CSCI 210: Computer Architecture Lecture 18: Arithmetic Logic Unit

Stephen Checkoway

Oberlin College

Apr. 1, 2022

Slides from Cynthia Taylor

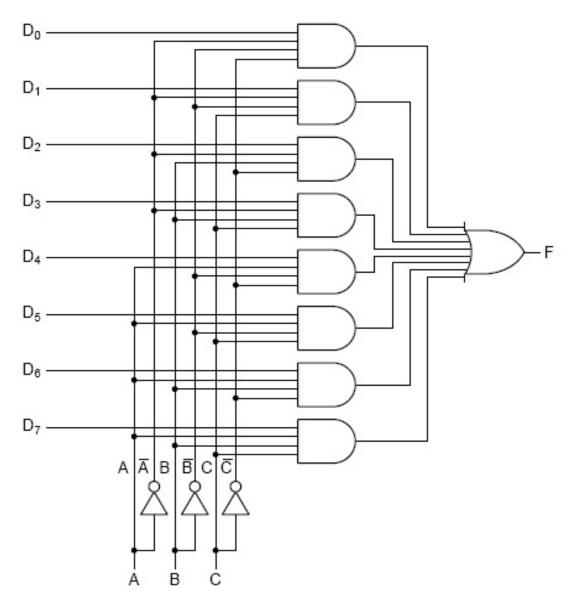
Announcements

Problem Set 5 due tonight

Lab 4 due Sunday after spring break

Office Hours today 13:30 – 14:30

8-to-1 input multiplexer



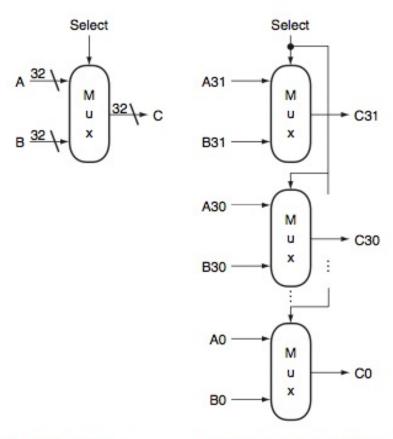
Scaling Up

 Have to perform combinatorial operations over an entire word (32-bits) of input.

 Bus: a collection of data lines that is treated together as a single logical signal.

 Example: A multiplexer is used to choose which of the two buses (each 32 bits wide) will be written into the Result register

Replicating a 1-bit Multiplexer 32 times



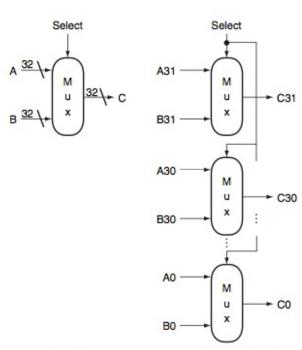
a. A 32-bit wide 2-to-1 multiplexor

 b. The 32-bit wide multiplexor is actually an array of 32 1-bit multiplexors

We want to choose which 32-bit bus value gets written to a register. Will the select value be the same for each 1-bit multiplexer?

A. Yes

B. No



ALU: Basic Problem

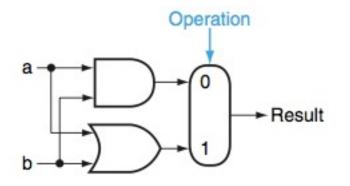
 Need to use digital logic to build a unit that can do basic computation – math, logical operations, etc.

- Needs to be 32 bits wide, since MIPS has 32 bit words.
 - Build out of 1-bit ALUs

Our ALU will support the following instructions:

- Add/Addi
- Sub
- Or/Ori
- And/Andi
- Nor/Nori
- Nand/Nandi
- Set less than

1-bit ALU: AND and OR



Inputs go to both AND and OR

Multiplexer selects AND or OR function for output

1-bit Binary Adding

$$0 + 0 = 0$$

$$0 + 1 = 1$$

$$1 + 0 = 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 10$$

Need to account for two output bits!

