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CS61C

Great Ideas
in
Computer Architecture
(a.k.a. Machine Structures)



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Professor
Bora Nikolić

Introduction to Synchronous Digital Systems (SDS) State

Accumulator

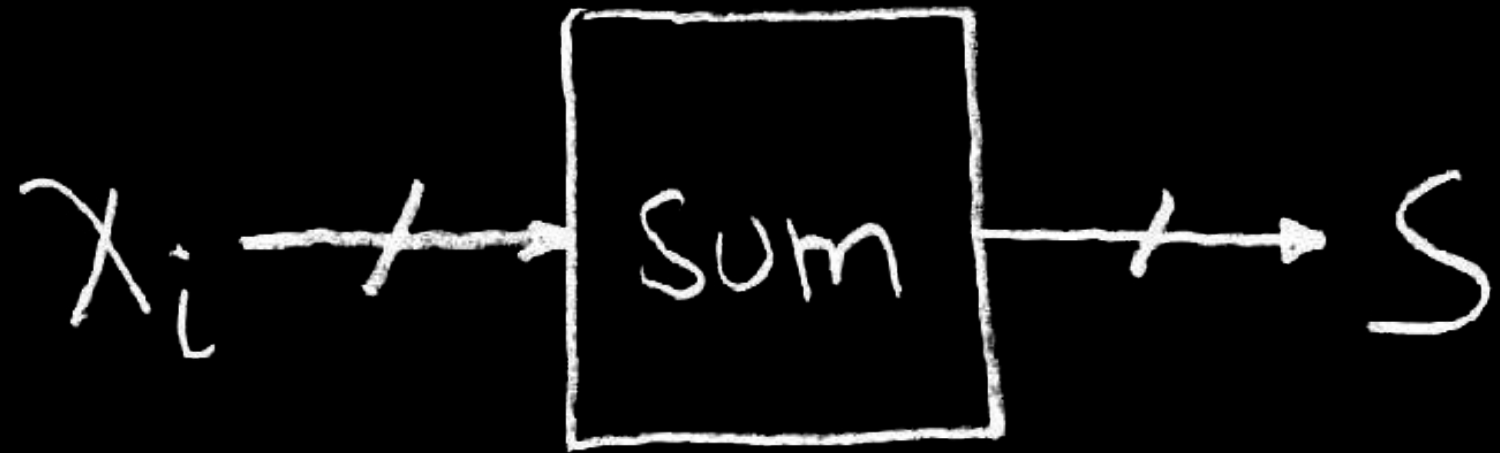


Uses for State Elements

- As a place to store values for some indeterminate amount of time:
 - Register files (like x0-x31 on the RISC-V)
 - Memory (caches, and main memory)
- Help control the flow of information between combinational logic blocks.
 - State elements are used to hold up the movement of information at the inputs to combinational logic blocks and allow for orderly passage.

Accumulator Example

- Why do we need to control the flow of information?



- Want:

$S = 0;$

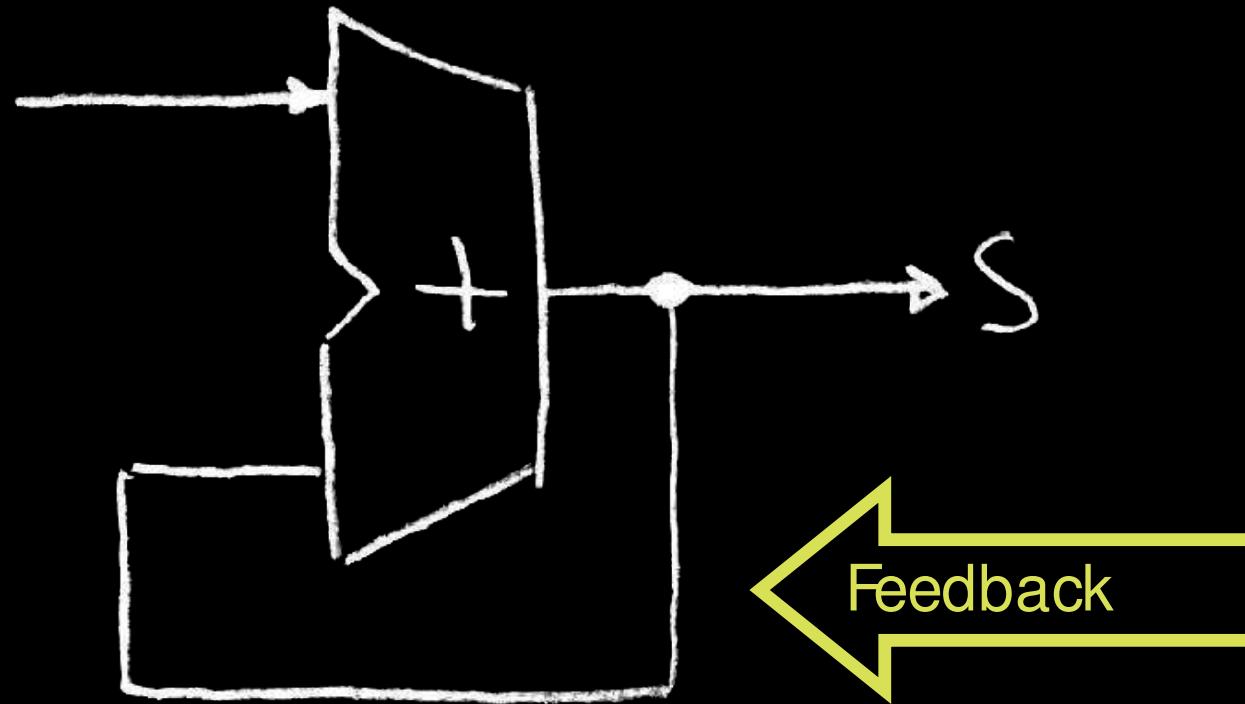
for ($i = 0; i < n; i++$)

$S = S + x_i$

- Assume

- Each x value is applied in succession, one per cycle.
- After n cycles the sum is present on S .

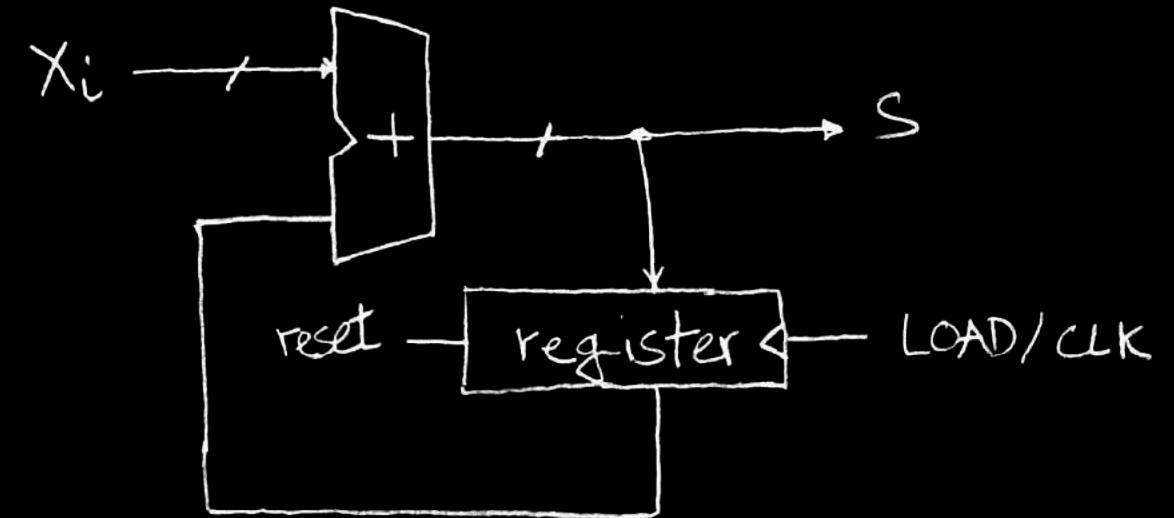
First try...Does this work?



