

# Memory

**Prof. Hakim Weatherspoon**

**CS 3410, Spring 2015**

Computer Science

Cornell University

See P&H Appendix B.8 (register files) and B.9

# Announcements

Make sure to go to your Lab Section this week

Completed Lab1 due *before* winter break, Friday, Feb 13th

Note, a Design Document is due when you submit Lab1 final circuit

Work **alone**

## Save your work!

- *Save often*. Verify file is non-zero. Periodically save to Dropbox, email.
- Beware of MacOSX 10.5 (leopard) and 10.6 (snow-leopard)

## Homework1 is out

Due a week before prelim1, Monday, February 23rd

*Work on problems incrementally, as we cover them in lecture (i.e. part 1)*

Office Hours for help

Work **alone**

Work alone, **BUT** use your resources

- Lab Section, Piazza.com, Office Hours
- Class notes, book, Sections, CSUGLab

# Announcements

Check online syllabus/schedule

- <http://www.cs.cornell.edu/Courses/CS3410/2015sp/schedule.html>
- Slides and Reading for lectures
- Office Hours
- *Pictures of all TAs*
- Homework and Programming Assignments
- **Dates to keep in Mind**
  - **Prelims: Tue Mar 3rd and Thur April 30th**
  - *Lab 1: Due next Friday, Feb 13th before Winter break*
  - Proj2: Due Thur Mar 26th before Spring break
  - Final Project: Due when final would be (not known until Feb 14t

Schedule is subject to change

# Collaboration, Late, Re-grading Policies

## “Black Board” Collaboration Policy

- Can discuss approach together on a “black board”
- Leave and write up solution independently
- Do not copy solutions