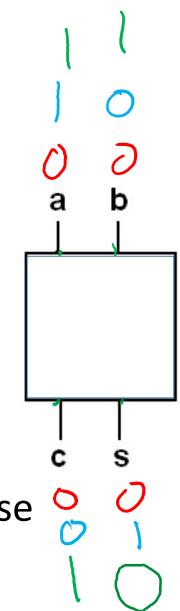
Half Adder

Inputs a, b

Outputs sum and carry out

Sum is the result of adding a and b

Carry out is the carry in the normal sense



Below is the truth table for the SUM output of a half adder. What is the Boolean algebra function that will give us this truth table?

a	b	Sum
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

A. a OR b

D. a NOR b

B. a XOR b

E. None of the above

C. a AND b

Below is the truth table for the CARRY output of a half adder. What is the Boolean algebra function that will give us this truth table?

a	b	Carry out
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

A. a OR b

D. a NOR b

B. a XOR b

E. None of the above

C. a AND b

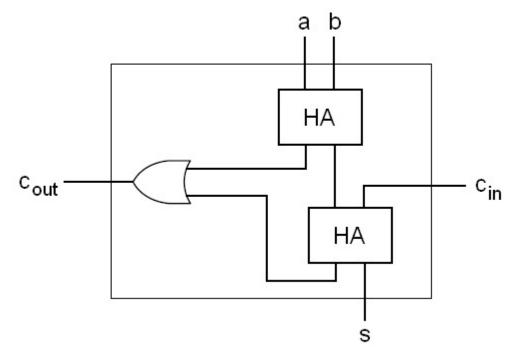
Binary Addition with Arbitrary Number of Bits

- Just like regular, grade school addition
 - Make sure we carry a 1 to the next digit when needed

 Now we need to be able to account for the carry-in from the next least-significant bit

• Example: 7+5

Full Adder from Half Adders



• Need carry-in, as well as carry-out

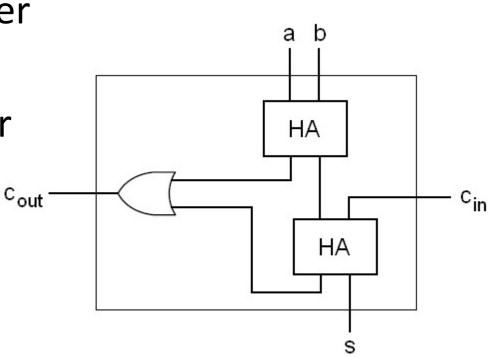
What if both half adders have carry-out?

A. We will get the wrong answer

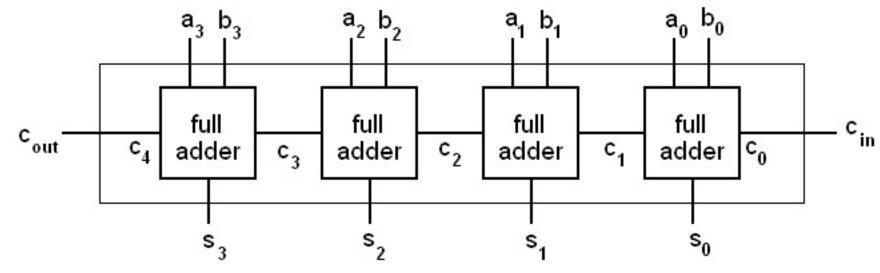
B. We will ignore it; the answer will still be correct

C. That will never happen

D. None of the above



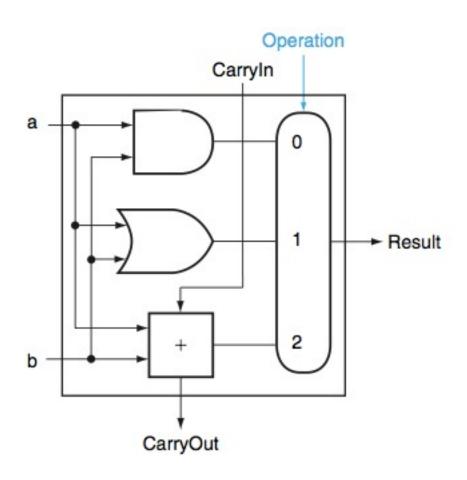
Ripple-Carry Adder



 Create adder for an arbitrary number of bits simply by connecting carry-out from adder n-1 to the carry-in for adder n

Carry bit "ripples" up

1-bit ALU



Subtraction: a – b

Just add negative version of b!

- To negate operand, transform to two's compliment
 - Invert each bit
 - Add one

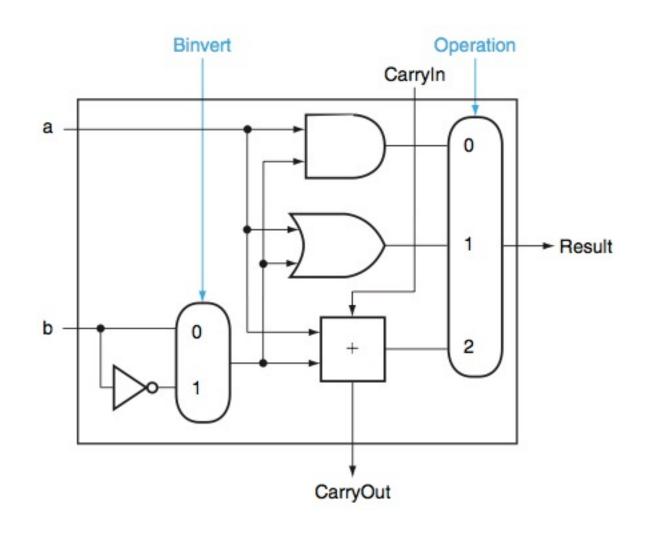
We can use a NOT gate to invert the input. To add one to the input, we should