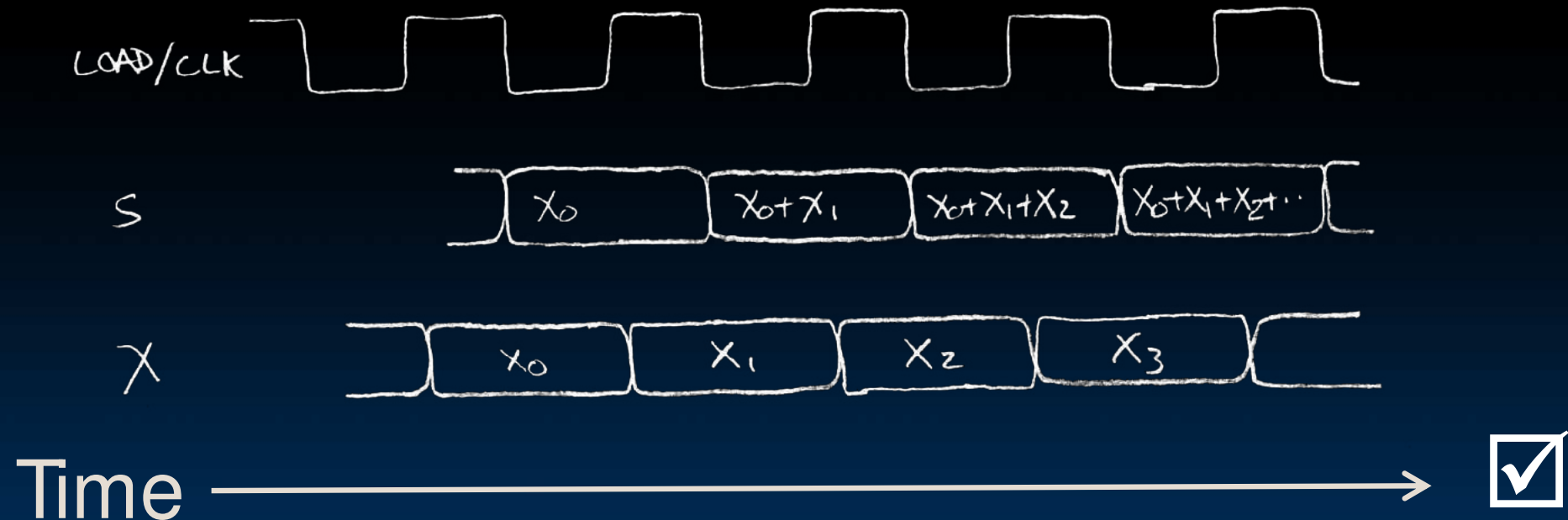
- Nope!
 - Reason #1... What is there to control the next iteration of the '**for**' loop?
 - Reason #2... How do we say: '**S=0**'?

Second try...How about this?

- Register is used to hold up the transfer of data to adder.



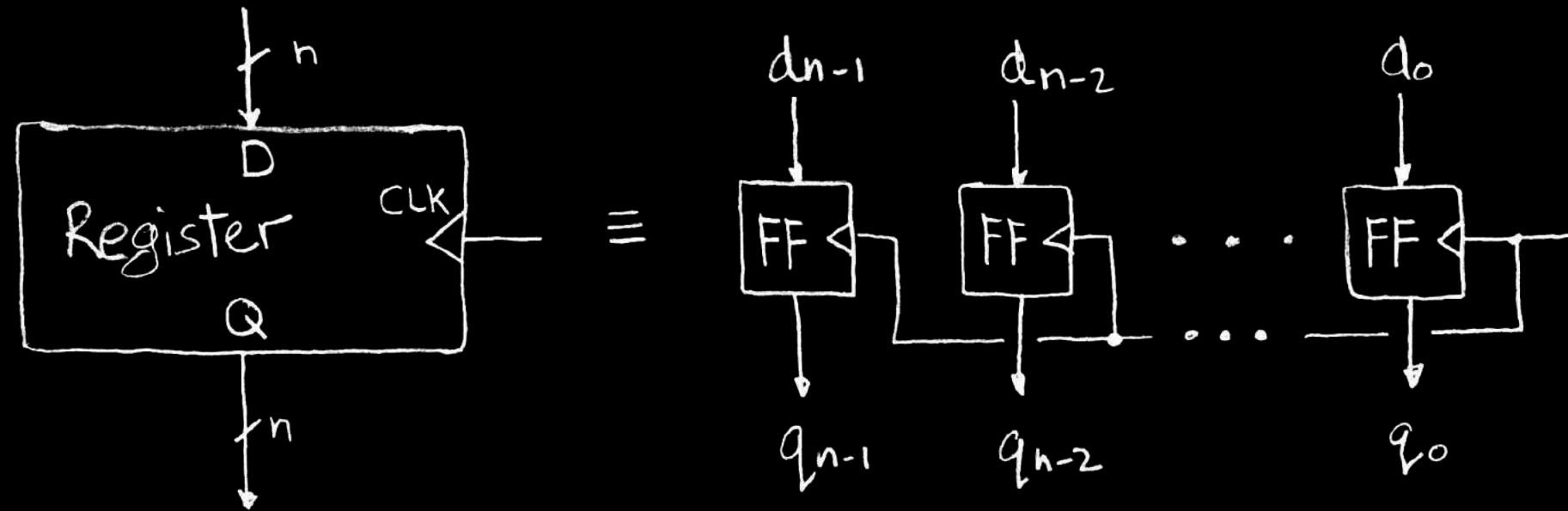
Rough
timing...



Register Details

Flip-flops

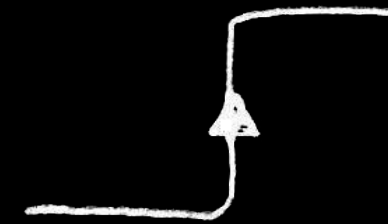
Register Details...What's inside?



- n instances of a “**Flip-Flop**”
- **Flip-flop** name because the output flips and flops between 0,1
- D is “data”, Q is “output”
- Also called “D-type Flip-Flop”
 - There used to be other types of flip-flops

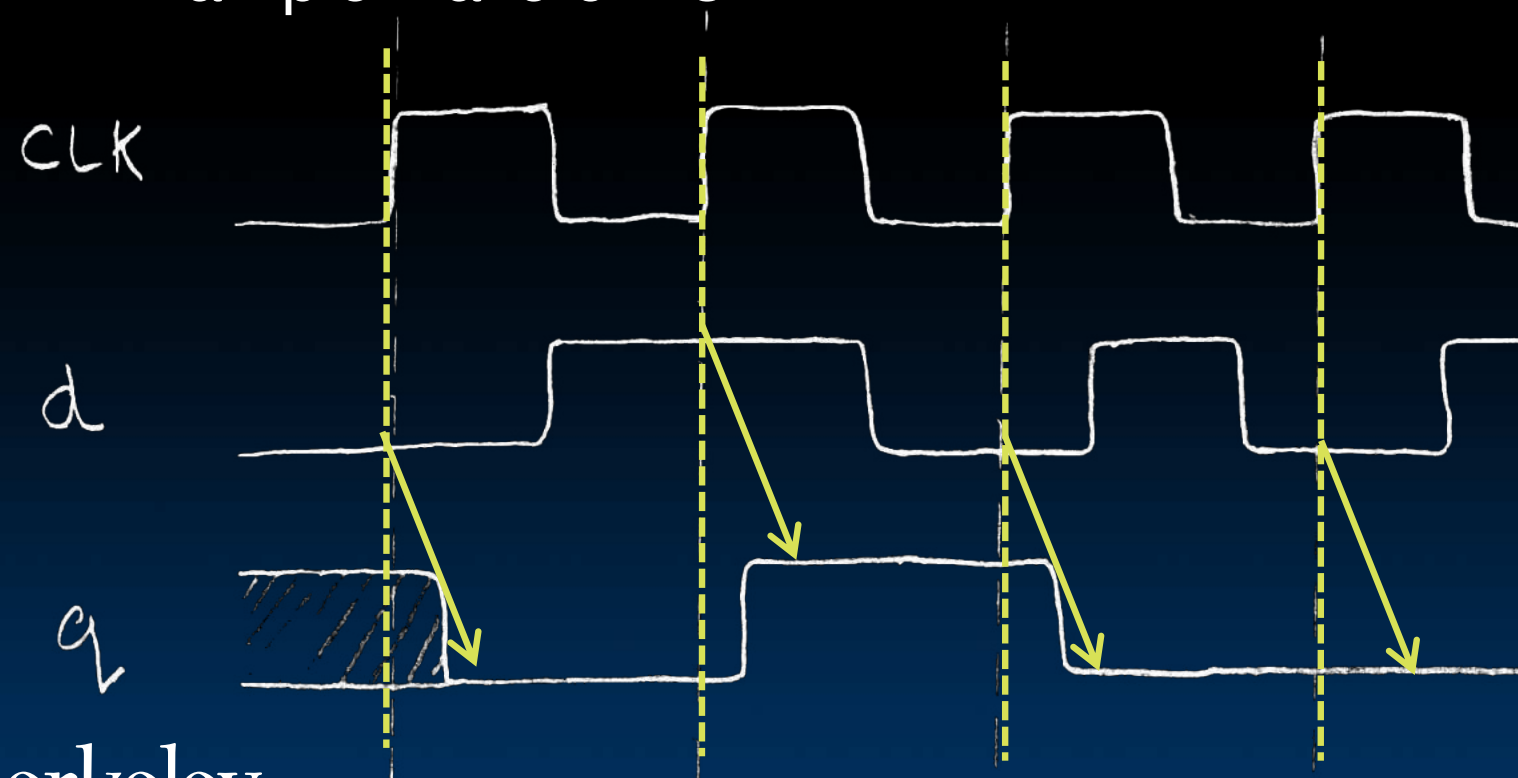
What's the timing of a Flip-flop? (1/2)