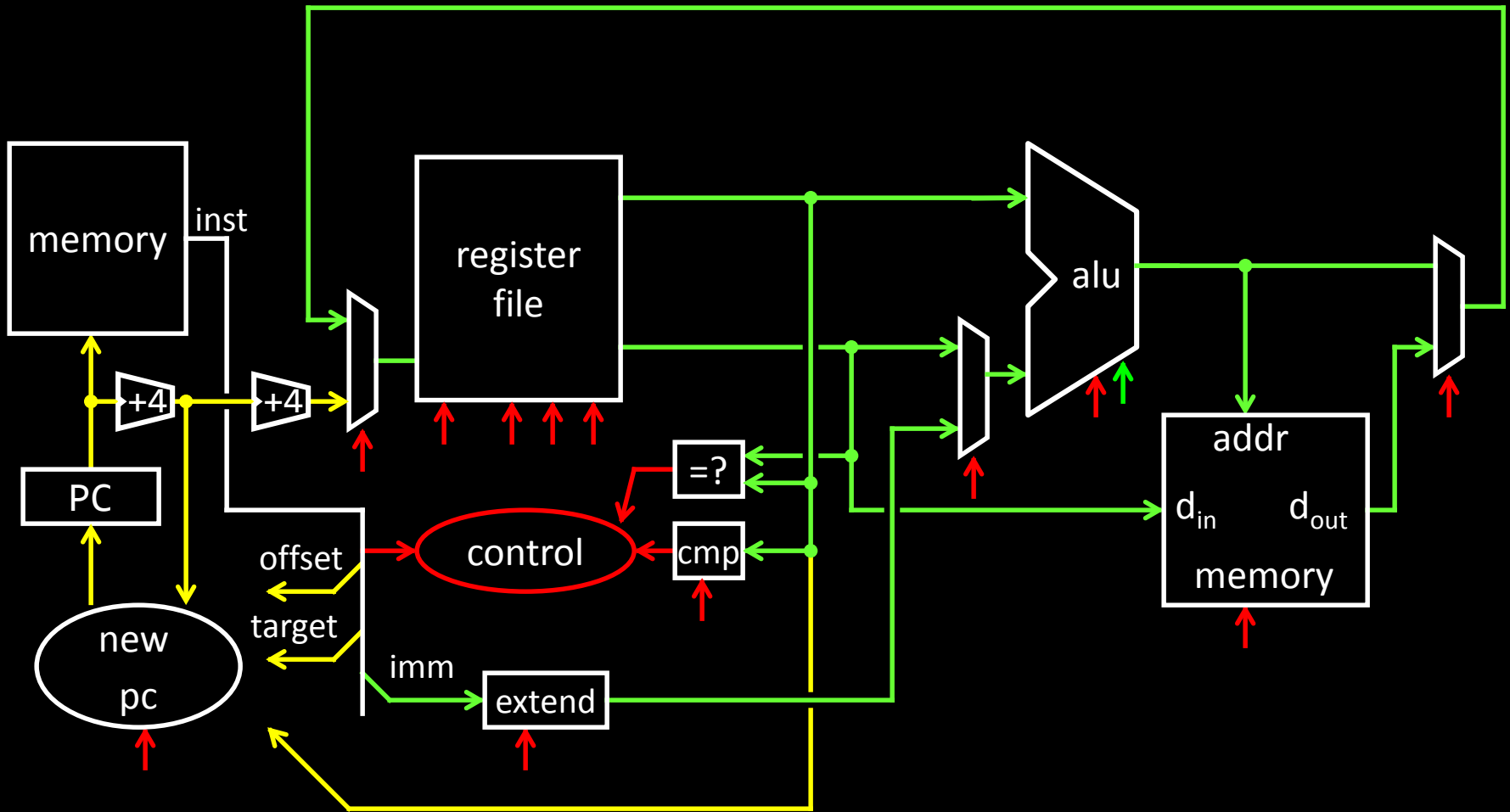
## Late Policy

- Each person has a total of **four** “slip days”
- Max of **two** slip days for any individual assignment
- Slip days deducted first for *any* late assignment, cannot selectively apply slip days
- For projects, slip days are deducted from all partners
- **25%** deducted per day late after slip days are exhausted

## Regrade policy

- Submit written request to lead TA,  
and lead TA will pick a different grader
- Submit another written request,  
lead TA will regrade directly
- Submit yet another written request for professor to regrade.

# Big Picture: Building a Processor



A Single cycle processor

# Goals for today

## Review

- Finite State Machines

## Memory

- Register Files
- Tri-state devices
- SRAM (Static RAM—random access memory)
- DRAM (Dynamic RAM)

# Which statement(s) is true

- (A) In a Moore Machine output depends on both current state and input
- (B) In a Mealy Machine output depends on both current state and input
- (C) In a Mealy Machine output depends on next state and input
- (D) All the above are true
- (E) None are true

