

DESIGNING FULL ADDER USING n-NOR BASED THRESHOLD LOGIC GATES

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ABSTRACT

Reduced energy efficiency has always been the major aim of the custom and automated digital circuit design techniques. Although expanding nano-devices are expected to replace the existing MOSFET devices, they are far from being as mature as semiconductor devices and their full potential and promise are many years away from being practical. The research described in this exposition consists of four main parts. It is a new circuit architecture of a differential threshold logic flip-flop called n-NOR. The NNOR gate is an edge-triggered multi-input sequential cell whose next state function is a threshold function of its inputs. A new approach, called hybridization, that replaces flip flops and parts of their logic comes with n-NOR cells is described. The resulting hybrid circuit, which consists of conventional logic cells and n-NORs, is shown to have significantly less power consumption, smaller area, less standby power and less power variation. Another proposed logic is implementation of combinational logic circuits like Half adder and Full adder using the designed n-NOR cell.

Keywords: n-NOR, standard cell, Half adder, Full adder, Threshold Logic Gate

I. INTRODUCTION

Efforts to reduce power consumption of digital CMOS circuits have been in progress for nearly three decades. As a result, a number of well understood and proven techniques for reducing dynamic and leakage power have been incorporated into modern design practices and tools. For instance, some of the ways to reduce dynamic power include logic synthesis and restructuring to reduce switching activity, gate sizing, technology mapping, retiming, and voltage scaling, and so on. Similarly, the uses of dual supply and device threshold voltages, adaptive body biasing, clock and power gating, transistor stacking, and so on are some of the well-known ways to reduce the power due to leakage. Thus, it appears that the techniques for reducing power at the logic and circuit levels have been thoroughly explored, leaving little opportunity for improvement. Consequently, the focus has shifted to the higher levels of design, including power-efficient micro architectures, memory, compilers, and OS, and system level control, including thermal-aware dynamic frequency and voltage control, thread migration among processor cores, and so on. One aspect of digital CMOS circuits that has not changed is how logic functions are computed. A CMOS application-specified integrated circuit (ASIC) using static logic is a multilevel network of AND/OR logic gates or more complex cells, in which each node computes a Boolean function of its inputs by establishing a conducting path from the supply rails to its output. However, there exists a proper subset of unate Boolean functions, called threshold functions, which can be fundamentally computed by

different mechanisms, which presents the possibility of further improvements in power consumption, performance, and area, which has not been sufficiently explored. As a hard work to reduce power delay of digital CMOS circuits have been in progress for nearly three decades. As a result, a number of well understood and proven techniques for low power energy, efficient flip flop design using threshold Logic has been incorporated into new design software tools. For us, some of the customs to reduce dynamic power include logic synthesis and restructuring to reduce switching activity, gate sizing, technology Mapping, retiming, voltage scaling, and so on. Similarly, the uses of dual supply and device threshold voltages, adaptive body biasing, clock and power gating, transistor stacking, and so on are some of the well-known ways to reduce the power. Thus, it appears that the techniques for reducing power at the logic and circuit levels have been thoroughly explored, leaving minor opportunity for improvement power efficiency. Accordingly, the focus has shifted to the highest levels of design, including power efficient micro-architectures, memory, compilers, and OS, and system level control, including thermal-aware dynamic frequency and voltage control, thread migration among processor cores. One part of digital CMOS circuits that has not changed is how logic functions are computed. However, there exists a proper subset of uniting Boolean functions, called threshold functions, which can be fundamentally computed by different mechanisms, which presents the possibility of further improvements in power consumption, performance, and area, which has not been sufficiently explored.

