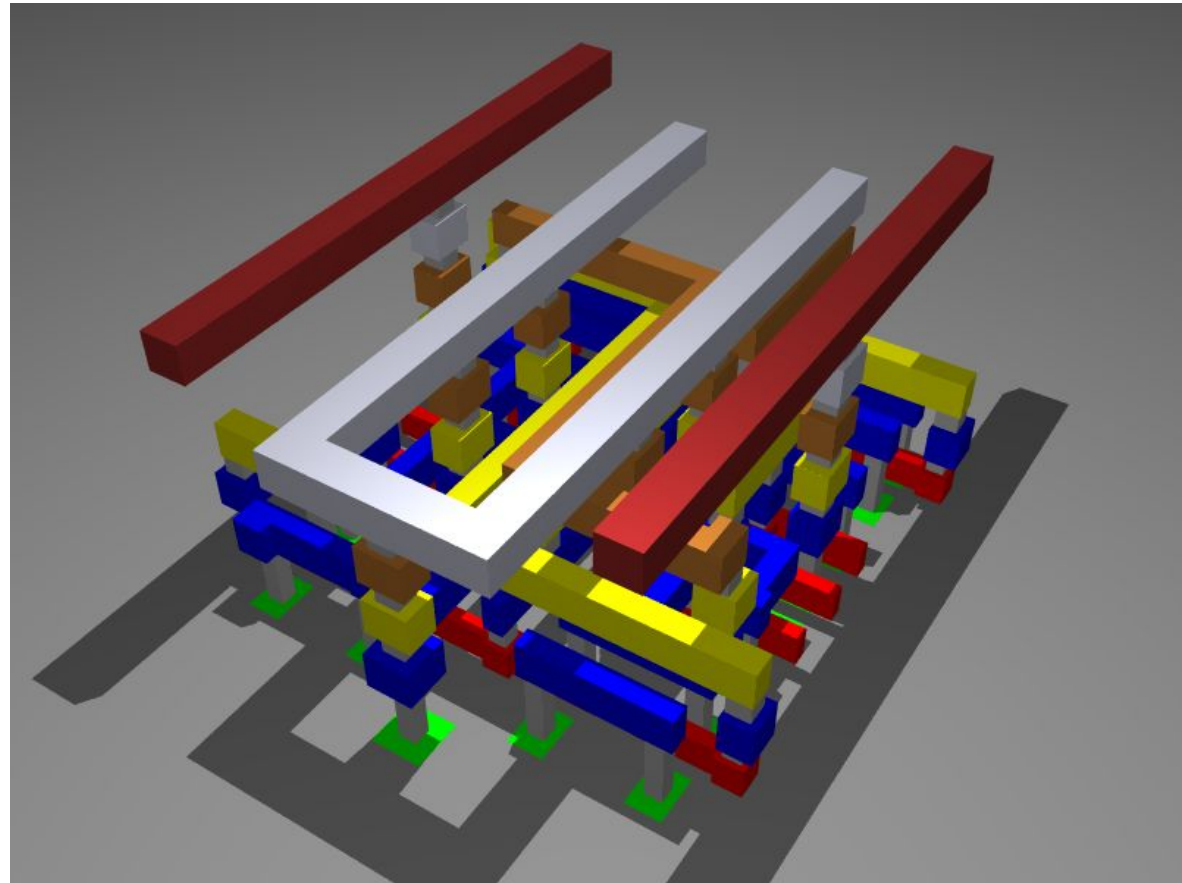


MODULE 6



SEQUENTIAL ELEMENTS

P	7.1	Introduction	326 – 327
P	7.1.1	Timing Metrics for Sequential Circuits	327 – 328
P	7.1.2	Classification of Memory Elements	328 – 330
	7.2	Static Latches and Registers	330
P	7.2.1	The Bistability Principle	330 – 332
P	7.2.2	Multiplexer-Based Latches	332 – 333
P	7.2.3	Master-Slave Edge-Triggered Register	333 – 335
I		Timing Properties of Multiplexer-Based Master	335 – 339
O	7.2.4	Low-Voltage Static Latches	339 – 341
P	7.2.5	Static SR Flip-Flops — Writing Data by Pure Force	341 – 344
I	7.3	Dynamic Latches and Registers	344
I	7.3.1	Dynamic Transmission-Gate Edge-Triggered Registers	344 – 346
O	7.3.2	C2MOS — A Clock-Skew Insensitive Approach	346 – 350
O	7.3.3	True Single-Phase Clocked Register (TSPCR)	350 – 354
O	7.4	Alternative Register Styles	354 – 358
P	7.5	Pipelining: An Approach to Optimize Sequential Circuits	358 – 360
P	7.5.1	Latch versus register based pipelines	360
O	7.5.2	NORA-CMOS A logic style for pipelined circuits	361 – 363
	7.6	Nonbistable Sequential Circuits	
P	7.6.1	The Schmitt Trigger	364 – 367
O	7.6.2	Monostable Sequential Circuits	367 – 368
I	7.6.3	Astable Circuits	368 – 370
O	7.7	Perspective: Choosing a Clocking Strategy	370 – 371
P	7.8	Summary	371 – 372

§ 7.5 Will be discussed with module 08 timing design

Sequential Elements - Outline

■ Background

- Timing, terminology, classification

■ Static Flipflops

- Latches
- Registers

■ Dynamic Flipflops

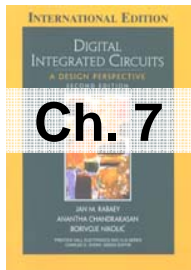
- Latches
- Registers

■ Non-bistable elements

- Schmitt Trigger

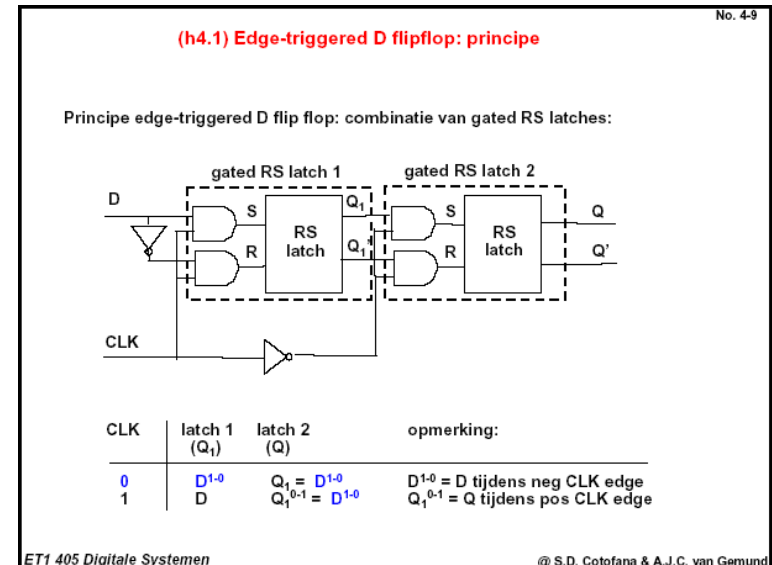
■ Much of this material has already been covered in **DS1 (v Genderen), Brown Ch. 7**

■ Here we will add **transistor-level** implementation

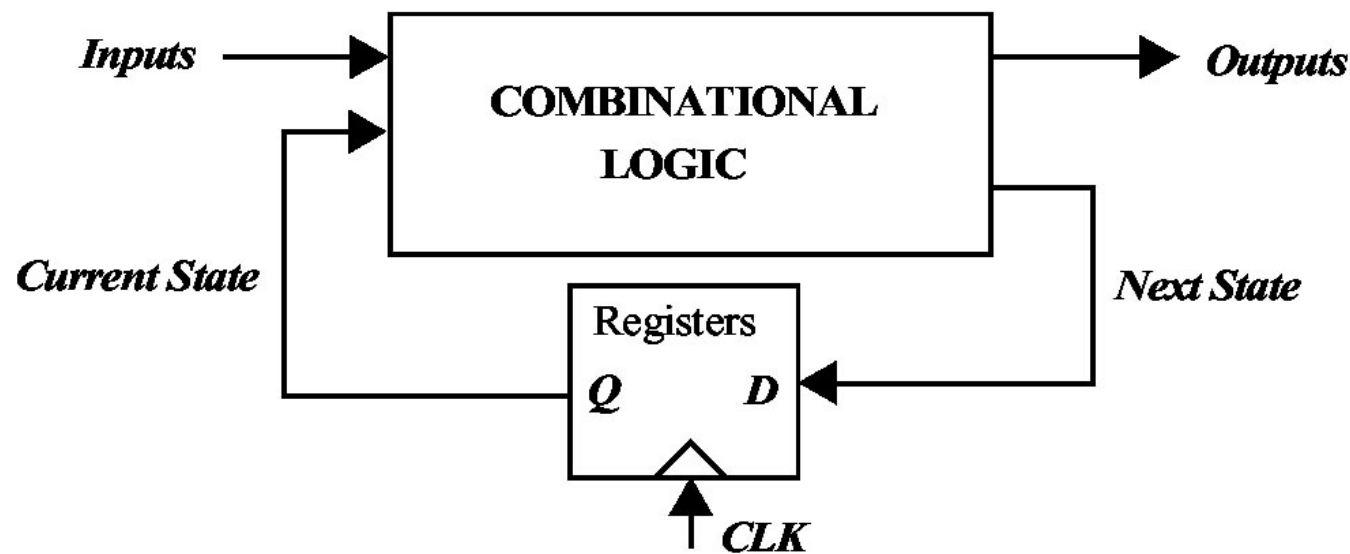


**Brown
Ch. 7**

[Sorin Cotofana]