# Which statement(s) is true

(A) In a Moore Machine output depends on both current state and input

(B) In a Mealy Machine output depends on both current state and input

(C) In a Mealy Machine output depends on next state and input

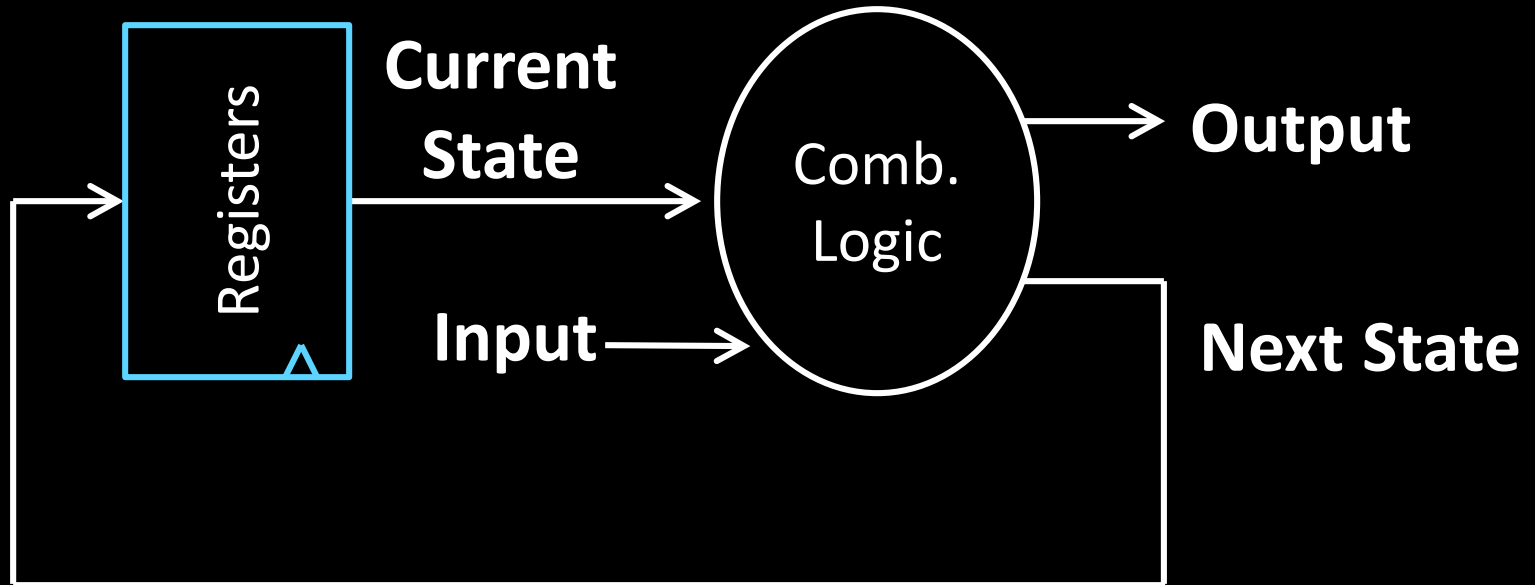
(D) All the above are true

(E) None are true