- Edge-triggered d-type flip-flop
 - This one is "rising edge-triggered"
 - Also called "positive edge"



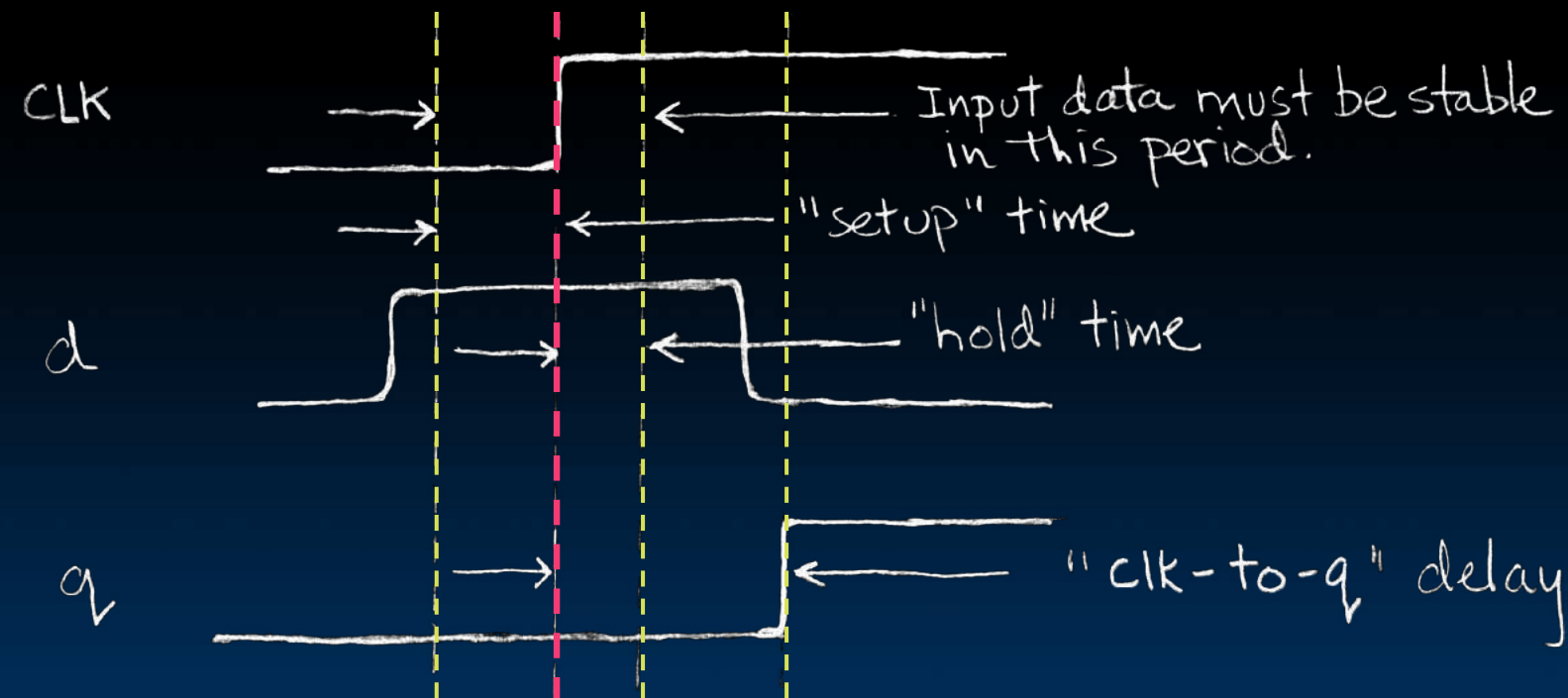
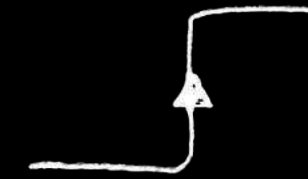
There also exist
"falling edge" FFs

- "On the rising edge of the clock, the input **d** is sampled and transferred to the output. At all other times, the input **d** is ignored."
- Example waveforms:



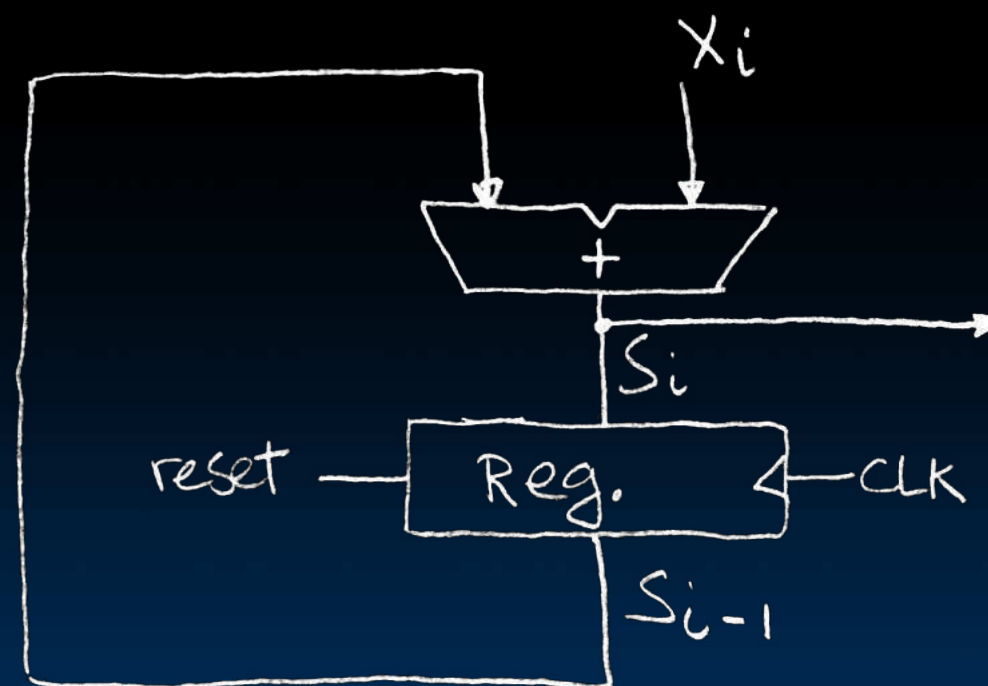
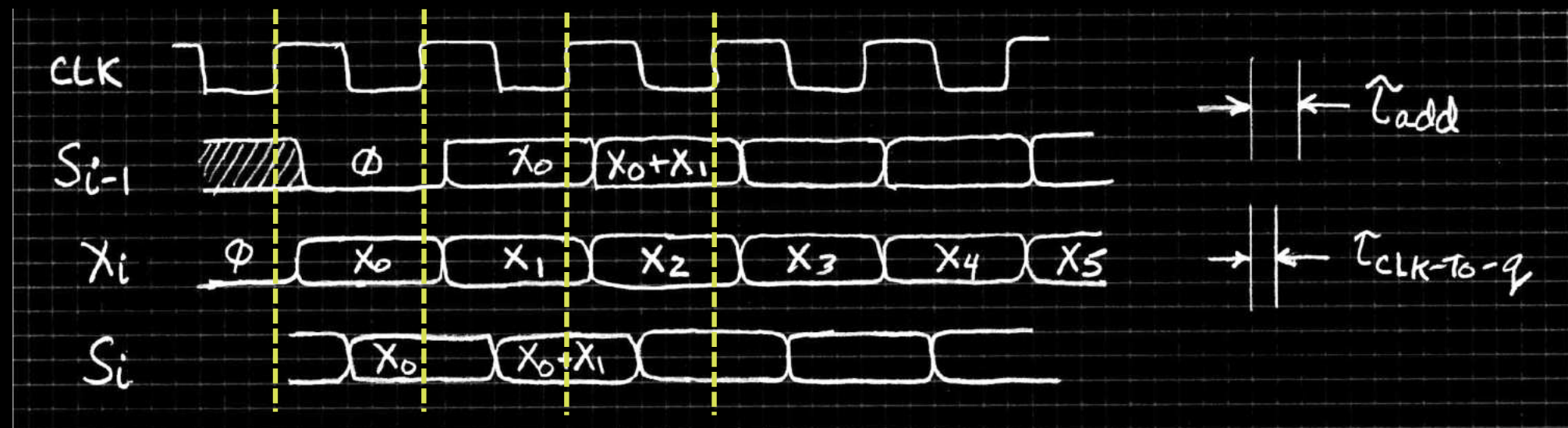
What's the timing of a Flip-flop? (2/2)