FSM with Positive Edge Triggered Registers



- Flip-flops provide **memory/state**
- VLSI uses predominantly **D-type flip-flops**

Memory elements

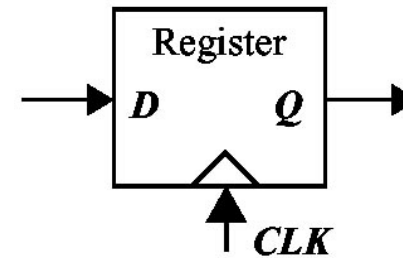
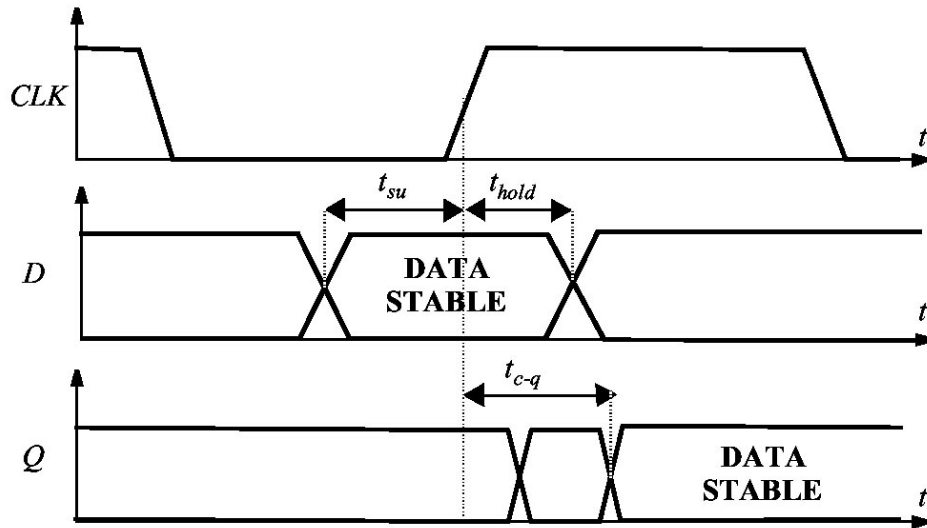
- Store a **temporary value**, remember a **state**
- Typically controlled by **clock**.
- May have load signal, etc.
- In CMOS, memory is created by:
 - **capacitance** (dynamic);
 - **feedback** (static).

- Also see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flip-flop_\(electronics\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flip-flop_(electronics))

Variations in memory elements

- **Form of required clock signal.**
- **How behavior of data input around clock affects the stored value.**
- **When the stored value is presented to the output.**
- **Whether there is ever a combinational path from input to output.**

Timing Metrics Reminder



t_{c-q} : delay from clock (edge) to Q

t_{su} : setup time

t_{hold} : hold time

t_{plogic} : worst case propagation delay of logic

t_{cd} : best case propagation delay
(contamination delay)

T : clock period

$$T \geq t_{c-q} + t_{plogic} + t_{su}$$

$$t_{cdregister} + t_{cdlogic} \geq t_{hold}$$

Nomenclature

Beware for confusion

	Brown (CS1)	Rabaey
Latch	Level sensitive storage element	Level sensitive storage element
Register	Group of storage elements	Edge triggered storage element
Flip Flop	Edge triggered storage element	Bistable element using feedback

$$CLK = CK = \phi$$

Latches vs. Registers

Latch

Level-sensitive

Transparent when clock is active

Clock active high:
positive latch

Clock active low:
negative latch

Faster, smaller

Register

Edge-triggered

Input and output **isolated**

Sampling on 0 → 1 clock:
positive edge triggered

Sampling on 1 → 0 clock:
negative edge triggered

Safer

Static vs. Dynamic Memory Elements.

Static

Operate through **positive feedback**

Preserve state as long as power is on

Can work when clock is **off**

More **robust**

Dynamic

Store charge on (parasitic) capacitor

Charge **leaks** away (in milliseconds)

Clock must be kept **running** (for periodic refresh)

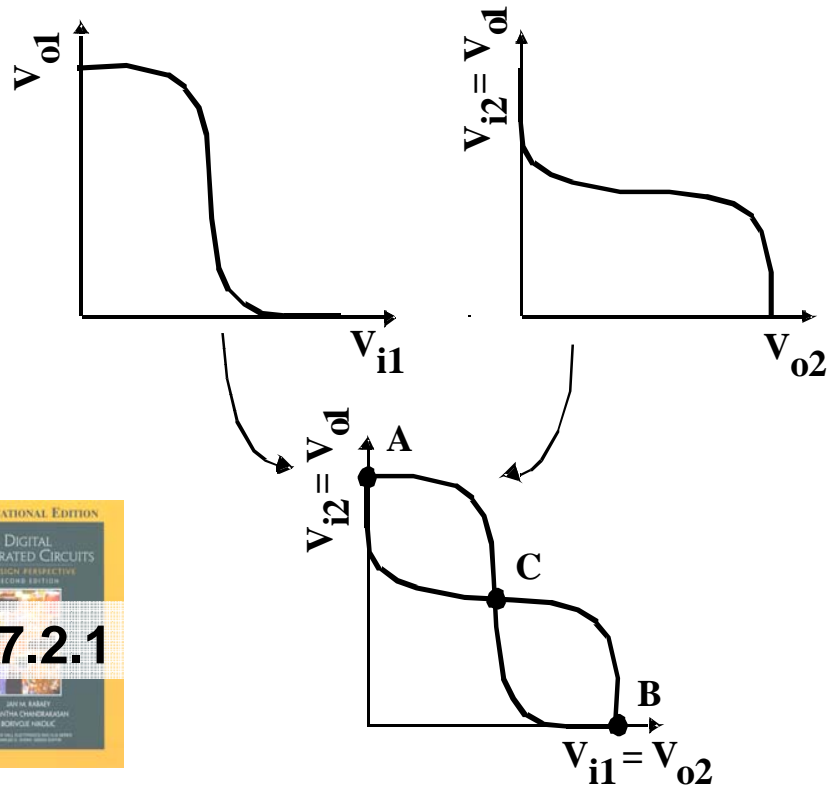
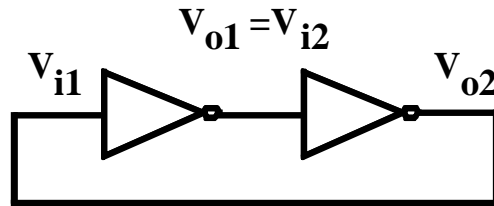
Faster, smaller

Rabaey: bistable elements are called Flip Flops

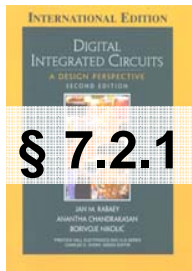
Static Latches and Registers

- Latches → can be gated or not
- Registers

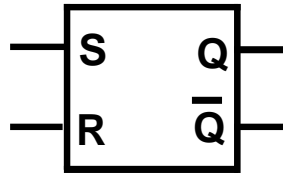
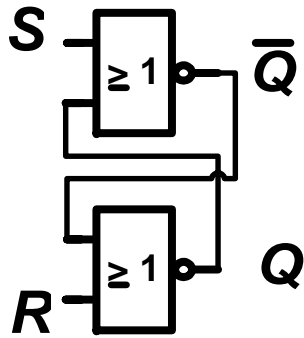
Positive Feedback: Bi-Stability



- |Loop-gain| in A,B $\ll 1$
- A,B: **stable** points
- |Loop-gain| in C $\gg 1$
- C: **meta-stable** point

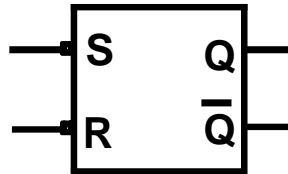
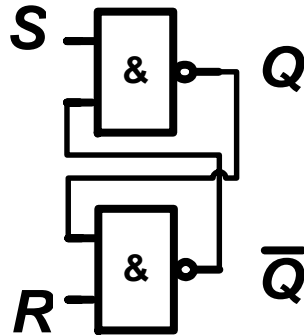


