magic layout of a NAND gate, a basic building block of CMOS circuitry.
Welcome to CS/EE 181!

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Physical Resources

Class will meet in Annenberg 213 Mondays and Tuesdays from 1 to 2:30 P.M.; exceptions will be announced well in advance.

You will be using computers in the computer lab on the first floor of Annenberg. These systems will be used for layout, simulation, and turning in assignments. A separate handout will cover the systems in more detail.
Course Requirements and Credits

CS/EE 181 is a 12-unit class and carries lab credit for EE and CS majors. No pass-fail!

The course consists of lectures and homework. The homework will consist of a mixture of short answer questions and laboratory work. Towards the end of the term, the emphasis of the assignments will shift to the individual term project.

Collaboration Policy

Students are expected to do their own work, but discussion of problem sets among classmates is allowed. However, students should do all their own layout. (Borrowing layout from cells provided by the instructors or from cells designed for an earlier assignment is permitted and encouraged.)
Grading Policy

Each homework assignment will be graded. Your final grade will be a weighted average of the grades that you received on the homework assignments and the final project. Your term grade is guaranteed to be no worse than that calculated from

\[ 50\% \text{ (average of homeworks)} + 50\% \text{ (project grade)} \].

Grading of individual assignments will be done on a 0–100 scale. The approximate meaning of homework scores is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0–49</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50–59</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60–74</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75–89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90–99</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>A+</td>
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</tbody>
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Late Policy

Unless you receive prior permission or have a verified illness, assignments completed late will be penalized 5% per day. Furthermore, the severity of any errors found will be multiplied by the number of days since the due date. The final score will be truncated at zero. Note that this algorithm will be applied on a per-problem basis. In other words, if you hand in half an assignment on time and the other half, we shall apply the late penalty only to those problems that were turned late. Please hand in what you have when the assignment is due and hand in the late part separately!
Example 1.

John decided to go to a party rather than do his CS/EE 181 homework. As a result, he handed in all his answers one day late.

An impartial TA found a minor mistake and decided to take off 5%. Since the assignment was a day late, the total penalty was 5% + 5%, or 10%. The grade awarded would thus be 90% or approximately an A−. (Note that if John had gone to parties two nights in a row and handed in his CS/EE 181 assignment two days late, the penalty would have been 10% + 10% = 20%.)

Example 2.

Jack decided to go skiing rather than do his CS/EE 181 homework. When he got back, he felt too tired to do the entire assignment. As a result, he handed it in five days late with several errors.

A generous TA decided to only penalize Jack 20% for his errors. The total penalty came out to 5×5% + 5×20% or 125%. This would yield a net total score of −25%, which truncates to zero, or an F.

The final rule is that any assignment not submitted by 2:45 P.M. Friday, December 10, 2010 will be recorded as having received a grade of 0 (zero). (Special rules may apply to the project. If so, they will be announced well in advance!)

There will be no grades of “E” awarded in CS/EE 181 except in case of a documented medical emergency.
Fall Term Schedule CS/EE 181 2010–11

Sept. 27  Introduction to CS/EE 181 and VLSI
Sept. 29  Transistors, CMOS, and layout
Oct.  4   magic tutorial session (in lab)
Oct.  6   Boolean logic and transistor networks
Oct. 11   Logic minimization
Oct. 13   Clocks, timing, registers
Oct. 18   Precharge logic, domino logic, charge sharing, FSMs
Oct. 20   Computer arithmetic—Addition, subtraction
Oct. 25   Shifting, multiplication
Oct. 27   Putting it all together—planning a project
Nov.  1   Transistor physics
Nov.  3   Circuit performance,
tau model—Project proposal due
Nov.  8   More circuit performance
Nov. 10   Scaling and short-channel effects
Nov. 15   Power versus speed
Nov. 17   Metastability
Nov. 22   Wires
Nov. 24   Thanksgiving holiday
Nov. 29   TBD (Memory?)
Dec.  1   TBD
Dec. 10   Final project layout and report due

The lectures on topics in modern VLSI will cover issues that are of interest in current high-performance designs, including but not limited to synchronization, clock distribution, short-channel effects, power consumption, and modular design styles.
Textbook

There is no required text for the course. The following books are on reserve on the first floor of Sherman Fairchild Library:

- Carver Mead and Lynn Conway. *Introduction to VLSI Systems*. Addison-Wesley, 1980. *(out of print)*

Class notes will be available in the lab, in Diane Goodfellow’s office for photocopying, on the Web, and may be handed out in lecture depending on the size of the class.

Fall Term Projects

Each student will individually design a CMOS chip, maximum 2.1x2.1 millimeters in 1.2 micron SCMOS. *(MOSIS tinychip size)*
(This should mean a few thousand transistors, roughly a bit more complex than an 8-bit microprocessor, e.g., 6502 or Z80.)

- Start getting ideas for the project now.

- Projects that simulate correctly can be fabricated if you promise to test the chips.
Winter Term Activities

The winter term will cover asynchronous design, much in the style of CS 185, Asynchronous VLSI Design Laboratory. There might be one or several group projects in the spring term (?).