- Edge-triggered d-type flip-flop
 - This one is "rising edge-triggered"
- "On the rising edge of the clock, the input d is sampled and transferred to the output. At all other times, the input d is ignored."
- Example waveforms (more detail):



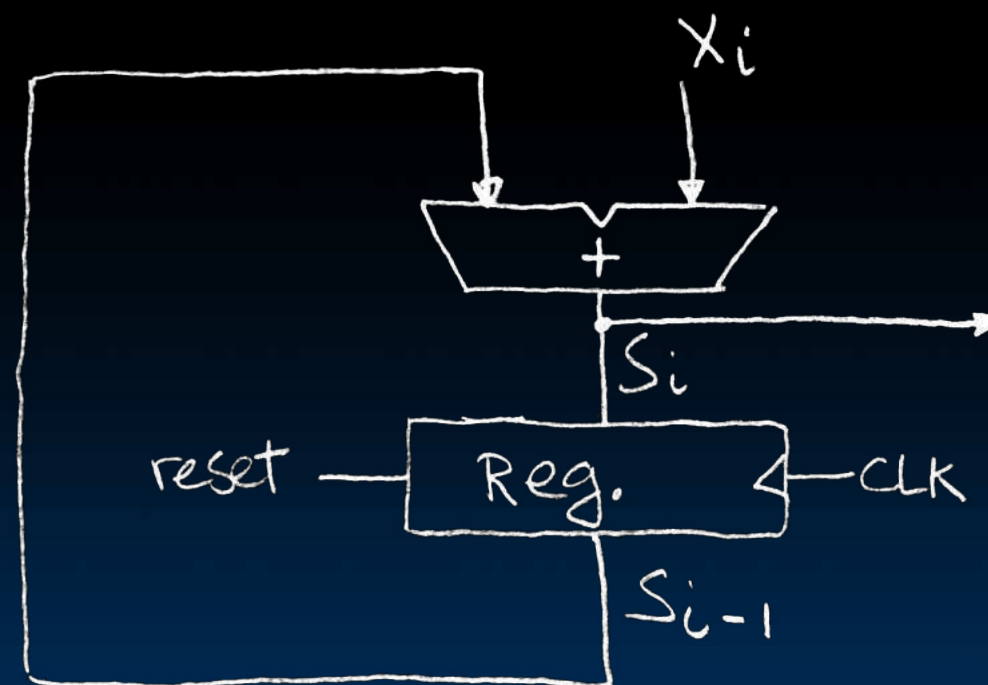
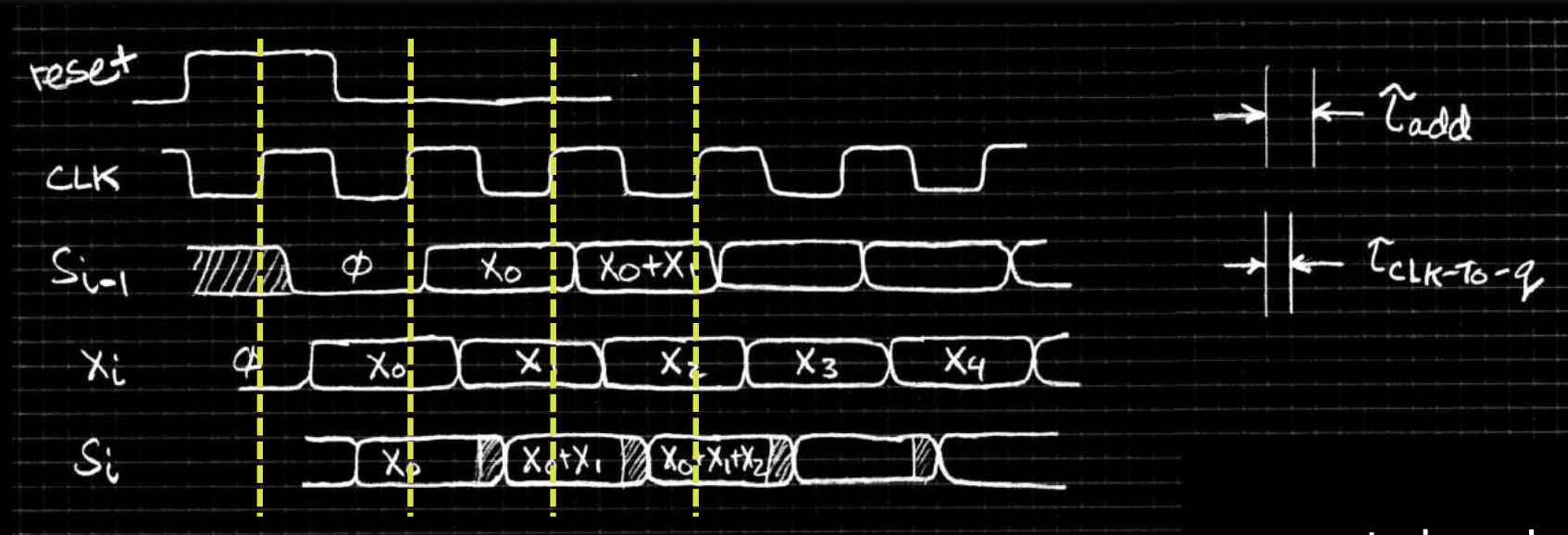
Accumulator Revisited

Accumulator Revisited (proper timing 1/2)



- Reset input to register is used to force it to all zeros (takes priority over D input).
- S_{i-1} holds the result of the $i^{\text{th}}-1$ iteration.
- Analyze circuit timing starting at the output of the register.