SR-Latch



S	R	Q	Q̄
0	0	Q	Q̄
1	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0

← forbidden

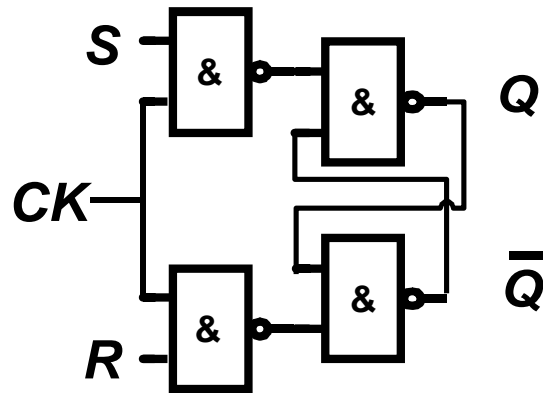


S	R	Q	Q̄
1	1	Q	Q̄
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
0	0	1	1

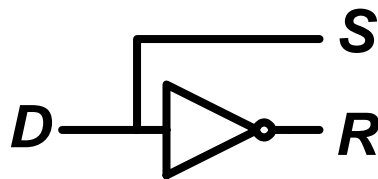
← forbidden



Clocked SR-Latch

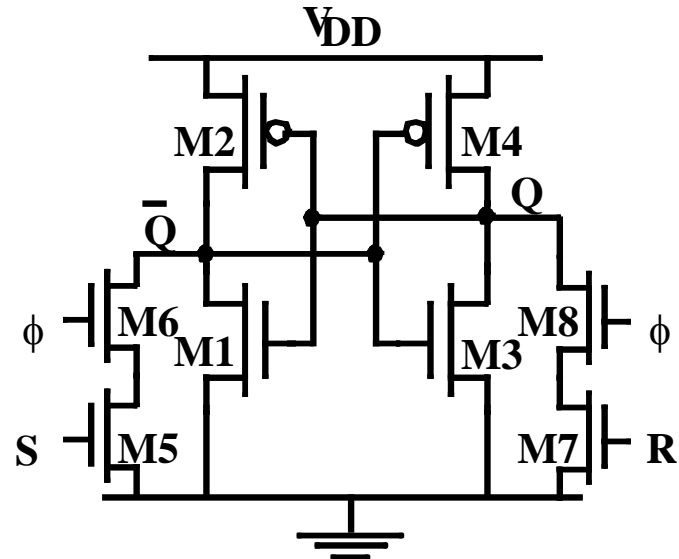
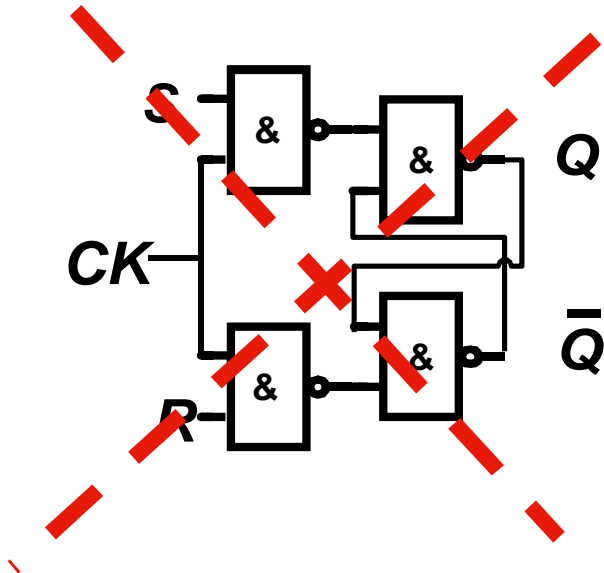


- Katz: gated latch
- **Positive** latch (active on CK high)
- Naïve implementation
- 16 transistors
- D latch requires **9xN, 9xP**
- Larger **area, cost, power**



- Construction of **D-latch**
- D-latch, D-register most **common** in **VLSI**

CMOS Clocked SR-Latch



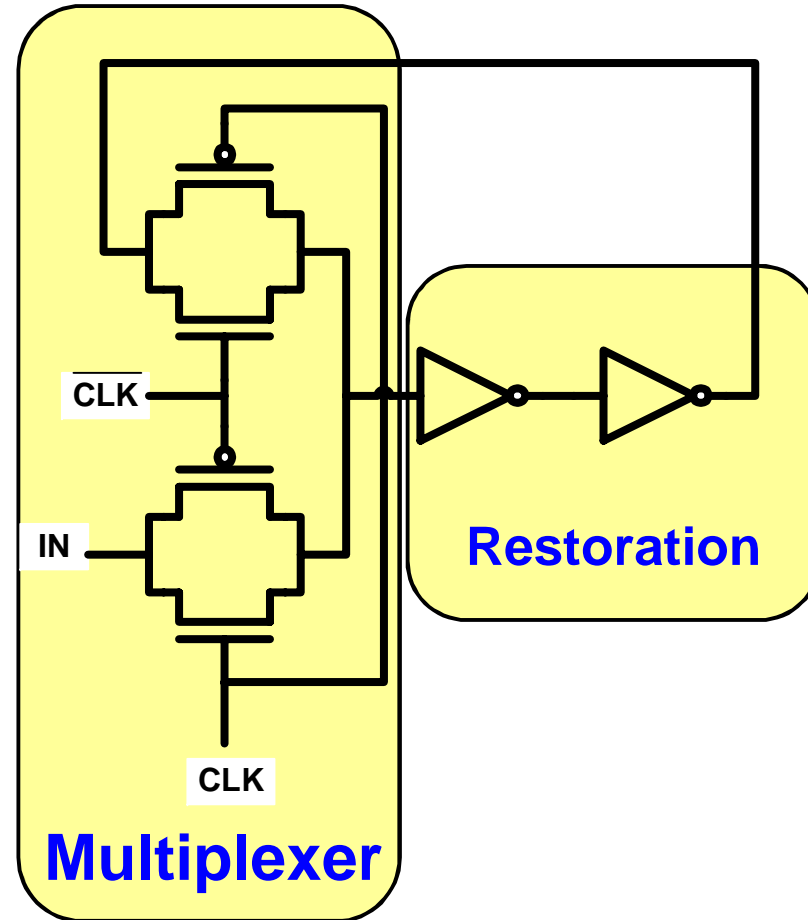
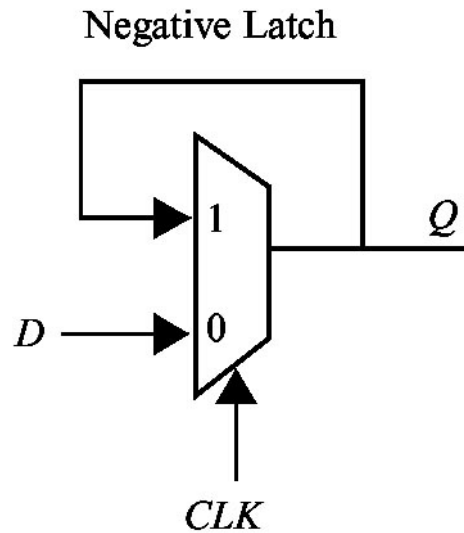
$$\phi = CK$$

- Save 6 PMOS transistors and 2 NMOS
- D-latch requires 7 x N, 3 x P (instead of 9xN, 9xP)

Q: Is this a **ratioed** design or not?
Does it consume static power?



