



Digital Design

Chapter 1: Introduction

Slides to accompany the textbook *Digital Design*, First Edition,
by Frank Vahid, John Wiley and Sons Publishers, 2007.
<http://www.ddvahid.com>

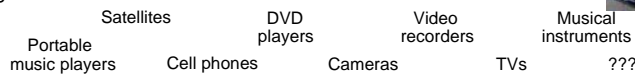
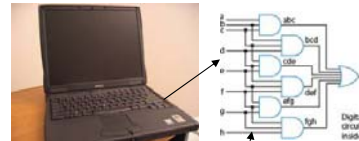
Copyright © 2007 Frank Vahid

Instructors of courses requiring Vahid's Digital Design textbook (published by John Wiley and Sons) have permission to modify and use these slides for customary course-related activities, subject to keeping this copyright notice in place and unmodified. These slides may be posted as unanimated pdf versions on publicly-accessible course websites. PowerPoint source (or pdf with animations) may not be posted to publicly-accessible websites, but may be posted for students on internal protected sites or distributed directly to students by other electronic means. Instructors may make printouts of the slides available to students for a reasonable photocopying charge, without incurring royalties. Any other use requires explicit permission. Instructors may obtain PowerPoint source or obtain special use permissions from Wiley – see <http://www.ddvahid.com> for information.

1.1

Why Study Digital Design?

- Look “under the hood” of computers
 - Solid understanding --> confidence, insight, even better programmer when aware of hardware resource issues
- Electronic devices becoming digital
 - Enabled by shrinking and more capable chips
 - Enables:
 - Better devices: Better sound recorders, cameras, cars, cell phones, medical devices,...
 - New devices: Video games, PDAs, ...
 - Known as “embedded systems”
 - Thousands of new devices every year
 - Designers needed: Potential career direction



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

1995 1997 1999 2001 2003 2005 2007
 • Years shown above indicate when digital version began to *dominate*
 – (Not the first year that a digital version appeared)

2

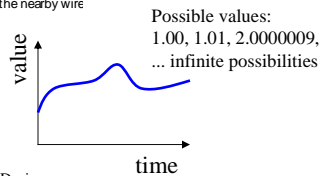
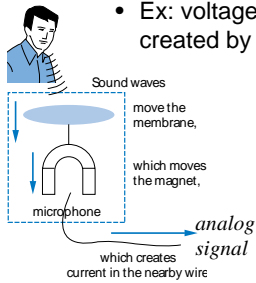
Note: Slides with animation are denoted with a small red “a” near the animated items

What Does "Digital" Mean?

- Analog signal

- Infinite possible values

- Ex: voltage on a wire created by microphone

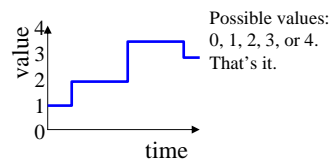
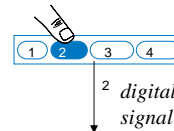


Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

- Digital signal

- Finite possible values

- Ex: button pressed on a keypad

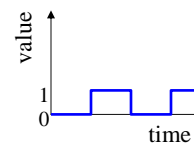


3

Digital Signals with Only Two Values: Binary

- **Binary** digital signal -- only *two* possible values

- Typically represented as **0** and **1**
- One *binary digit* is a **bit**
- We'll only consider *binary* digital signals
- Binary is popular because
 - Transistors, the basic digital electric component, operate using *two* voltages (more in Chpt. 2)
 - Storing/transmitting one of *two* values is easier than three or more (e.g., loud beep or quiet beep, reflection or no reflection)



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

4

Example of Digitization Benefit

- Analog signal (e.g., audio) may lose quality

- Voltage levels not saved/copied/transmitted perfectly

- Digitized version enables near-perfect save/cpy/trn.

- “Sample” voltage at particular rate, save sample using bit encoding
- Voltage levels still not kept perfectly
- But we can distinguish 0s from 1s

Let bit encoding be:

1 V: “01”

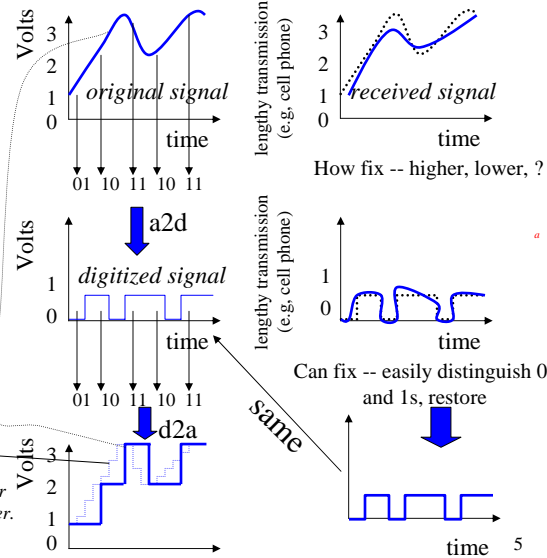
2 V: “10”

3 V: “11”

Digitized signal not perfect re-creation, but higher sampling rate and more bits per encoding brings closer.