Accumulator Revisited (proper timing 2/2)



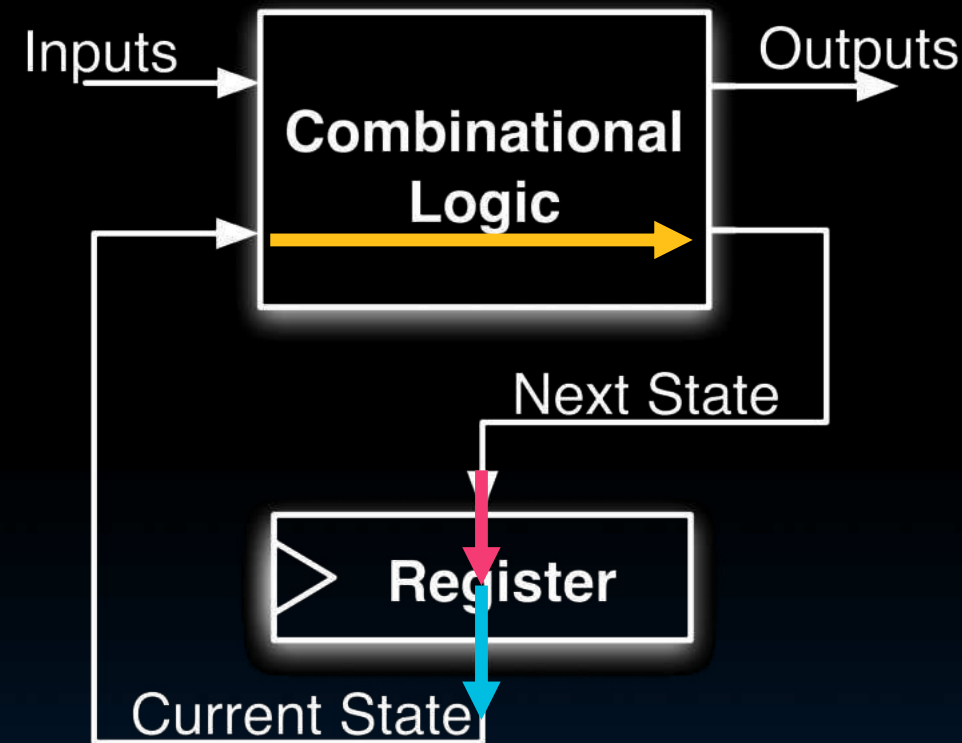
- reset signal shown.
- Also, in practice X might not arrive to the adder at the same time as S_{i-1}
- S_i temporarily is wrong, but register always captures correct value.
- In good circuits, instability never happens around rising edge of clk.



Pipelining for Performance

Maximum Clock Frequency

- What is the maximum clock frequency of this circuit? (Hint: Frequency = 1 / Period)

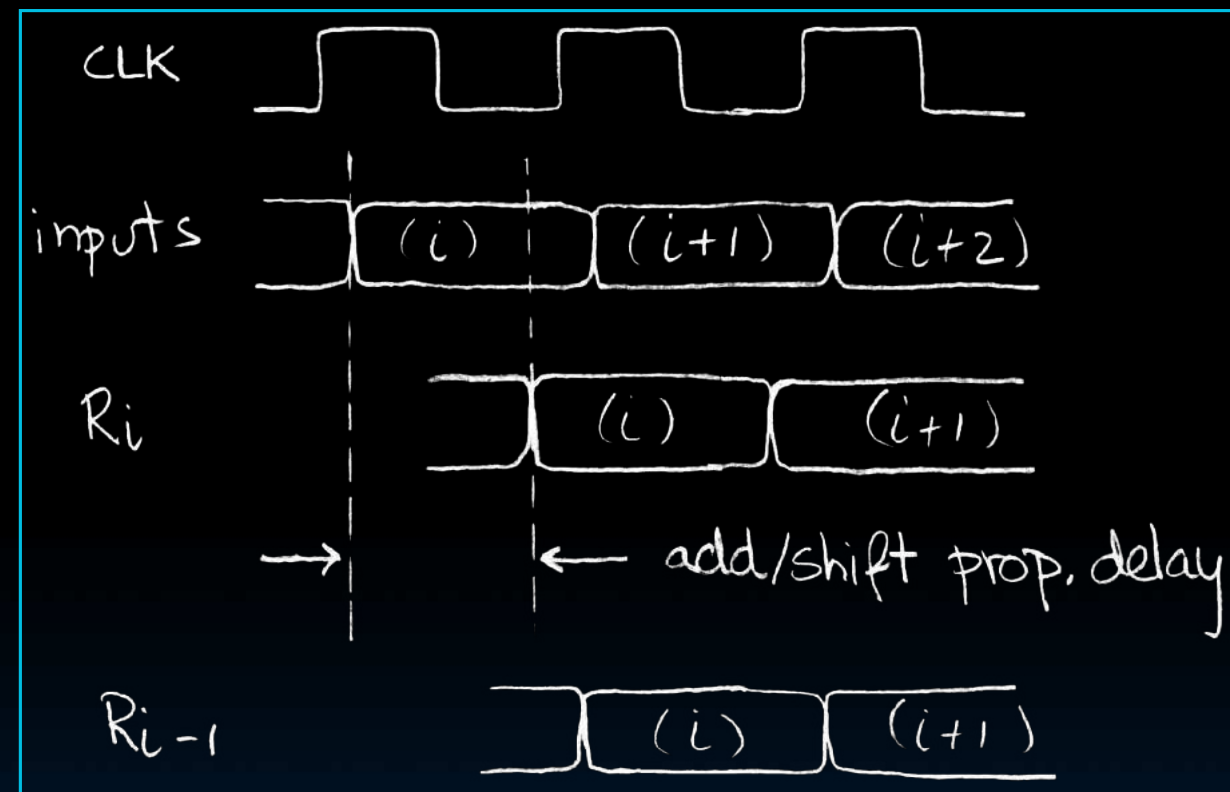
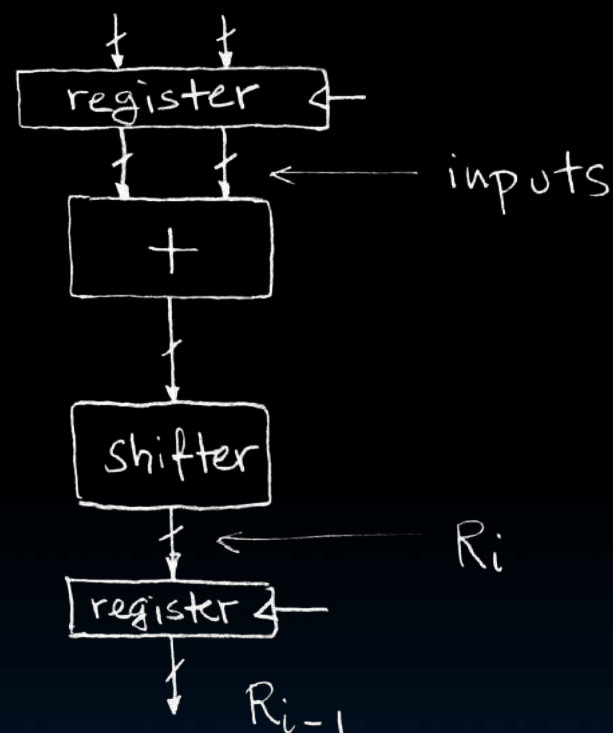


$$\text{Max Delay} = \text{CLK-to-Q Delay} + \text{CL Delay} + \text{Setup Time}$$

Pipelining to improve performance (1/2)

- **Extra Registers** are often added to help speed up the clock rate.

Timing...