Multiplexer-Based Latches

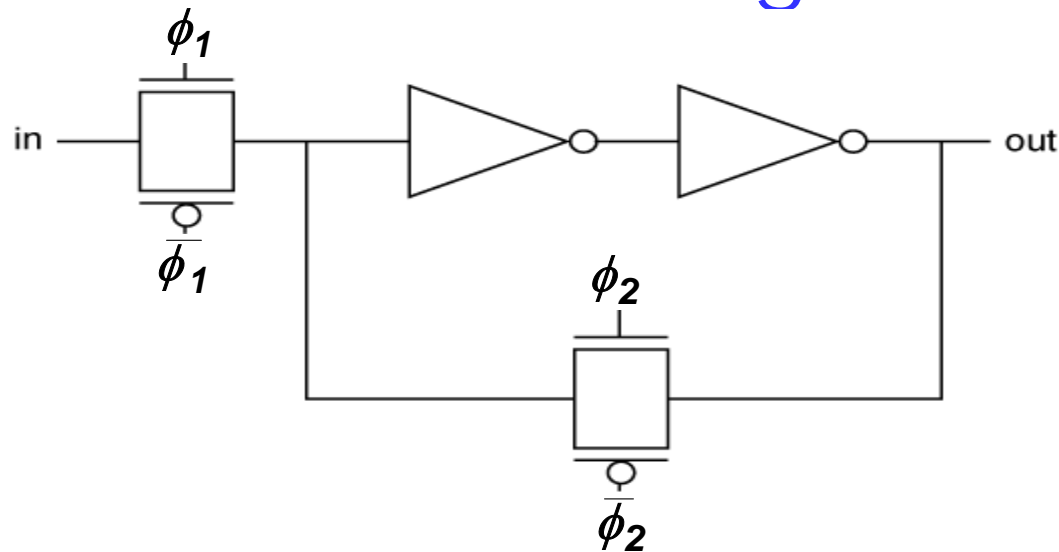


Recirculating latch



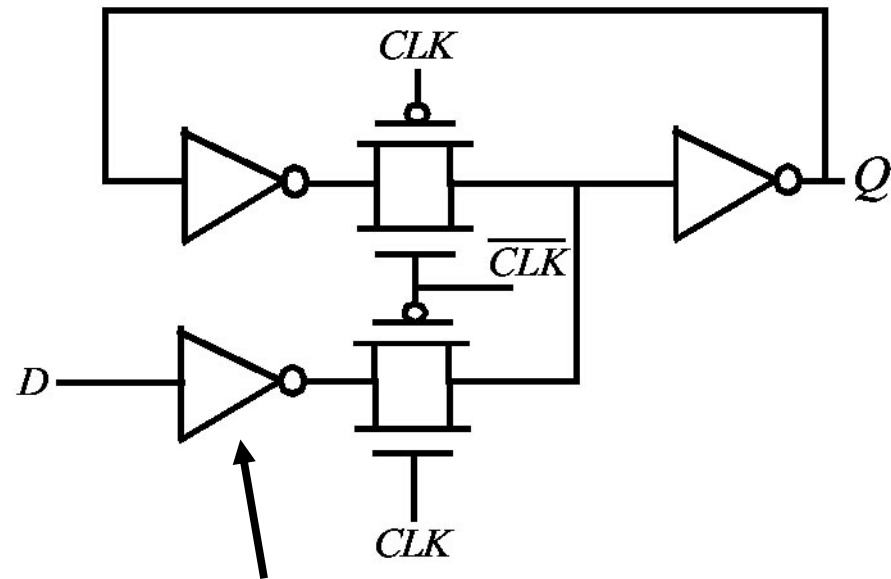
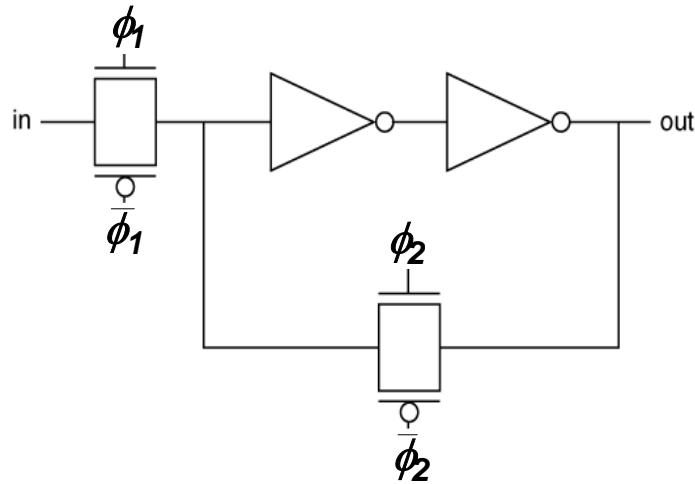
Mux-based latches much more common in modern dig. IC's

Recirculating latch



- **Quasi-static**, static on one phase
- Feedback **restores** value
- Requires $4 \times N$, $4 \times P$, minimum size
(compare $7 \times N$, $3 \times P$, non-minimum size)
- ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 inverse but should be non-overlapping
- Can suffer from **charge sharing** (when ϕ not non-overlapping)
 C_{in} and C_{load} form communicating vessels when Output connected directly to input

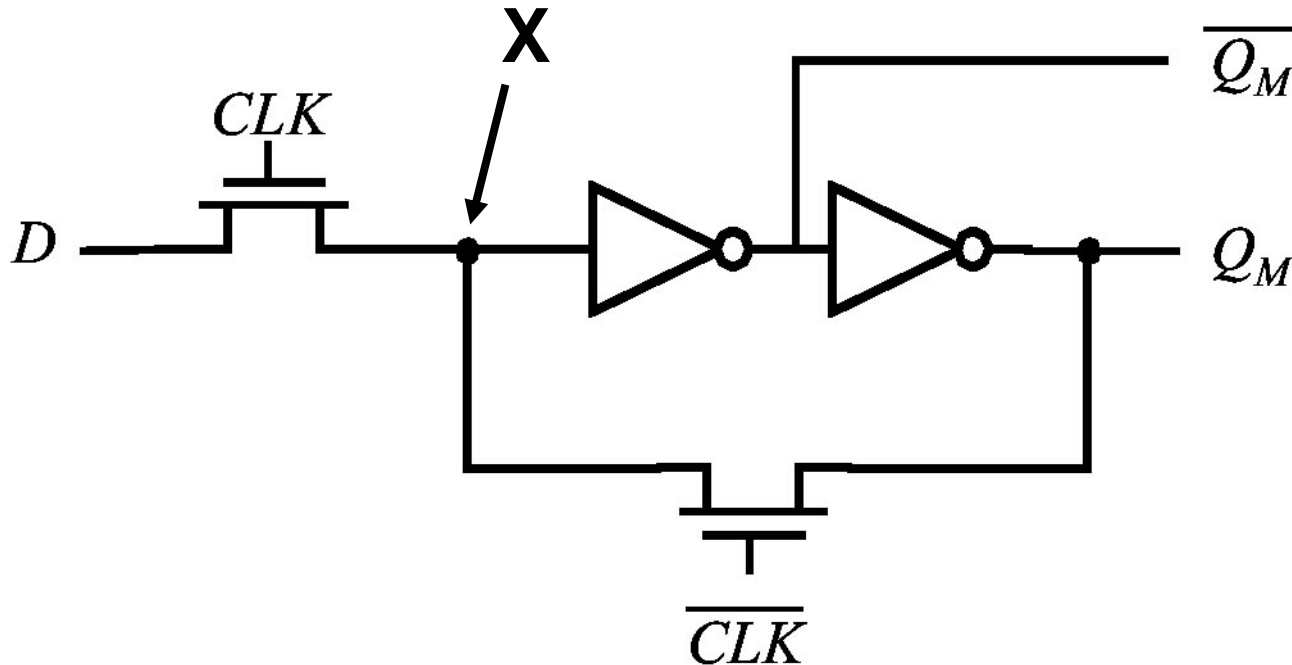
In insensitive for Charge Sharing



- Non ratioed
- High load to CLK

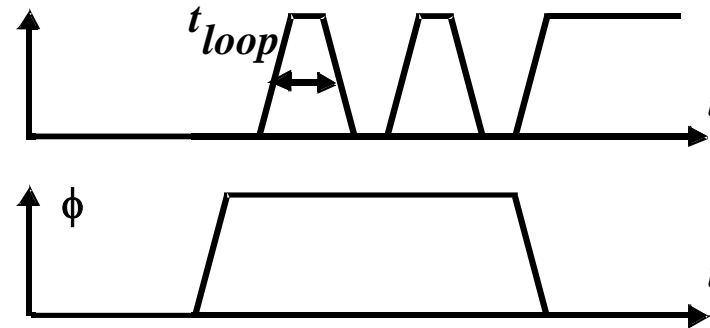
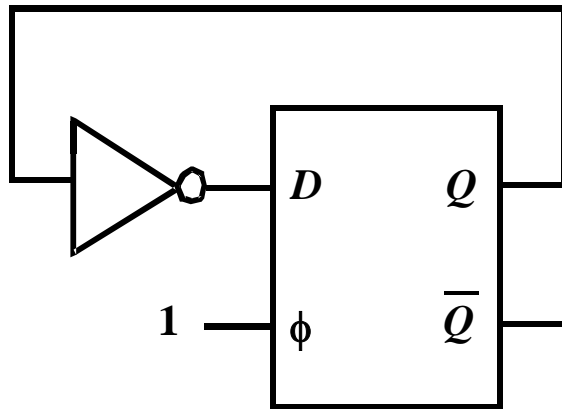
Uni-directionality of this inverter prevents coupling between Q and D

Recirculating NMOS Latch.