# Mealy Machine

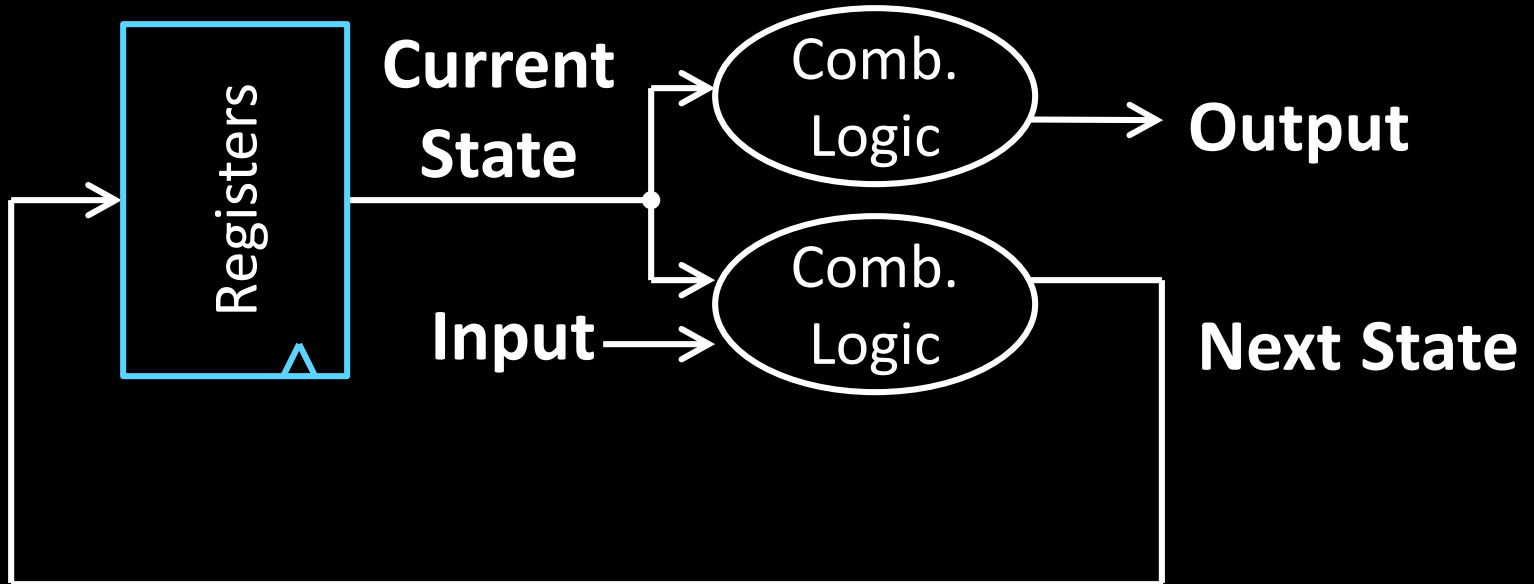
## General Case: Mealy Machine



Outputs and next state depend on both current state and input

# Moore Machine

Special Case: Moore Machine



Outputs depend only on current state

# Example: Digital Door Lock



## Digital Door Lock

### Inputs:

- keycodes from keypad
- clock

