c'_1 = 1 = F_2(9, 8)$
Step 10	$p'_2 = F_1(r_2, d_2)$	$p'_2 = 4 = F_1(5, 9)$
Step 11	$y_2 = F_1(p'_2, c'_1)$	$y_2 = 5 = F_1(4, 1)$
Step 12	$m'_2 = F_2(r_2, d_2)$	$m'_2 = 1 = F_2(5, 9)$
Step 13	$n'_2 = F_2(p'_2, c'_1)$	$n'_2 = 0 = F_2(4, 1)$
Step 14	$c_2 = F_1(m'_2, n'_2)$	$c_2 = 1 = F_1(1, 0)$
Step 15	$y_3 = F_1(c'_2, c_2)$	$y_3 = 1 = F_1(1, 0)$
Result		Result
$Y = y_3 y_2 y_1$		$Y = y_3 y_2 y_1 = 157$

This algorithm actually represents the following very simple addition process.

Stage 1	0	0	Carry
Compute $R = A + B$	0	2	5
	0	3	4
	0	5	9
			$R$

Stage 2	1	1	Carry
Compute $Y = R + D$	0	5	9
	0	9	8
	1	5	7
			$Y$

Thus we see that the set of basic operations that we can use affects the complexity of an algorithm. The example also illustrates how we can solve the problem. When we are working with a system there will usually be a sequence of operations that are used enough times to justify attaching a functional name to them. Thus we could define a function

$$F_S(U, V) = U + V$$

that stands for the steps needed to form the sums in the above algorithm. The algorithm then goes back to

**Step 1**  $R = F_S(A, B)$

**Step 2**  $Y = F_S(R, D)$

This idea of taking a sequence of simple operations and defining a new operation to represent this sequence is used repeatedly throughout this book. In this way we can concentrate on the important concepts being presented *without* worrying about the fine details of how each step of the process is actually implemented.

## Flowchart Representation of Algorithms

One of the most convenient ways to represent an algorithm is by means of a *flowchart* or *flow diagram*. A flowchart is a graphical representation of a particular algorithm that indicates the logical sequence of operations that are to be performed by the device that executes the algorithm. The flowchart is basically a collection of specially shaped boxes and directed lines. The contents of each box indicate which operations are to be performed while the lines that interconnect the boxes indicate the sequence in which the instructions are to be performed.

A very elaborate flowchart symbology has been evolved by computer programmers. However, for our needs in this book we will limit our flowchart symbols

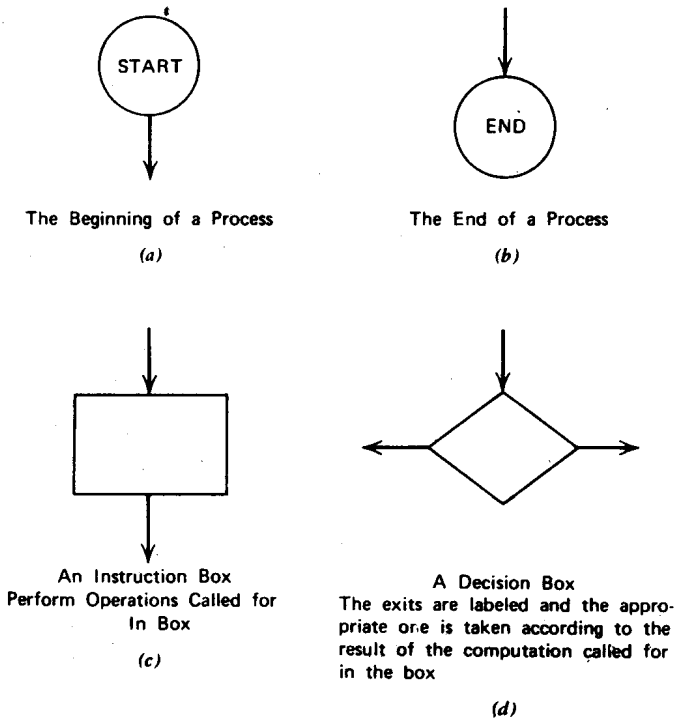


Figure 1-1. Basic flowchart notation. (a) The beginning of a process. (b) The end of a process. (c) An instruction box performs operations called for in box. (d) A decision box. The exits are labeled and the appropriate one is taken according to the result of the computation called for in the box.

to those illustrated in Figure 1-1. Reference 5 at the end of this chapter presents an extensive discussion of flowcharting techniques.

Each instruction box and decision box will contain one or more expressions describing how the basic operations are used to carry out the calculations. It is assumed that the reader has been introduced to computer programming in sufficient detail to be aware of how flowcharts are used. The following example will serve to review these ideas.

Assume that we wish to calculate the roots of the equation  $ax^2 + bx + c$ . If  $a \neq 0$  then these roots are given by

$$r_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad r_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

The simplest possible flowchart for finding  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  is given in Figure 1-2. However, if we examine this flowchart we see that it is not much different from our



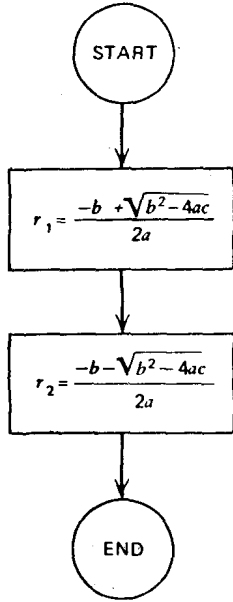


Figure 1-2. A simple flowchart for computing  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ .

initial statement of the problem. In particular, it assumes that we have two basic operations corresponding to

$$f_1(a, b, c) = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

and

$$f_2(a, b, c) = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

that can be evaluated to find  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ . Since these two functions are somewhat specialized, it becomes desirable to break the calculation down into smaller parts. Before we can do this, we must consider some of the problems that must be overcome.

First, we note that if  $a = 0$  we have

$$r_1 = r_2 = -\frac{c}{b}$$

provided we always assume that  $b$  is not also 0. Similarly we note that if  $b^2 - 4ac \geq 0$  then the roots are real, while if  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$  we have the imaginary roots

$$r_1 = \frac{-b + j\sqrt{4ac - b^2}}{2a} \quad r_2 = \frac{-b - j\sqrt{4ac - b^2}}{2a}$$