- Degraded 1 at X
- Lower noise margin, higher delay, power

Latch Designs can Suffer from Race Problems

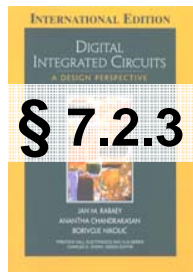
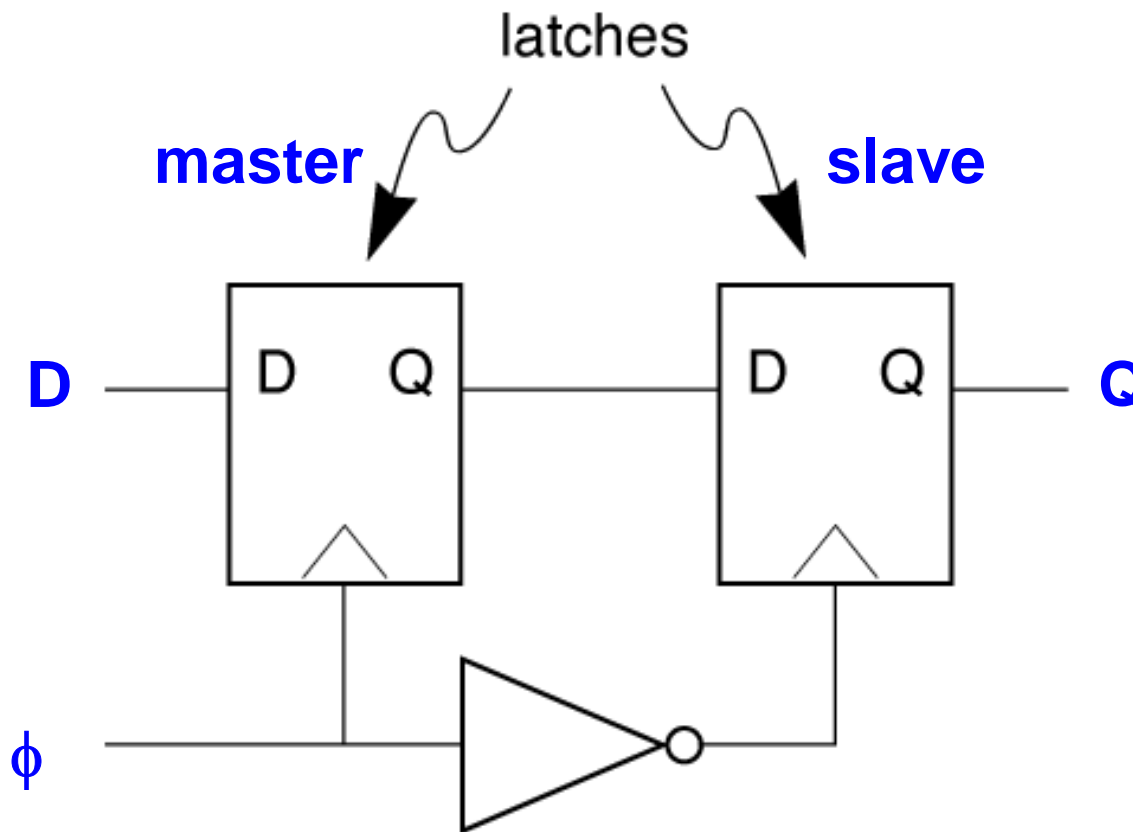


Signal can **race around** during $\phi = 1$

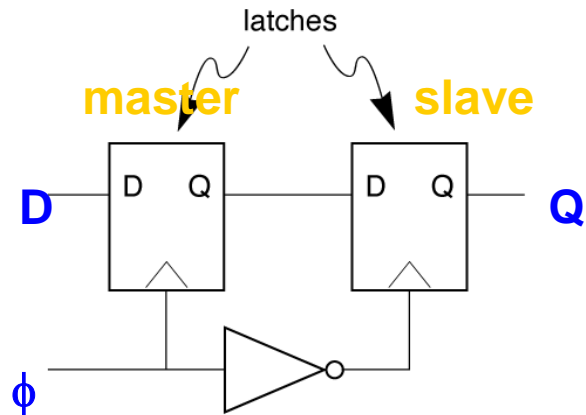


Registers

- Not transparent—use multiple storage elements to isolate output from input.
- Master-slave, edge triggered principle



Master-slave operation



$\phi = 0$:

- master latch is disabled;
- slave latch is enabled,
- but master latch output is stable,
- so output does not change.

$\phi = 1$:

- master latch is enabled,
- loading value from input;
- slave latch is disabled,
- maintaining old output value.

CMOS Flip-Flop Construction

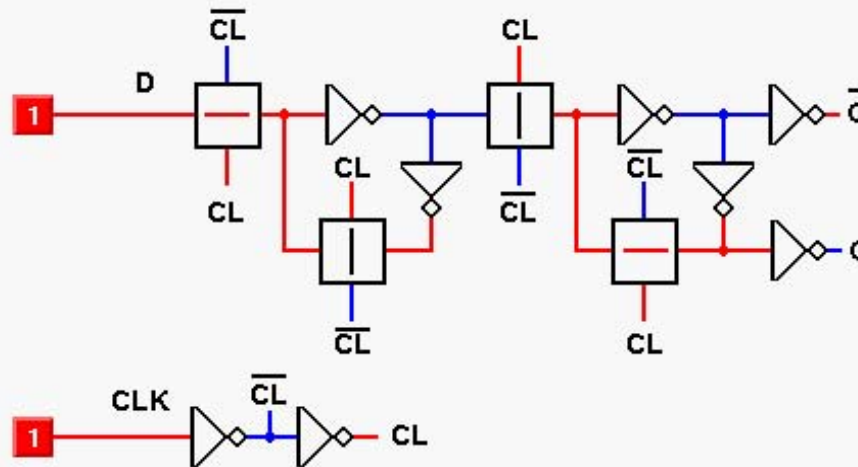
CMOS technology allows a very different approach to flip-flop design and construction. Instead of using logic gates to connect the clock signal to the master and slave sections of the flip-flop, a CMOS flip-flop uses *transmission gates* to control the data connections. (See the [CMOS gate electronics page](#) for a closer look at the transmission gate itself.)

The result is that a controllable flip-flop can be built with only inverters and transmission gates — a very small and simple structure for an IC.

The basic CMOS D flip-flop is shown below.