II. THRESHOLD LOGIC GATE

The reason for examining threshold gates as logic primitives stems from the fact that they are computationally more powerful than the standard AND/OR logic primitives. Many common logic functions, such as the n -bit parity, n -bit multiplication, division, powering, sorting, and so on, can be computed by polynomial size threshold networks of a fixed number of levels, while the same would require exponential size AND/OR networks. A detailed treatment of the complexity of threshold networks and constructive methods for various types of arithmetic functions, including size-depth and weight depth tradeoffs. An updated survey of the same appears in and an extensive survey of circuit architectures of threshold gates is given. These results suggest that the threshold gates and networks can potentially lead to significant reductions in circuit size and delay. A threshold function can be implemented in the same way as any logic function, i.e., as a network of logic primitives or a pull-up network and pull-down network of pFETs and nFETs. Such implementations offer nothing new, and in fact, can be quite inefficient for implementing large fan-in threshold functions in terms of speed, power, and area. The implementations of a threshold logic gate (TLG) considered in this paper compute the predicate in by performing a comparison of some electrical quantity, such as charge, voltage, or current. This is what distinguishes such implementations of a threshold gate with any of the conventional implementations of CMOS logic functions. However, the use of TLGs in conventional ASIC design has not been thoroughly explored due to the lack of efficient and reliable gate implementations and the infrastructure required for automated synthesis and physical design.

III. NNOR TECHNOLOGY

As mentioned earlier, NMOS (nMOSFET) is a type of MOSFET. An NMOS transistor is made up of n-type source and drain and a p-type substrate. When a voltage is applied to the gate, holes in the body (p-type substrate) are driven away from the gate. This allows forming an n-type channel between the source and the drain and a current is carried by electrons from source to the drain through an induced n-type channel. Logic gates and other digital devices implemented using NMOSs are said to have NMOS logic. There are three modes of operation in an NMOS called the cut-off, triode, and saturation. NMOS logic is easy to design and manufacture.

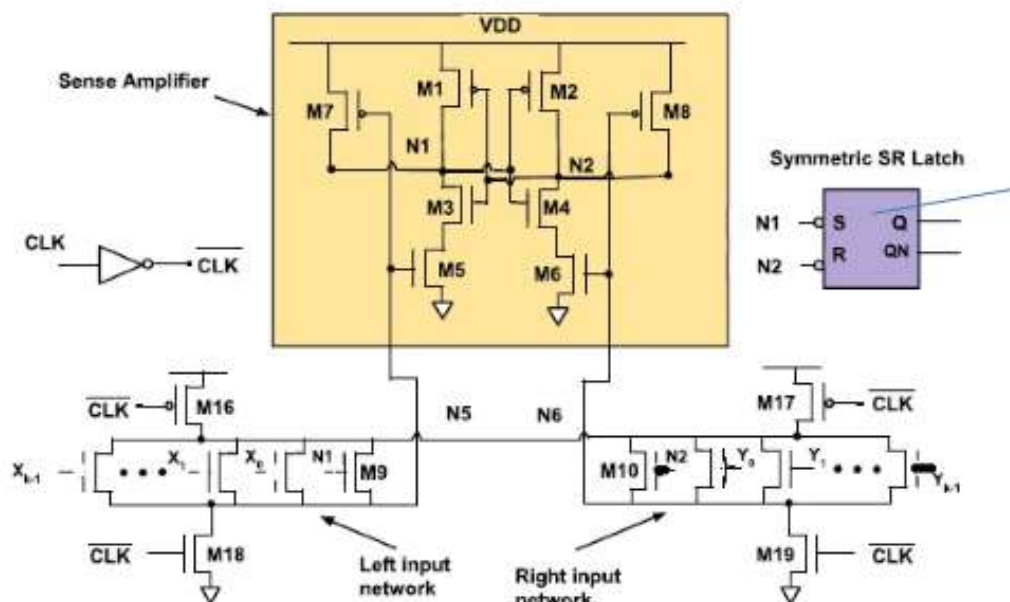


Fig 1. NNOR cell for SR Latch

But circuits with NMOS logic gates dissipate static power when the circuit is idling, since DC current flows through the logic gate when the output is low. A schematic diagram of the Threshold Logic flip-flop (TLFF) is presented in the circuit is composed of a semi-dynamic front-end comprising a differential current switch Threshold Logic gate (DCSTL) followed by a static back-end comprising an SR latch. DCSTL front-end comprises a fast latched comparator and two parallel-connected sets of unit nMOS transistors, referenced as input data bank and threshold mapping bank. The nMOS transistors from the threshold mapping bank have the gates hardwired to ground or power supply. With respect to the circuit from the TLFF has 4 data inputs and 4 threshold mapping inputs.