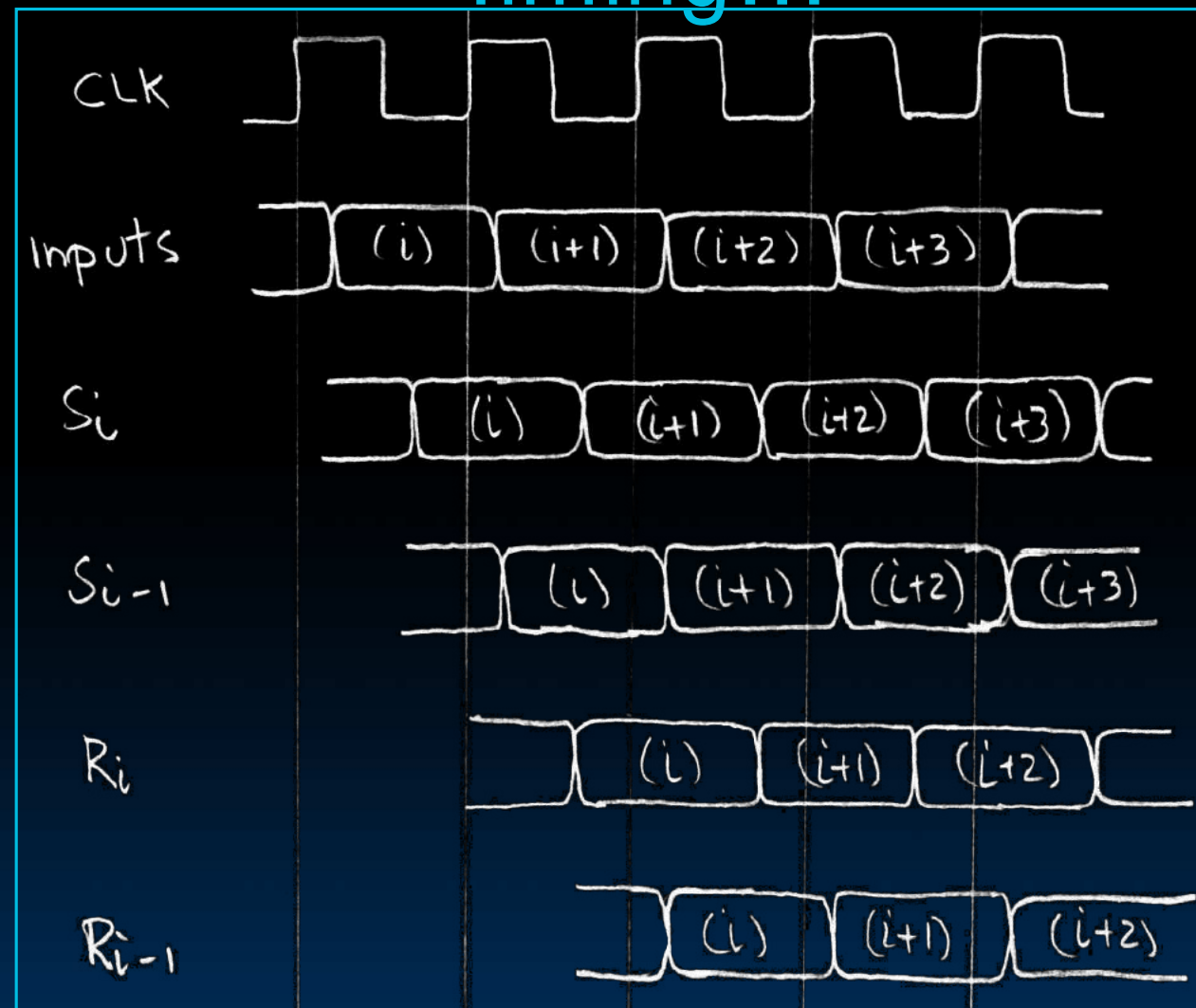
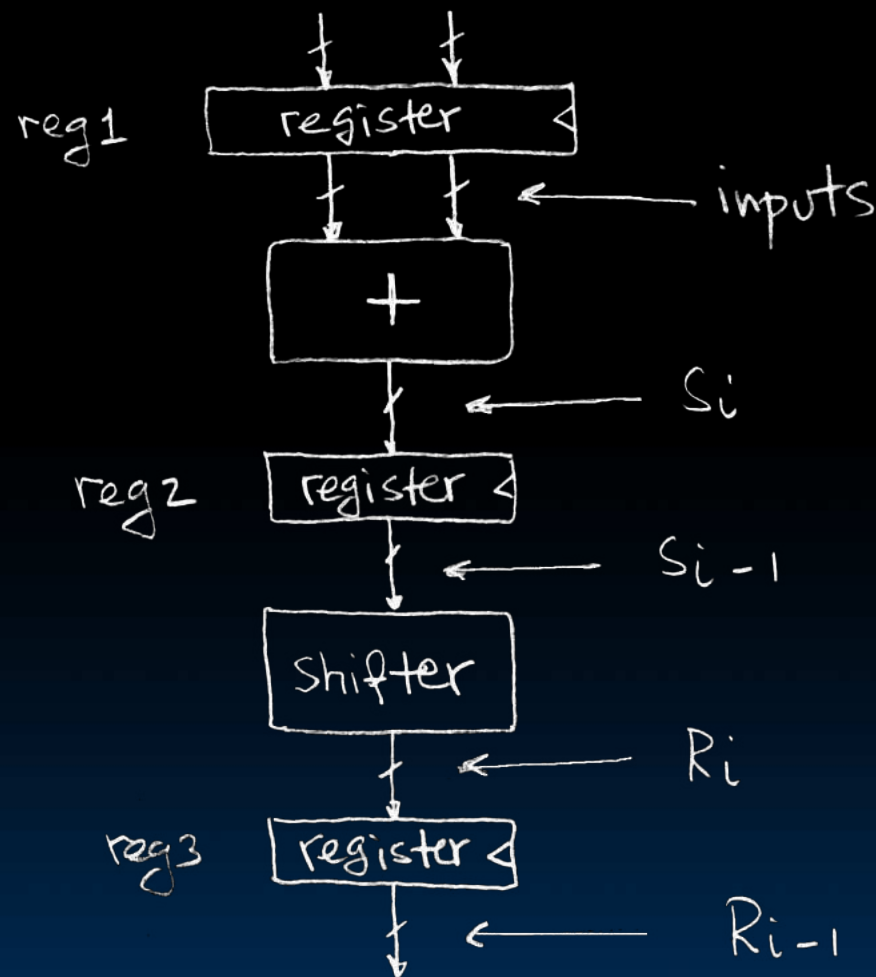


- Note: Delay of 1 clock cycle from input to output.
- Clock period limited by propagation delay of adder/shifter.

Pipelining to improve performance (2/2)

- Insertion of register allows higher clock frequency.
- More outputs per second.

Timing...





Recap of Timing Terms

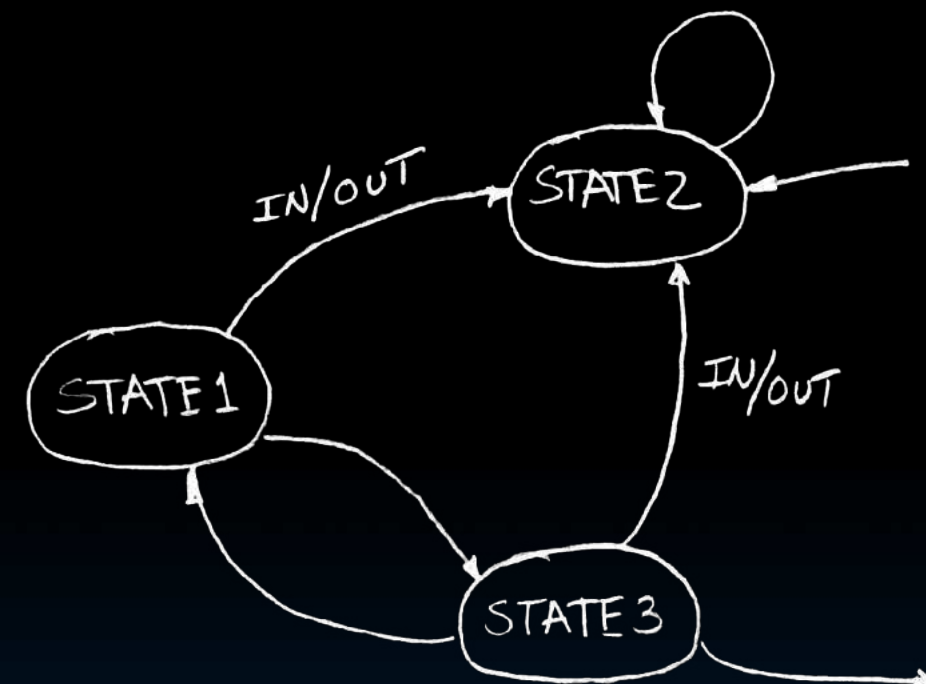
- **Clock (CLK)** - steady square wave that synchronizes system
- **Setup Time** - when the input must be stable before the rising edge of the CLK
- **Hold Time** - when the input must be stable after the rising edge of the CLK
- **“CLK-to-Q” Delay** - how long it takes the output to change, measured from the rising edge of the CLK
- **Flip-flop** - one bit of state that samples every rising edge of the CLK (positive edge-triggered)
- **Register** - several bits of state that samples on rising edge of CLK or on LOAD (positive edge-triggered)