A. Set the carry-in for the least significant bit to 1.

B. Add a new "subtract" input that we set to 1 for subtraction.

C. Do something else.

1-bit ALU with Subtraction



Adding NOR

Want to add NOR functionality

- DeMorgan's Law
 - $-\overline{(A+B)} = \overline{A} \overline{B}$

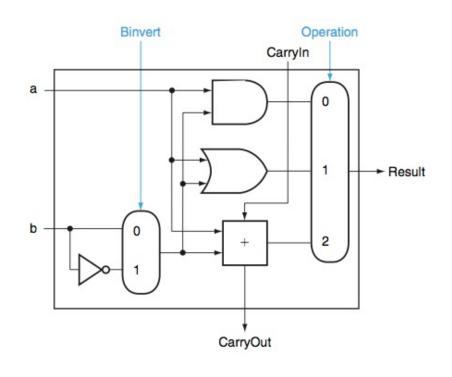
To add NOR to the ALU, we need to add

A. Nothing

B. The ability to invert A

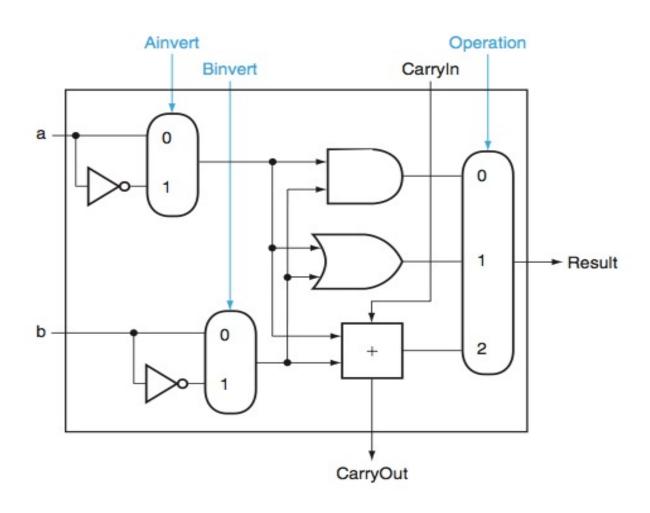
C. A NOR gate

D. Something else



DeMorgan's Law
$$\overline{(A+B)} = \overline{A} \overline{B}$$

1-bit ALU with NOR

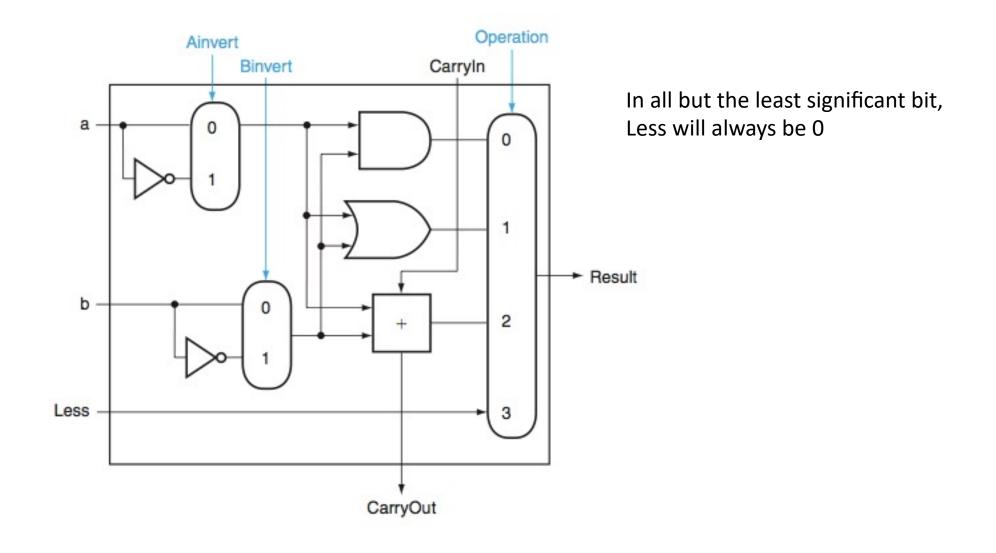


Adding slt

slt rd, rs, rt-rd = 1 if rs < rt, and 0 otherwise

- Only sets least significant bit
 - All other bits are 0

1-bit ALU: Add new input for slt



How do we tell if a < b?