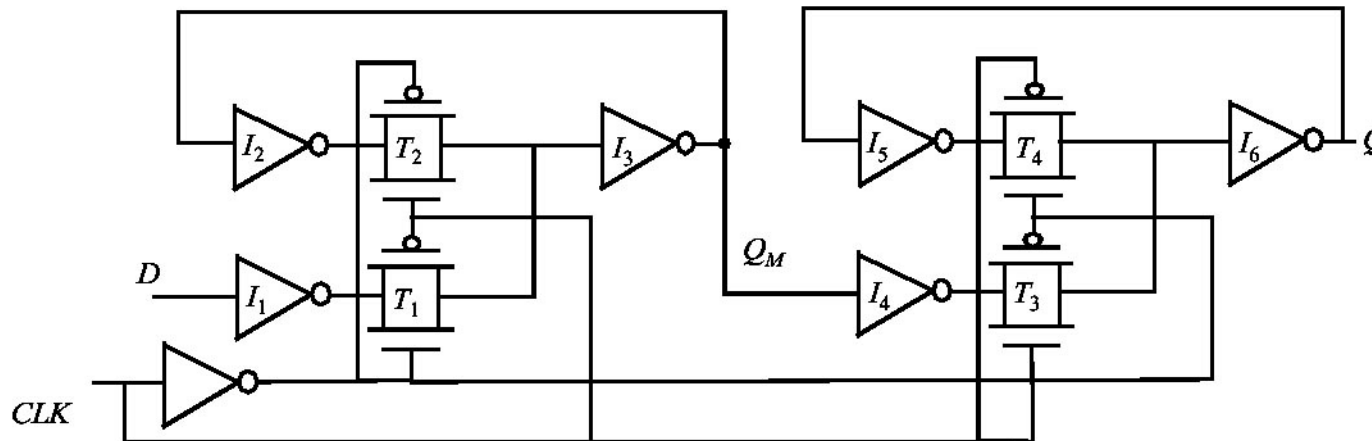
www.play-hookey.com

clickable



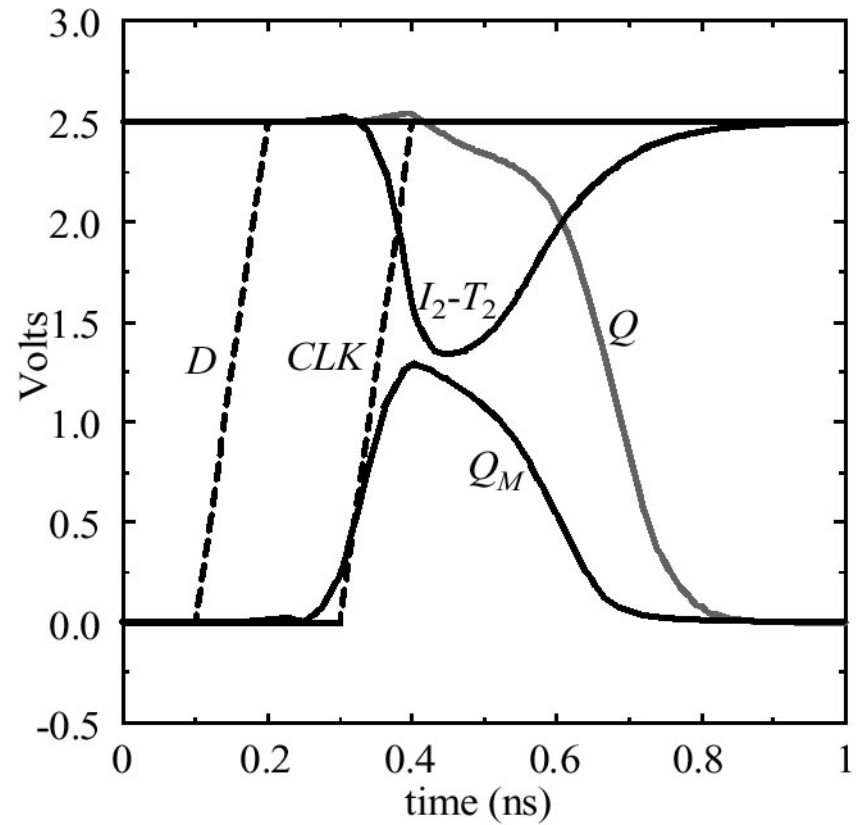
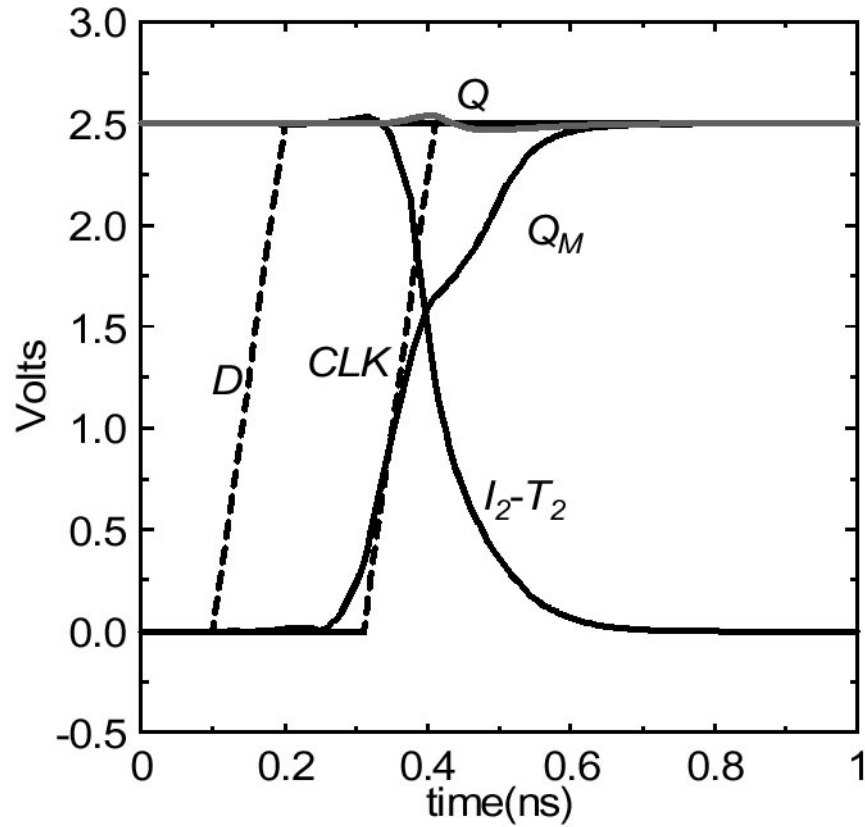
link

Transistor Level Master Slave Positive Edge Triggered Register



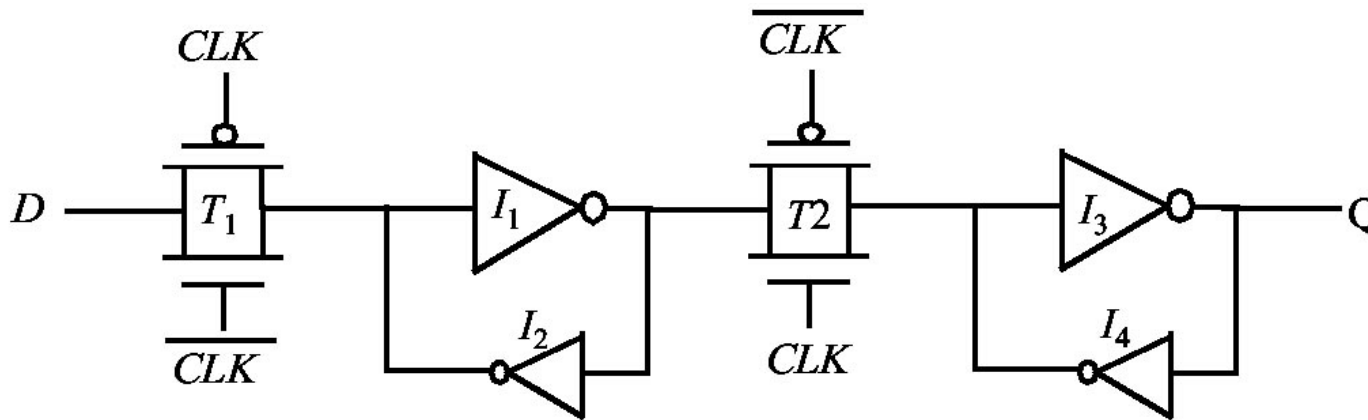
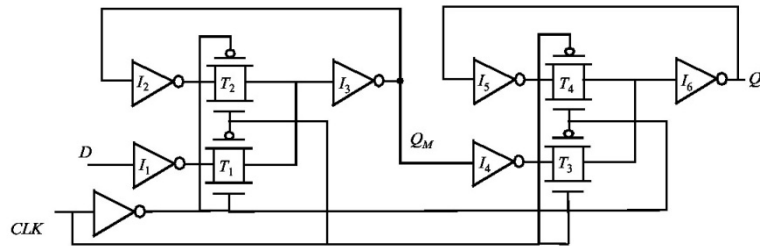
- **Robust Design**
- **Can eliminate I_1 and I_4 , however, they make design more robust (avoid charge sharing, robust input)**
- **High Clock Load (8 x)**

Set-up Time Simulation



**Slightly smaller delay
between D and CLK**

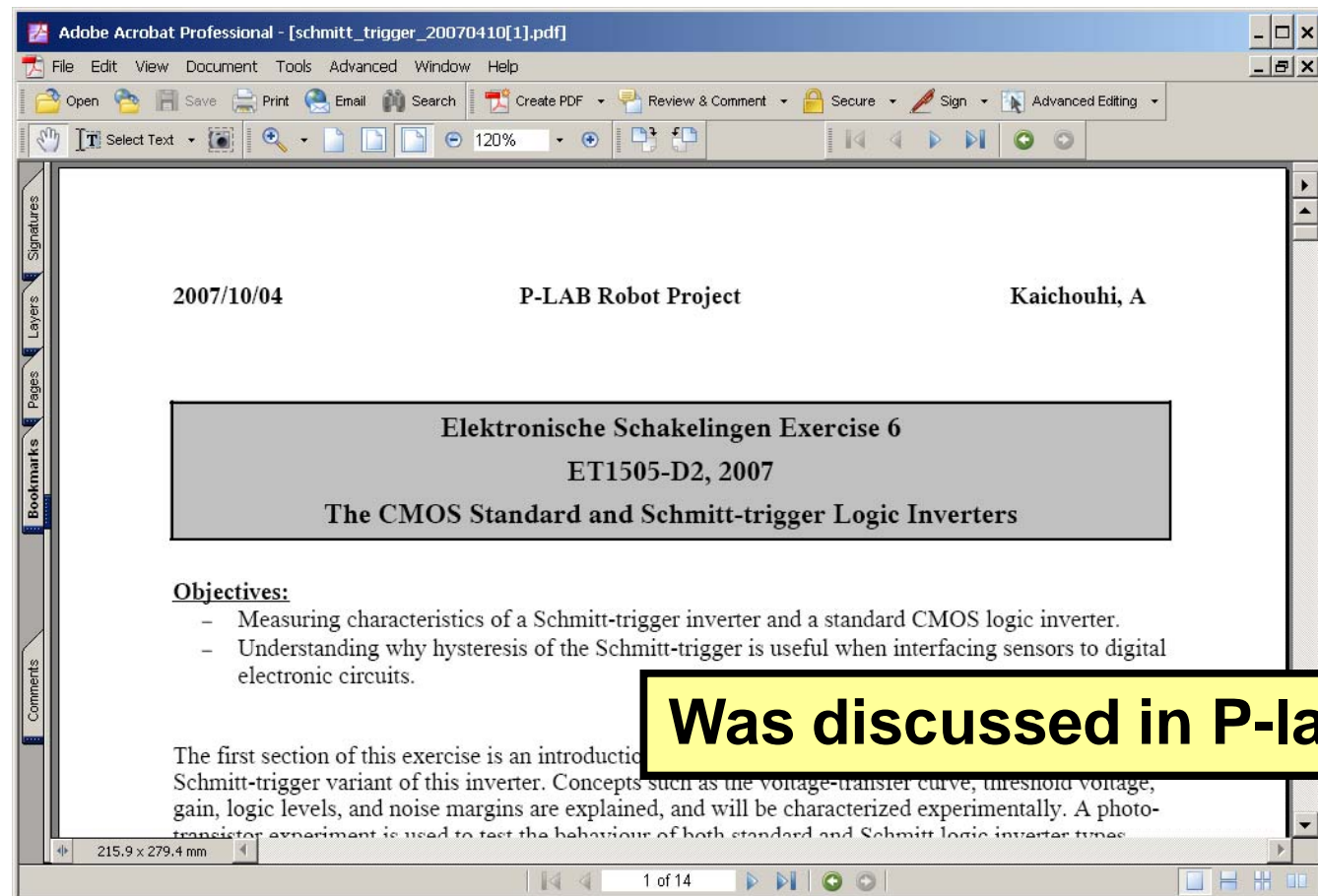
Ratioed Reduced Clock Load Register.