The data inputs, X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3 and the threshold mapping inputs, T_0, T_1, T_2, T_3 have the weights 1, 2, 3, 4 respectively. The working operation happens in two phase. During Reset phase where $CLK = 0$, the two

discharge devices M18 and M19 pull nodes N5 and N6 low, which turn OFF M5 and M6, disconnecting all paths from N1 and N2 to ground. In addition, M7 and M8 are active, which results in N1 and N2 being pulled high. The nFETs M3 and M4 are ON. With N1 and N2 being high, the state of the SR latch does not change. In this the weights are implemented using parallel-connected sets of 1, 2, 3 and 4 unit transistors respectively. The total conductance's of the transistor banks are compared each other by the latched comparator and therefore the node X is logic zero if the current generated by the data bank is greater than the current generated by the threshold mapping bank and logic one otherwise.

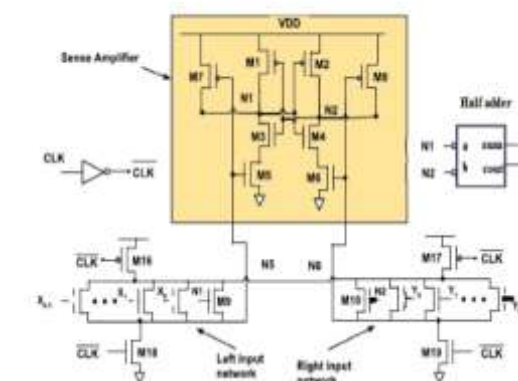


Fig 2. NNOR cell for Half Adder

Consider by design, the data bank is prevented from having similar conductance with the threshold mapping bank, when the threshold is reached, since an nMOS transistor with weight 0.5 is always on. This prevents the latch comparator entering in a metastable state.

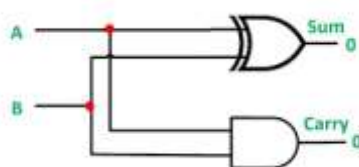


Fig 3. Half adder circuit

The operation of circuit is as follows. On the falling edge of the clock, the flip-flop enters in precharge phase. Therefore, M10, M11, are on, nodes X and Y are precharged high and the outputs Q and Qbar and hold their previous evaluation values; since X and Y are high, M6, M7 are on pulling their sources to weak high level. On the rising edge of the clock, the flip-flop enters the evaluation phase.

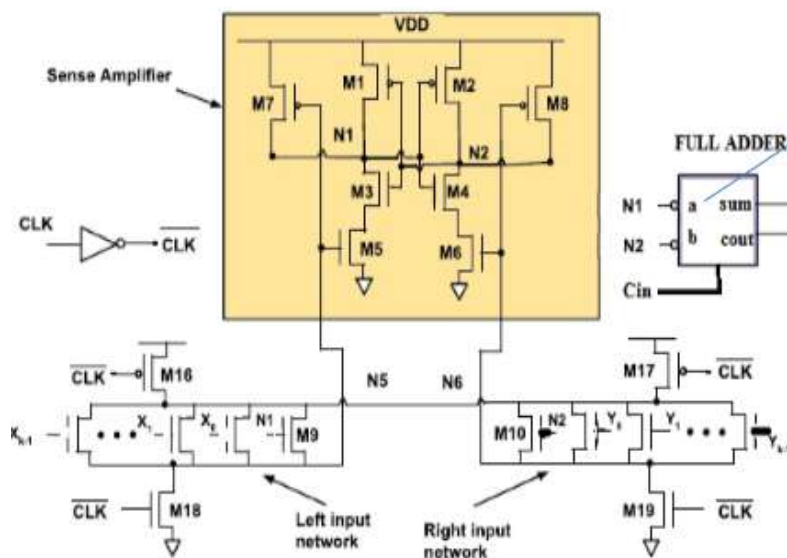


Fig 4. NNOR cell for Full Adder

A	B	Sum	Carry-Out
0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0
1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1

Fig 5. NNOR cell for Full Adder

the end of the evaluation phase, the high-rising node among X and Y will be decoupled from being connected to ground by one of the shutoff transistors M6,M7 going off.