Subtract b from a

• If a - b < 0, then a < b

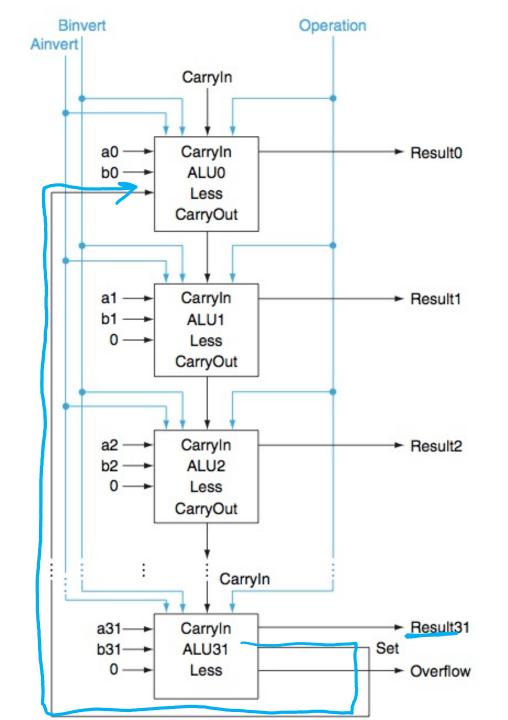
We can check this by checking the most significant bit

$$- MSB = 1, a < b$$

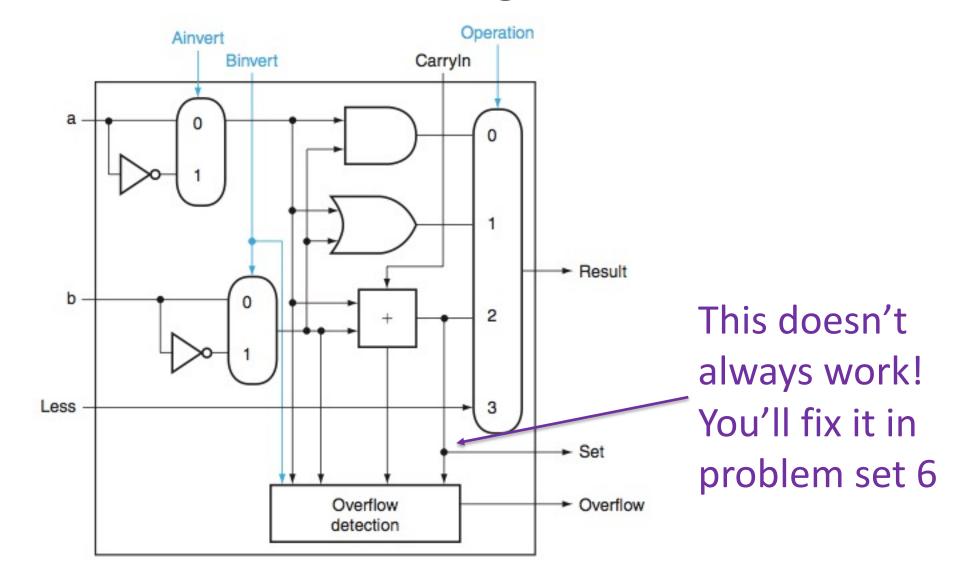
 Problem: Output is at Most Significant Bit, we need it at Least Significant Bit

 Solution: Special ALU for Most Significant Bit, with output for SLT

 Hook SET output into LESS input for Least Significant Bit



1-bit ALU for the Most Significant Bit



Recall: Overflow

 If we add two n-bit numbers, we may end up with a n+1 bit number

Hardware can detect this

a and b have different signs. Will adding them ever result in overflow?

A. Yes

B. No

Adding overflow detection

Only need to check if a and b have the same MSB

If MSB is different from carry out, then there will be overflow

To check if the MSB is different from the carry out, check if

- A. MSB AND Carry == 0
- B. MSB OR CARRY == 1
- C. MSB NOR CARRY == 0
- D. MSB XOR CARRY == 1
- E. None of the above

Reading

- Next lecture: Clocks, Latches and Flip flops
 - -3.6

- Problem set 5
 - Due Tonight

- Lab 4
 - Due Sunday after break