Finite State Machines

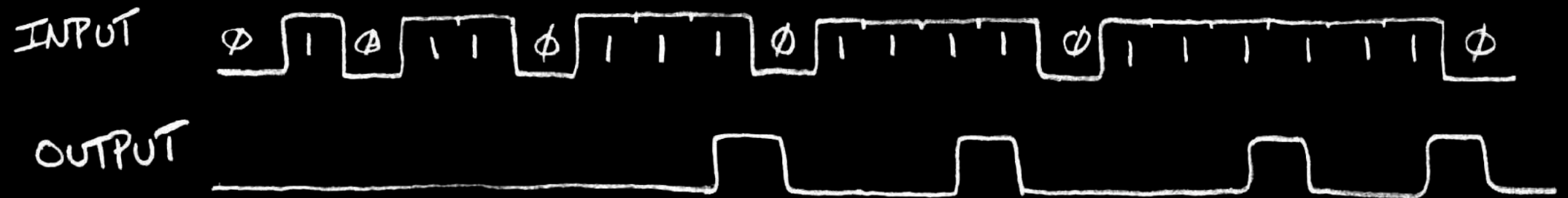
Finite State Machines (FSM) Introduction

- You have seen FSMs in other classes
 - Same basic idea
- The function can be represented with a “**state transition diagram**”
- With combinational logic and registers, any FSM can be implemented in hardware.

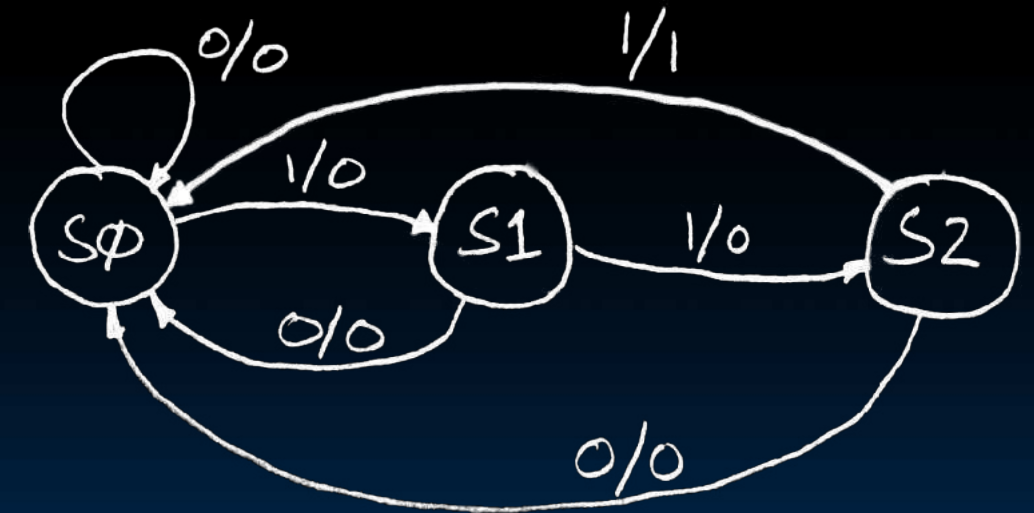


Finite State Machine Example: 3 ones...

- FSM to detect the occurrence of 3 consecutive 1's in the input.

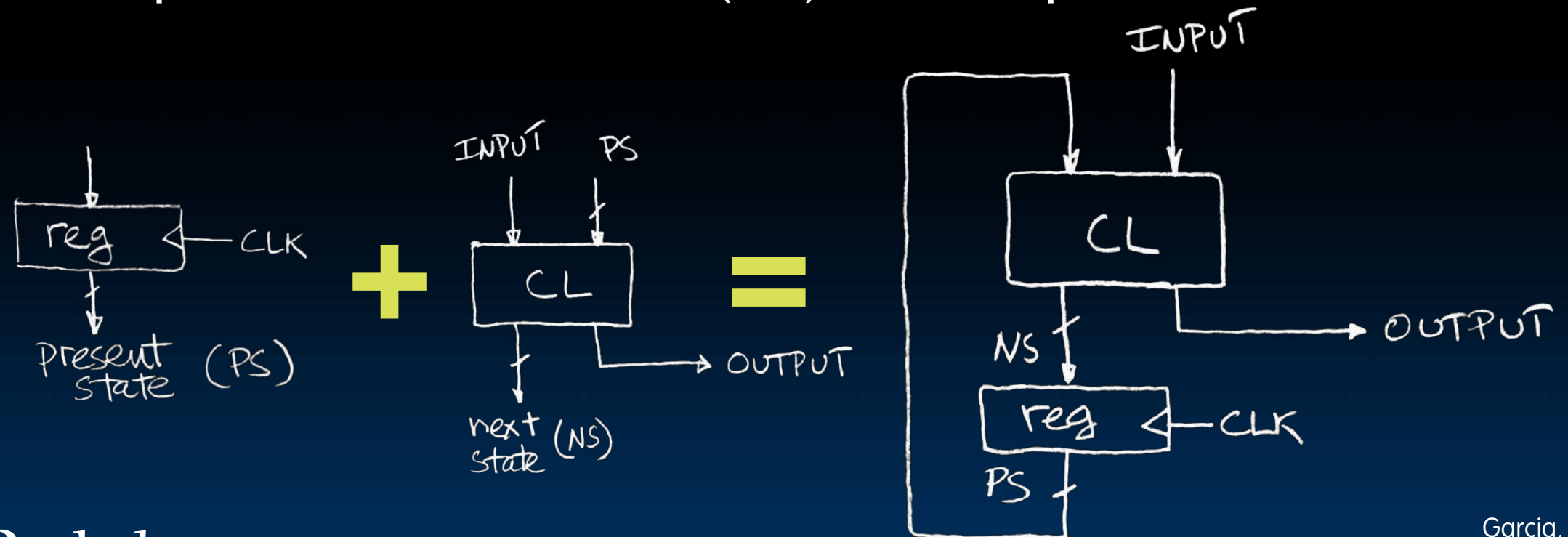


- Draw the FSM...
 - Assume state transitions are controlled by the clock: on each clock cycle the machine checks the inputs and moves to a new state and produces a new output...



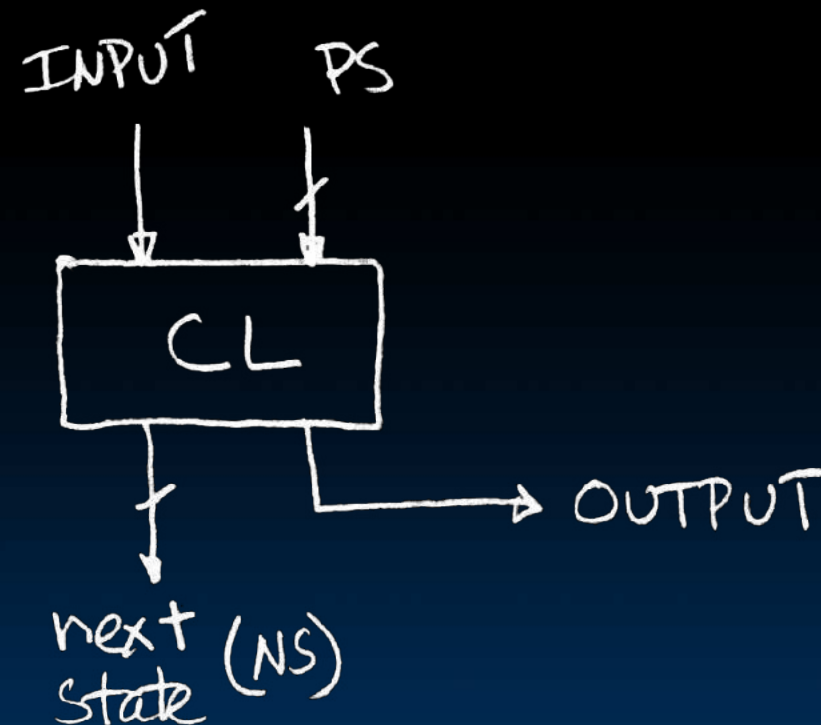
Hardware Implementation of FSM

- ... Therefore a register is needed to hold the representation of which state the machine is in.
 - Use a unique bit pattern for each state.
- Combinational logic circuit is used to implement a function mapping the input and present state (PS) input to the next state (NS) and output.