2. For the specific signal assignment used in the technology mapping, the maximum number of active devices in the LIN or RIN among all the functions process in that realized by an n-NOR.

3. Therefore, the simulation starts with applying a CLK=0 input, which results in N1 = 0, N2 = 1, and Q = 1. While CLK is held at 1, the input is switched to 0/5, so that N5 = HiZ1.

4. Next, N5 is discharged to ground through a capacitor, which turns OFF M5 and turns ON M7, pulling N1 =1

5. As a result, the conductance of the LIN is higher than that of the RIN.. This corresponds to when CLK 0 → An input that results in ℓ active devices in the LIN and r active devices in the RIN is denoted by ℓ/r . The signal will ensure that $\ell \neq r$. Assume that $\ell > r$

IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

The proposed N-nor Threshold logic gates are designed, implemented and was analyzed using Synopsys HSPICE with 65-nm predictive technology model.

1. The waveforms from the SPICE simulation of an n-NOR gate extracted from layout, NOR gate with and without transistors M9 and M10. Therefore, M5, M8,9 are on and

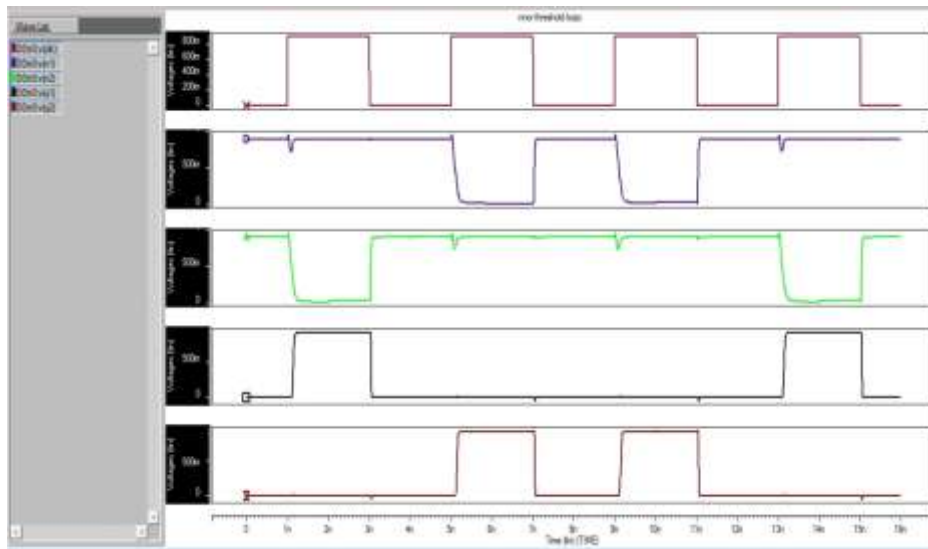


Fig 6. Simulation Results of NNOR cell SR latch

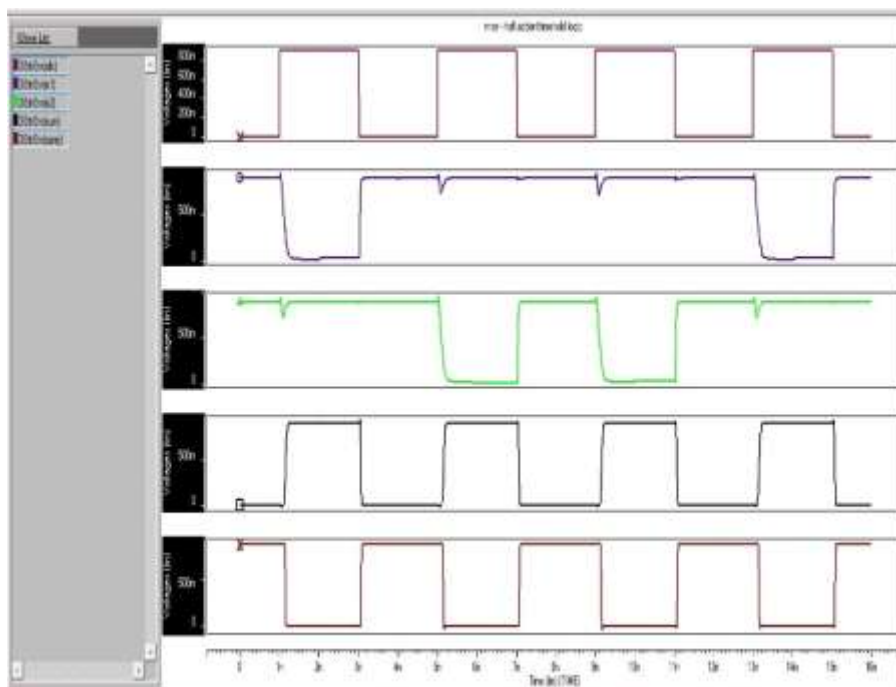


Fig 7. Simulation Results of NNOR cell half adder