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid



Digitized Audio: Compression Benefit

- Digitized audio can be compressed

- e.g., MP3s

- A CD can hold about 20 songs uncompressed, but about 200 compressed

- Compression also done on digitized pictures (jpeg), movies (mpeg), and more

- Digitization has many other benefits too

Example compression scheme:

00 --> 0000000000

01 --> 1111111111

1X --> X

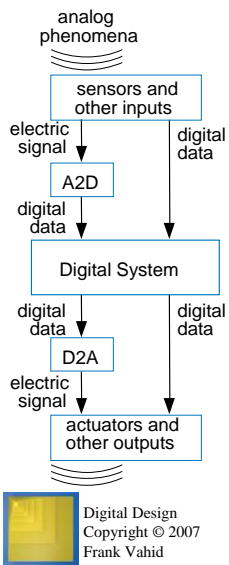
0000000000 0000000000 0000011111 1111111111
 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
 00 00 1000001111 01



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

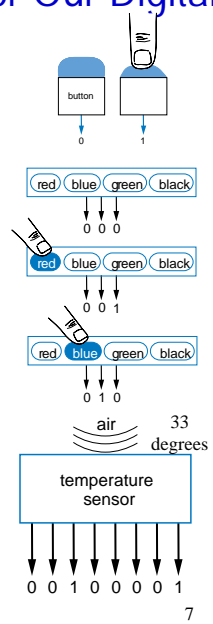
6

How Do We Encode Data as Binary for Our Digital System?



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

- Some inputs inherently binary
 - Button: not pressed (0), pressed (1)
- Some inputs inherently digital
 - Just need encoding in binary
 - e.g., multi-button input: encode red=001, blue=010, ...
- Some inputs analog
 - Need analog-to-digital conversion
 - As done in earlier slide -- sample and encode with bits



How to Encode Text: ASCII, Unicode

- ASCII: 7- (or 8-) bit encoding of each letter, number, or symbol
- Unicode: Increasingly popular 16-bit bit encoding
 - Encodes characters from various world languages

Symbol	Encoding	Symbol	Encoding
R	1010010	r	1110010
S	1010011	s	1110011
T	1010100	t	1110100
L	1001100	l	1101100
N	1001110	n	1101110
E	1000101	e	1100101
0	0110000	9	0111001
.	0101110	!	0100001
<tab>	0001001	<space>	0100000

Question:
What does this ASCII bit sequence represent?
1010010 1000101 1010011 1010100

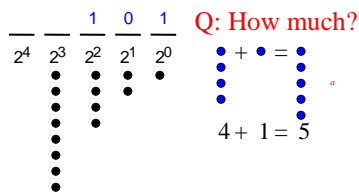
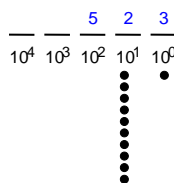
REST

Note: small red "a" (a) in a slide indicates animation

Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

How to Encode Numbers: Binary Numbers

- Each position represents a quantity; symbol in position means how many of that quantity
 - Base ten (*decimal*)
 - Ten symbols: 0, 1, 2, ..., 8, and 9
 - More than 9 -- next position
 - So each position power of 10
 - Nothing special about base 10 -- used because we have 10 fingers
 - Base two (*binary*)
 - Two symbols: 0 and 1
 - More than 1 -- next position
 - So each position power of 2

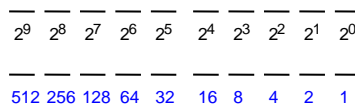


Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

9

How to Encode Numbers: Binary Numbers

- Working with binary numbers
 - In base ten, helps to know powers of 10
 - one, ten, hundred, thousand, ten thousand, ...
 - In base two, helps to know powers of 2
 - one, two, four, eight, sixteen, thirty two, sixty four, one hundred twenty eight
 - (Note: unlike base ten, we don't have common names, like "thousand," for each position in base ten -- so we use the base ten name)
 - Q: count up by powers of two



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

10

Converting from Decimal to Binary Numbers: Subtraction Method Example

- Q: Convert the number "23" from decimal to binary

A: Remaining quantity	Binary Number
23	$\frac{0}{32} \frac{0}{16} \frac{0}{8} \frac{0}{4} \frac{0}{2} \frac{0}{1}$
$\begin{array}{r} 23 \\ -16 \\ \hline 7 \end{array}$	$\frac{0}{32} \frac{1}{16} \frac{0}{8} \frac{0}{4} \frac{0}{2} \frac{0}{1}$
$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ -4 \\ \hline 3 \end{array}$	$\frac{0}{32} \frac{1}{16} \frac{0}{8} \frac{1}{4} \frac{0}{2} \frac{0}{1}$ <i>8 is more than 7, can't use</i>
$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ -2 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$	$\frac{0}{32} \frac{1}{16} \frac{0}{8} \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{2} \frac{0}{1}$
$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ -1 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$	$\frac{0}{32} \frac{1}{16} \frac{0}{8} \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1}$

Done! 23 in decimal is 10111 in binary.