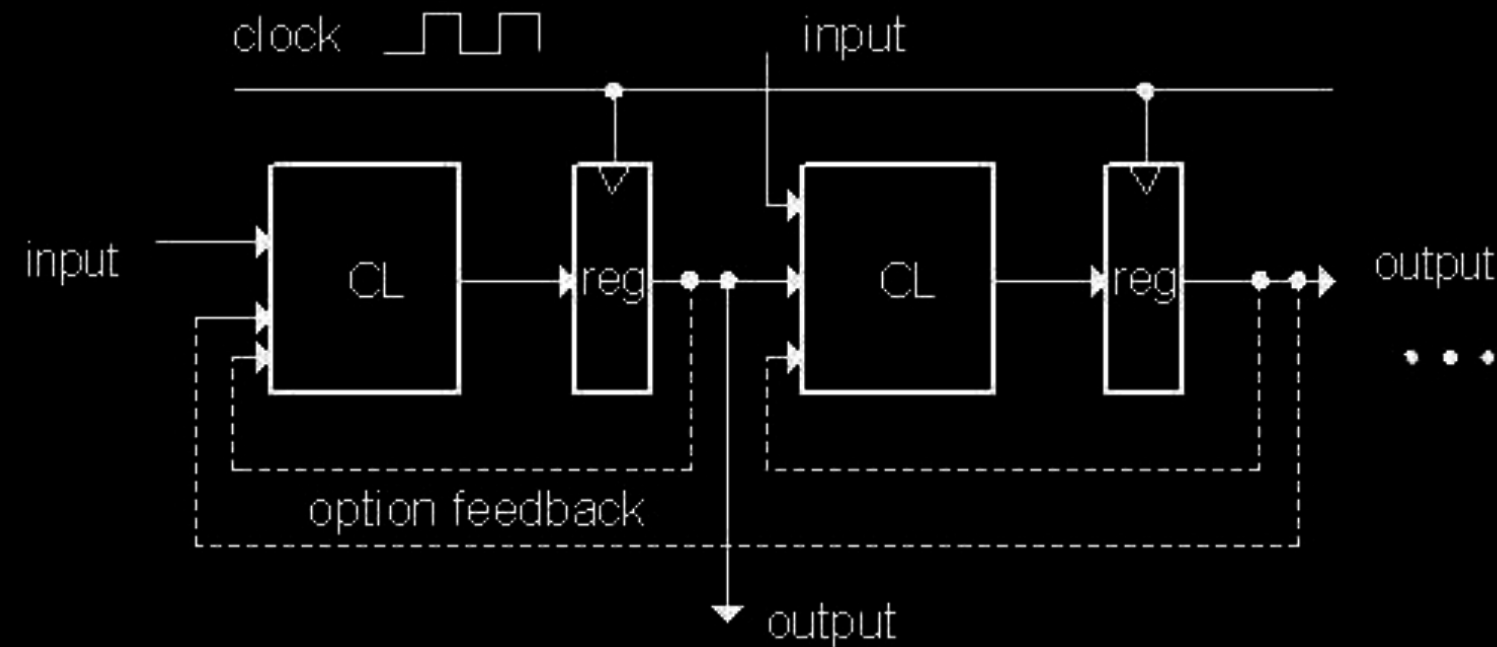
Hardware for FSM: Combinational Logic

- Next lecture we will discuss the detailed implementation, but for now can look at its functional specification, truth table form.



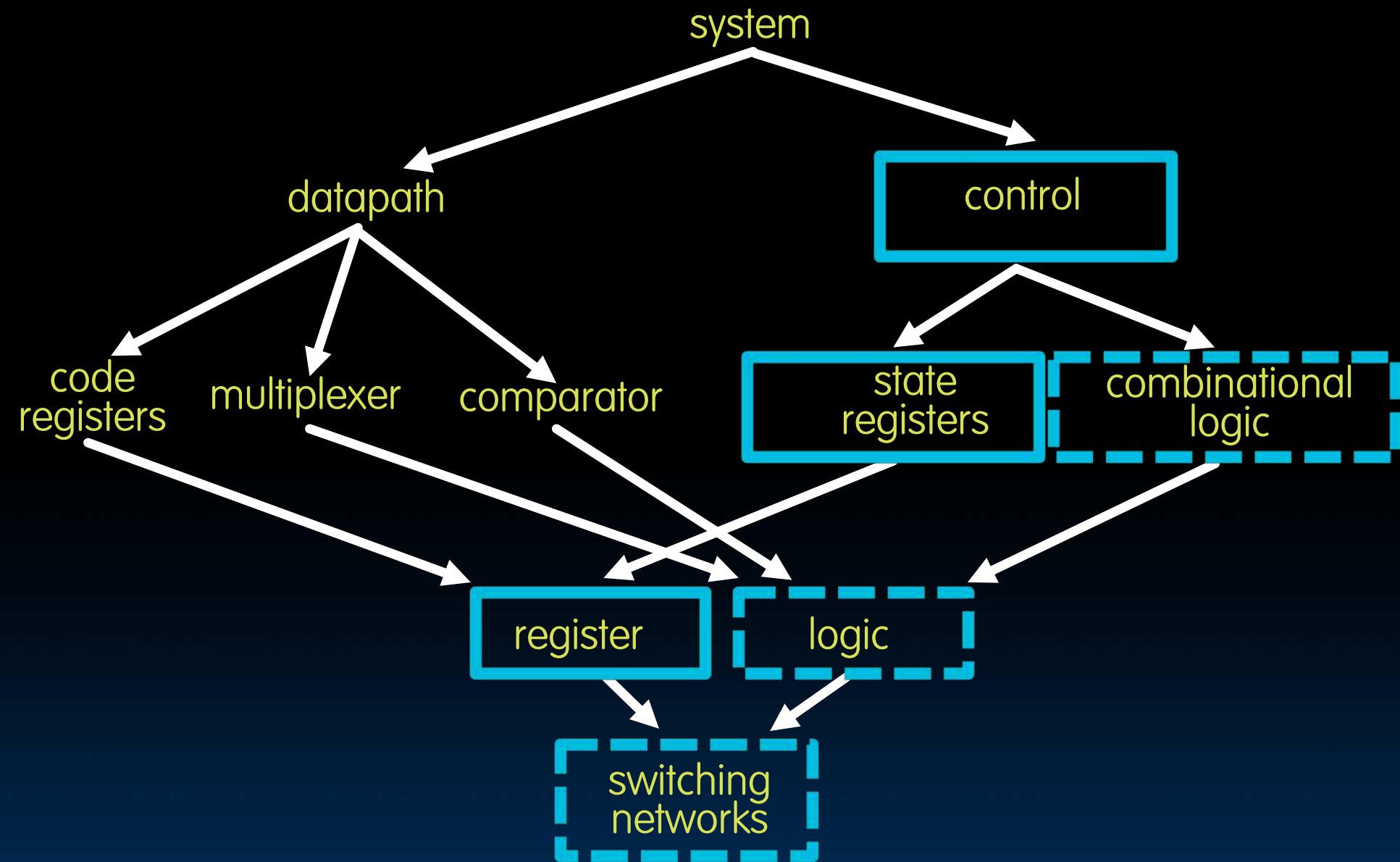
PS	Input	NS	Output
00	0	00	0
00	1	01	0
01	0	00	0
01	1	10	0
10	0	00	0
10	1	00	1

General Model for Synchronous Systems



- Collection of CL blocks separated by registers.
- Registers may be back-to-back and CL blocks may be back-to-back.
- Feedback is optional.
- Clock signal(s) connects only to clock input of registers.

Design Hierarchy





“And In conclusion...”

- State elements are used to:
 - Build memories
 - Control the flow of information between other state elements and combinational logic
- D-flip-flops used to build registers
- Clocks tell us when D-flip-flops change
 - setup and hold times are important
- We pipeline long-delay CL for faster clock
- Finite state machines extremely useful
 - You'll see them again 151A, 152, 164, 172, ...