As the discharge devices, M18 and M19 are turned OFF, both N5 and N6 will rise to 1. discharge is impeded as M2 turns ON, resulting in N2 getting pulled back to 1. As a result, the output node N1 is 0 and N2 are 1. As the circuit, its operation is symmetric, if $\ell < r$, then the evaluation will result in $N1 = 1$ and $N2 = 0$.

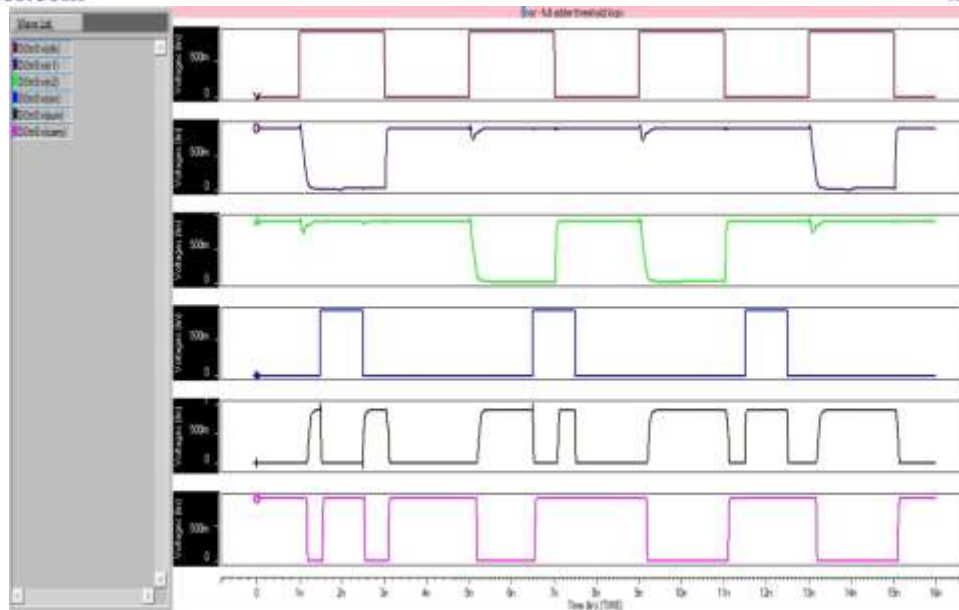


Fig 8. Simulation Results of NNOR cell full adder

In that current research in the use of threshold logics flip-flops includes new retiming algorithms, the design of asynchronous circuits, threshold logic-based field-programmable gate arrays, nonvolatile threshold logic flip-flops, and the combinations conventional logics of these different design approaches.

V. CONCLUSION

In this experimental results shows that the proposed transistor transistor logic gates (TTL), when operated at the nominal voltage, can be made robust in the presence of process variations. However, dynamic voltage scaling, which is now an integral part of the power management of most digital circuits, must be limited when applied to threshold gates due to the presence of the latch-based SA. The degree to which the voltage of a n-NOR cell can be reduced depends on k —with lower voltages for smaller k . By using the threshold logic gates we have implemented the half adder, full adder and SR latch operation which all worked well with reduced power consumption.

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