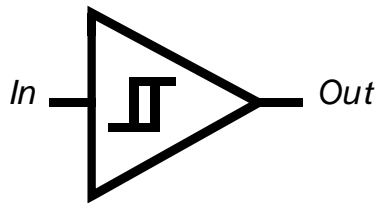
- I_2 and I_4 are small, even long
- Lower clock load
- Increased design complexity
- Reduced robustness (reverse conduction)

Non-bistable Elements

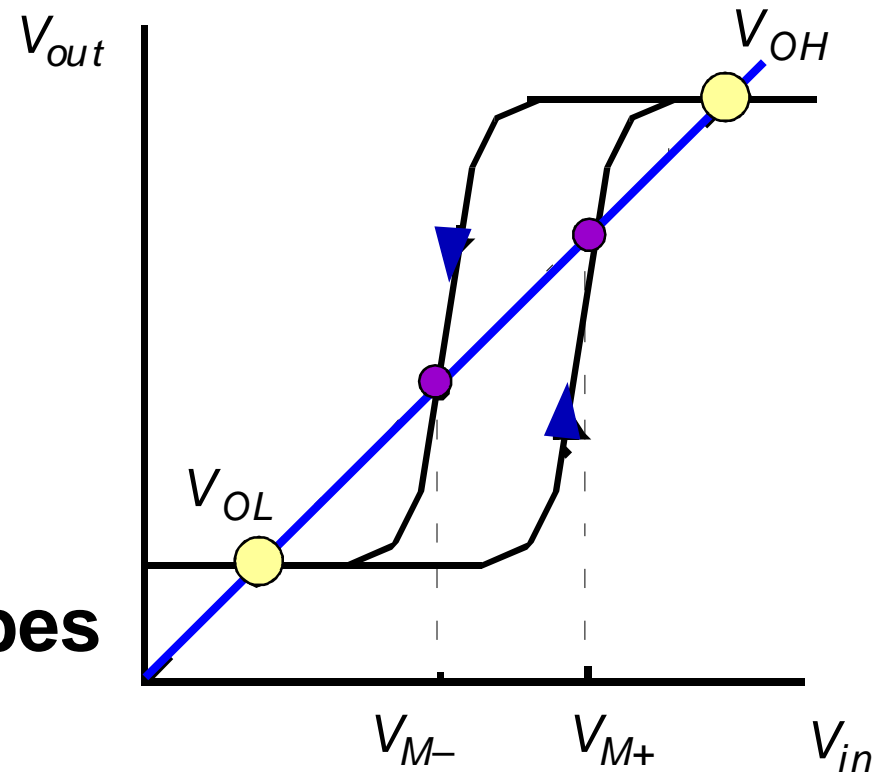
■ Schmitt Trigger



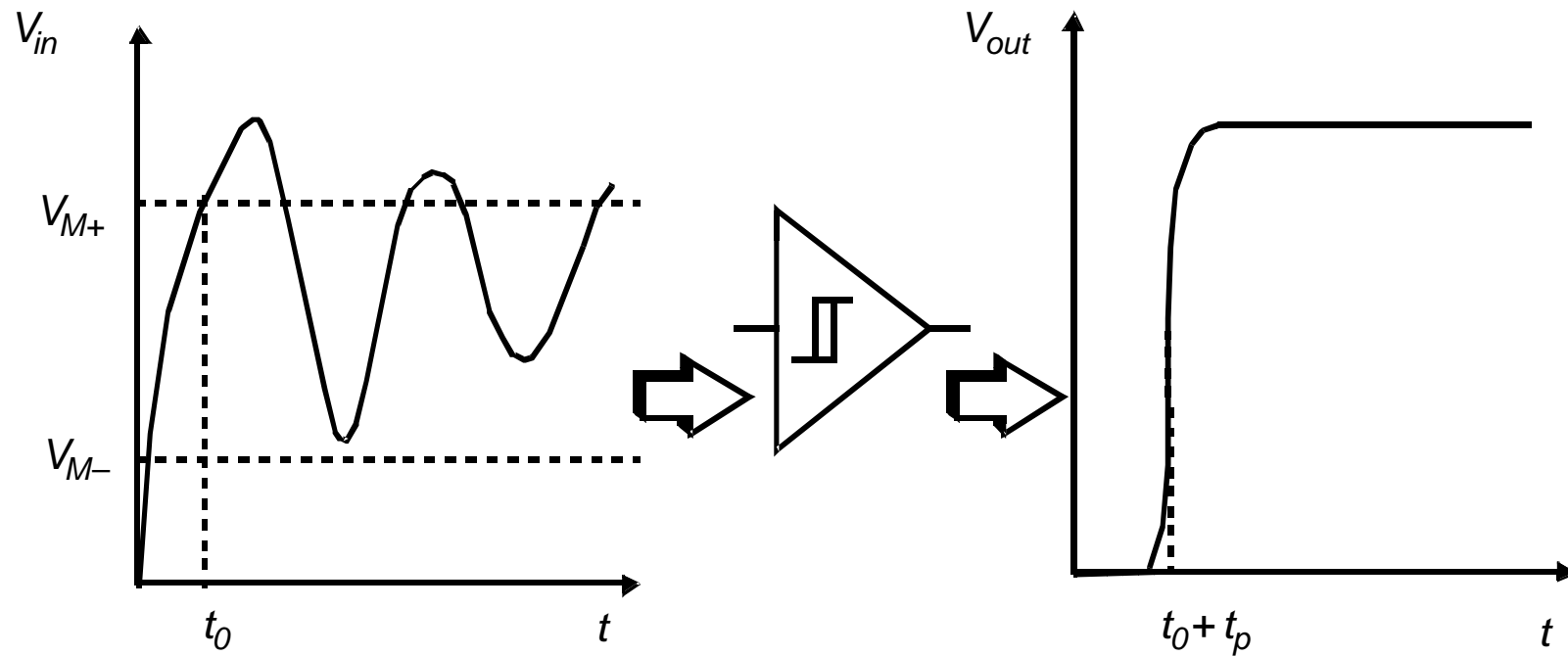
Schmitt Trigger



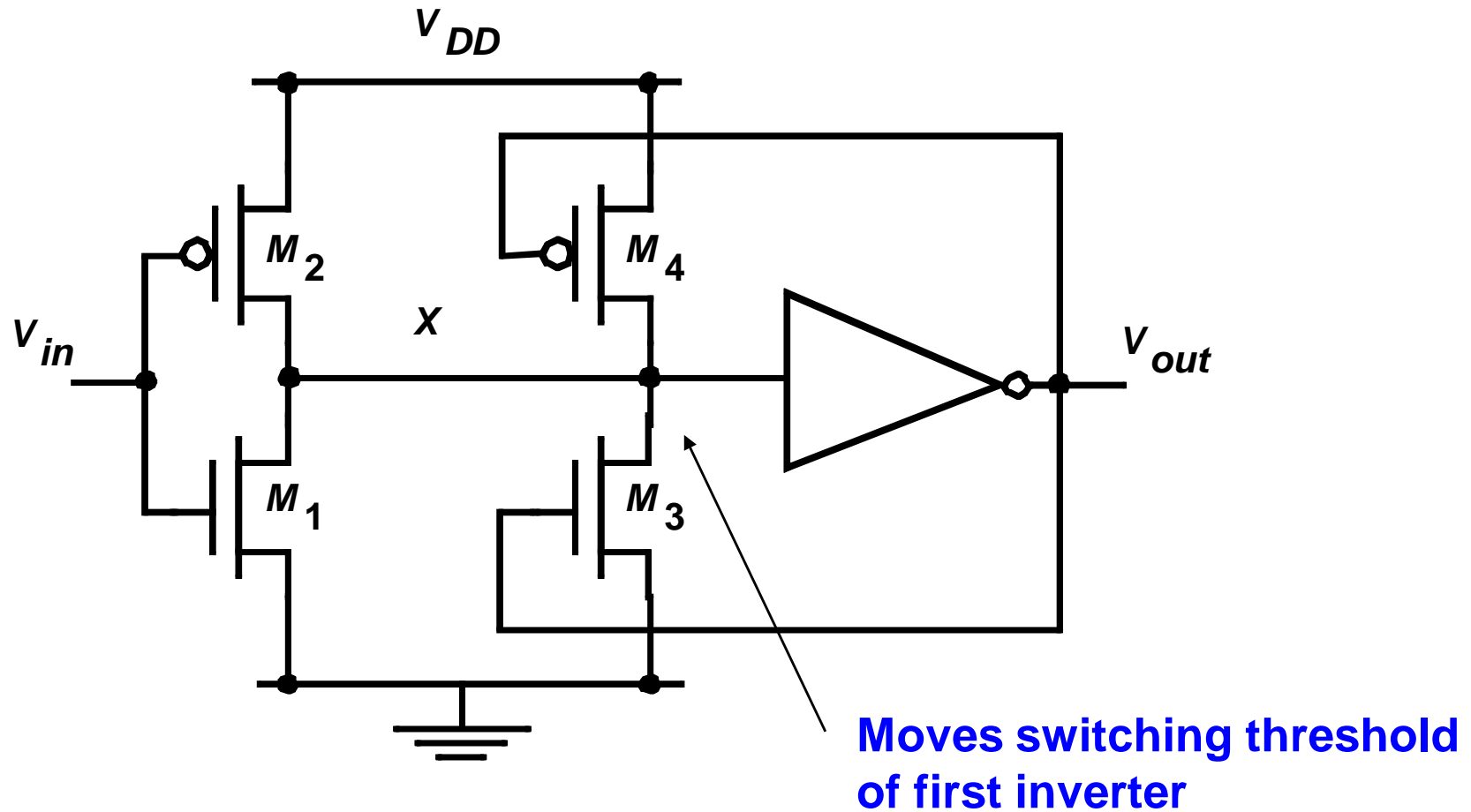
- VTC with hysteresis
- Restores signal slopes



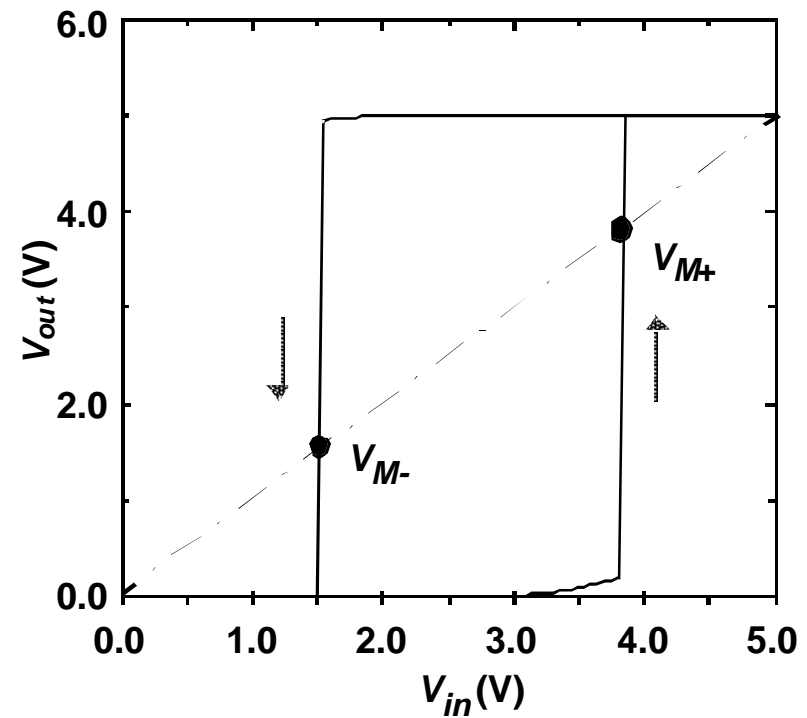