### Outputs:

- “unlock” signal
- display how many keys pressed so far

# Door Lock: Inputs

## Assumptions:

- signals are synchronized to clock
- Password is B-A-B

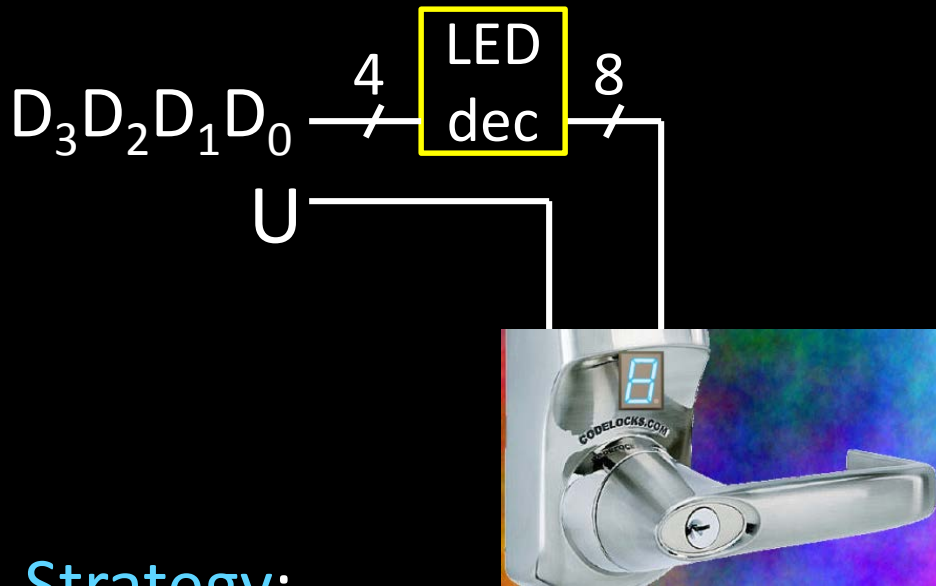


K	A	B	Meaning
0	0	0	$\emptyset$ (no key)
1	1	0	'A' pressed
1	0	1	'B' pressed

# Door Lock: Outputs

## Assumptions:

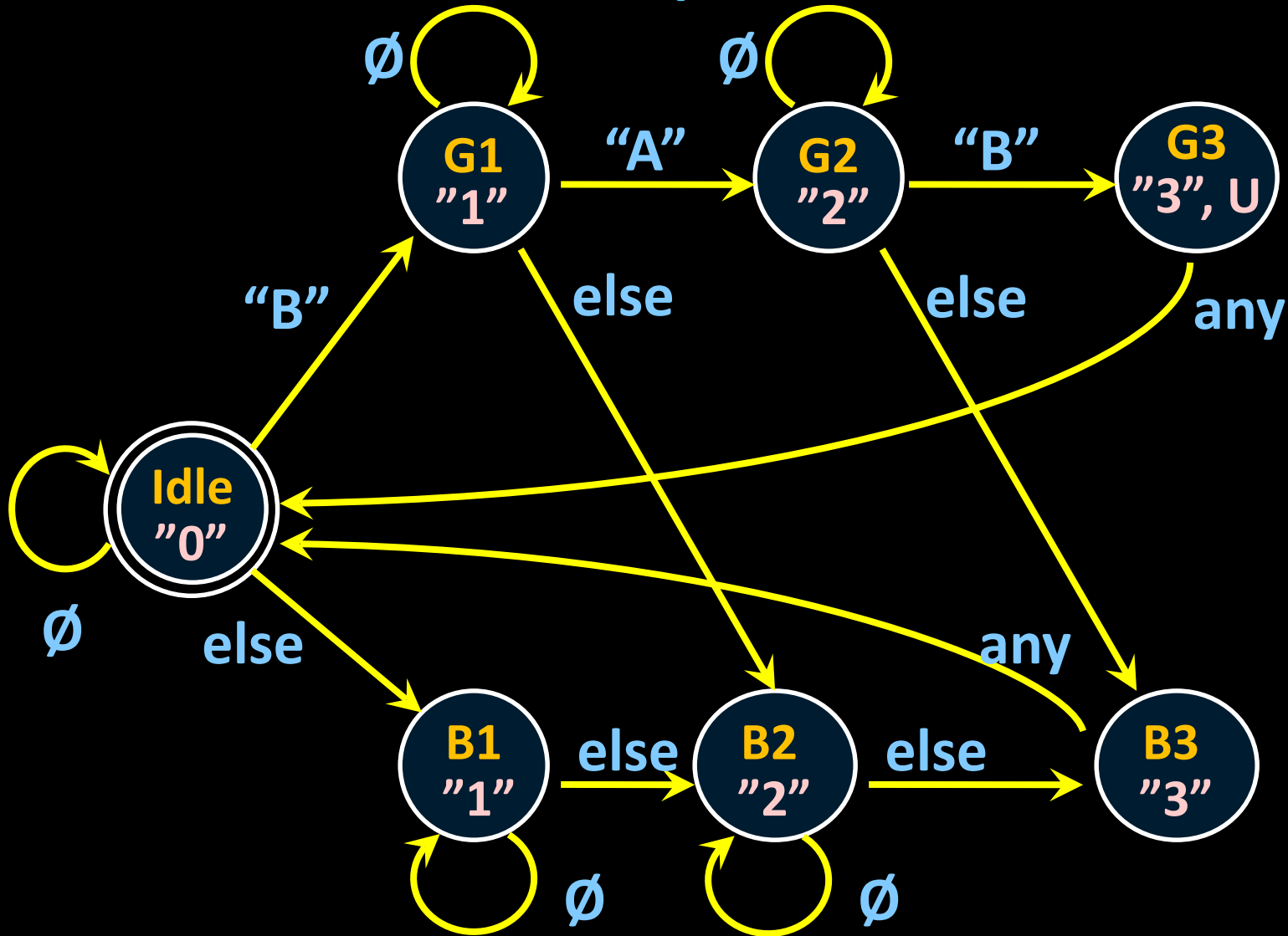