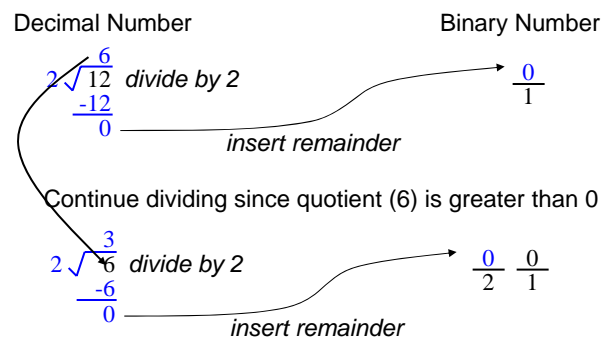


Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

13

Converting from Decimal to Binary Numbers: Division Method (Good for Computers)

- Divide decimal number by 2 and insert remainder into new binary number.
 - Continue dividing quotient by 2 until the quotient is 0.
- Example: Convert decimal number 12 to binary



Continue dividing since quotient (3) is greater than 0



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

14

Converting from Decimal to Binary Numbers: Division Method (Good for Computers)

- Example: Convert decimal number 12 to binary (continued)

Decimal Number	Binary Number
$\begin{array}{r} 2 \sqrt{12} \\ \underline{-2} \\ 10 \end{array}$	$\frac{1}{4} \frac{0}{2} \frac{0}{1}$
$\begin{array}{r} 2 \sqrt{10} \\ \underline{-8} \\ 2 \end{array}$	
$\begin{array}{r} 2 \sqrt{2} \\ \underline{-2} \\ 0 \end{array}$	

insert remainder

Continue dividing since quotient (1) is greater than 0

$\begin{array}{r} 2 \sqrt{1} \\ \underline{-0} \\ 1 \end{array}$	$\frac{1}{8} \frac{1}{4} \frac{0}{2} \frac{0}{1}$
--	---

insert remainder

Since quotient is 0, we can conclude that 12 is 1100 in binary



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

15

Base Sixteen: Another Base Sometimes Used by Digital Designers

16^4	16^3	16^2	16^1	16^0
		8	A	F
		↓	↓	↓
		1000	1010	1111

hex	binary	hex	binary
0	0000	8	1000
1	0001	9	1001
2	0010	A	1010
3	0011	B	1011
4	0100	C	1100
5	0101	D	1101
6	0110	E	1110
7	0111	F	1111

- Nice because each position represents four base two positions
 - Used as compact means to write binary numbers
- Known as **hexadecimal**, or just **hex**

Q: Write 11110000 in hex

$$\begin{array}{c} \boxed{1111} \boxed{0000} \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \text{F} \quad \text{0} \end{array}$$



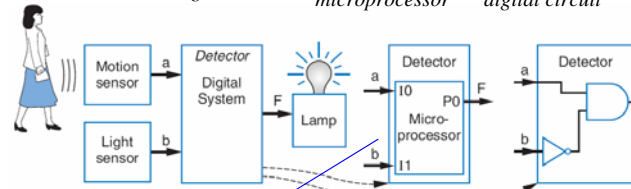
Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

16

Implementing Digital Systems: Programming Microprocessors Vs. Designing Digital Circuits

1.3

Desired motion-at-night detector Programmed microprocessor Custom designed digital circuit



• Microprocessors a common choice to implement a digital system

- Easy to program
- Cheap (as low as \$1)
- Available now

Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

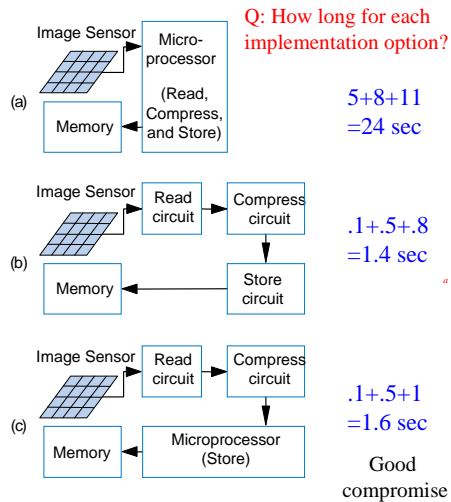
17

Digital Design: When Microprocessors Aren't Good Enough

- With microprocessors so easy, cheap, and available, why design a digital circuit?
 - Microprocessor may be too slow
 - Or too big, power hungry, or costly

Sample digital camera task execution times (in seconds) on a microprocessor versus a digital circuit:

Task	Microprocessor	Custom Digital Circuit
Read	5	0.1
Compress	8	0.5
Store	1	0.8



Digital Design
Copyright © 2007
Frank Vahid

18

Chapter Summary

- Digital systems surround us
 - Inside computers
 - Inside huge variety of other electronic devices (embedded systems)
- Digital systems use 0s and 1s
 - Encoding analog signals to digital can provide many benefits
 - e.g., audio -- higher-quality storage/transmission, compression, etc.
 - Encoding integers as 0s and 1s: Binary numbers
- Microprocessors (themselves digital) can implement many digital systems easily and inexpensively
 - But often not good enough -- need custom digital circuits