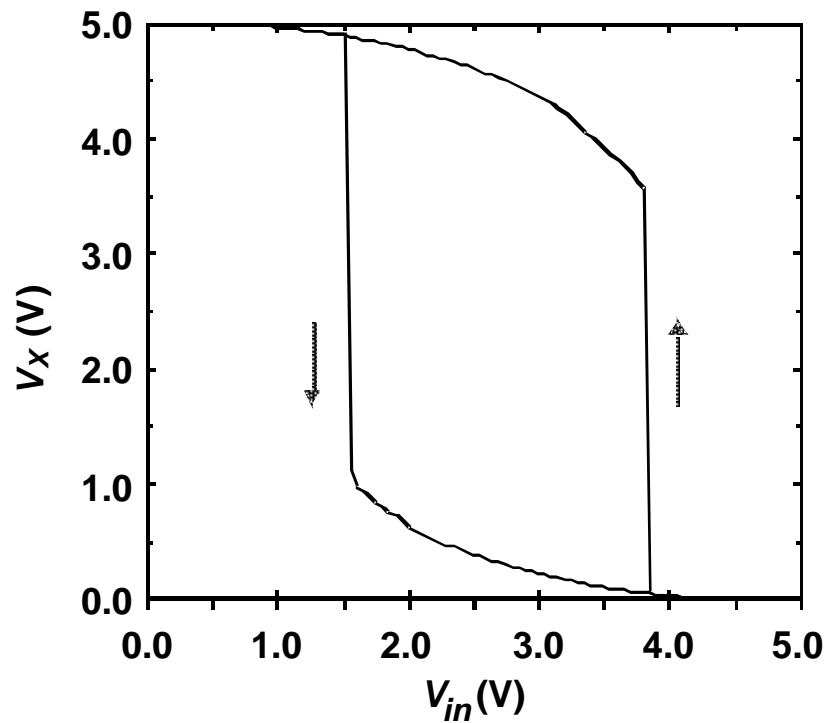
Noise Suppression using Schmitt Trigger



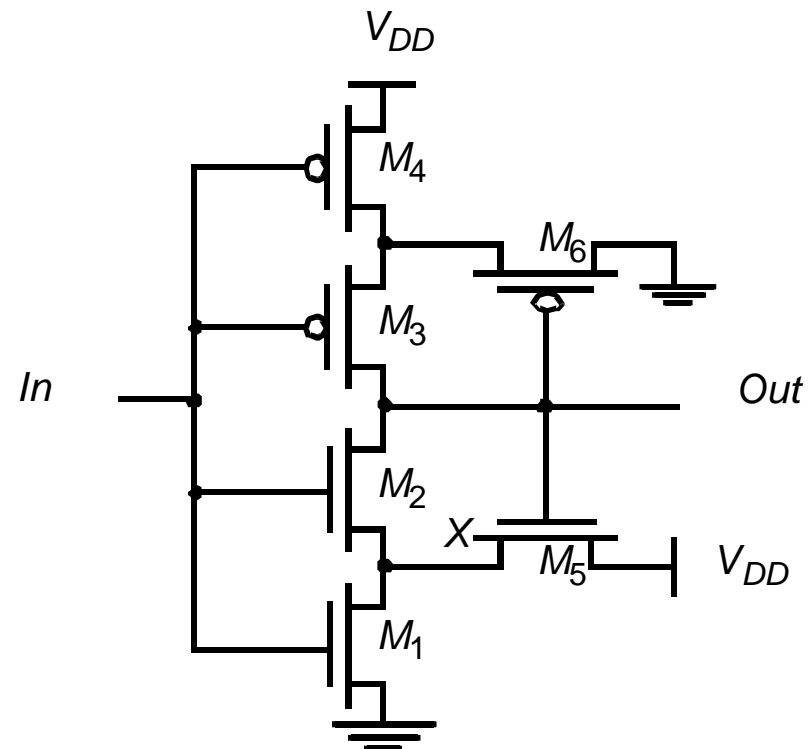
CMOS Schmitt Trigger



Schmitt Trigger Simulated VTC



CMOS Schmitt Trigger (2).



Summary

- **Background**

- **Timing, terminology, classification**

- **Static Flipflops**

- **Latches**

- **Registers**

- **Dynamic Flipflops**

- **Latches**

- **Registers**

- **Non-bistable elements**

- **Schmitt Trigger**