- High pulse on U unlocks door



## Strategy:

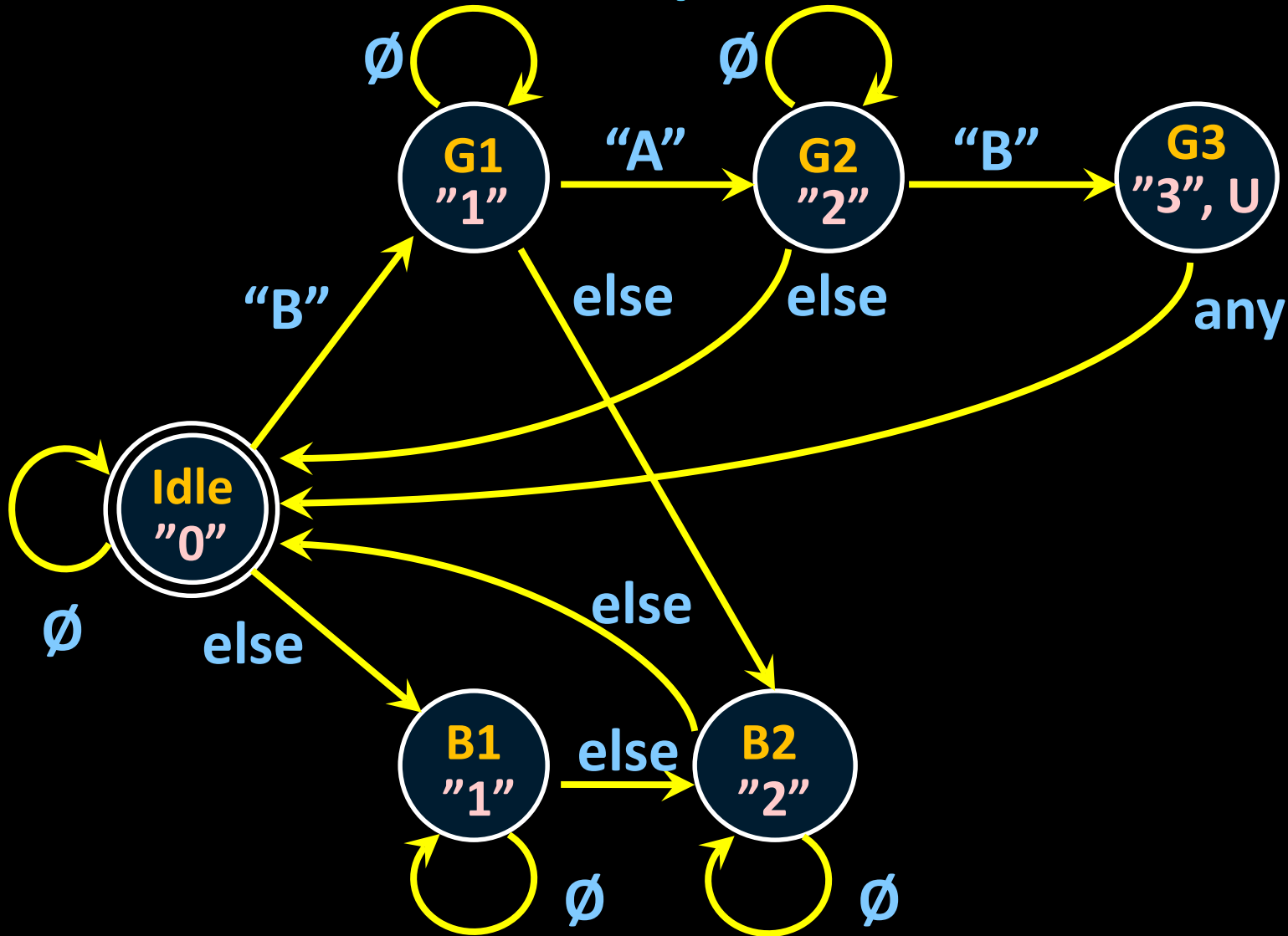
- (1) Draw a state diagram (e.g. Moore Machine)
- (2) Write output and next-state tables
- (3) Encode states, inputs, and outputs as bits
- (4) Determine logic equations for next state and outputs

# Door Lock: Simplified State Diagram



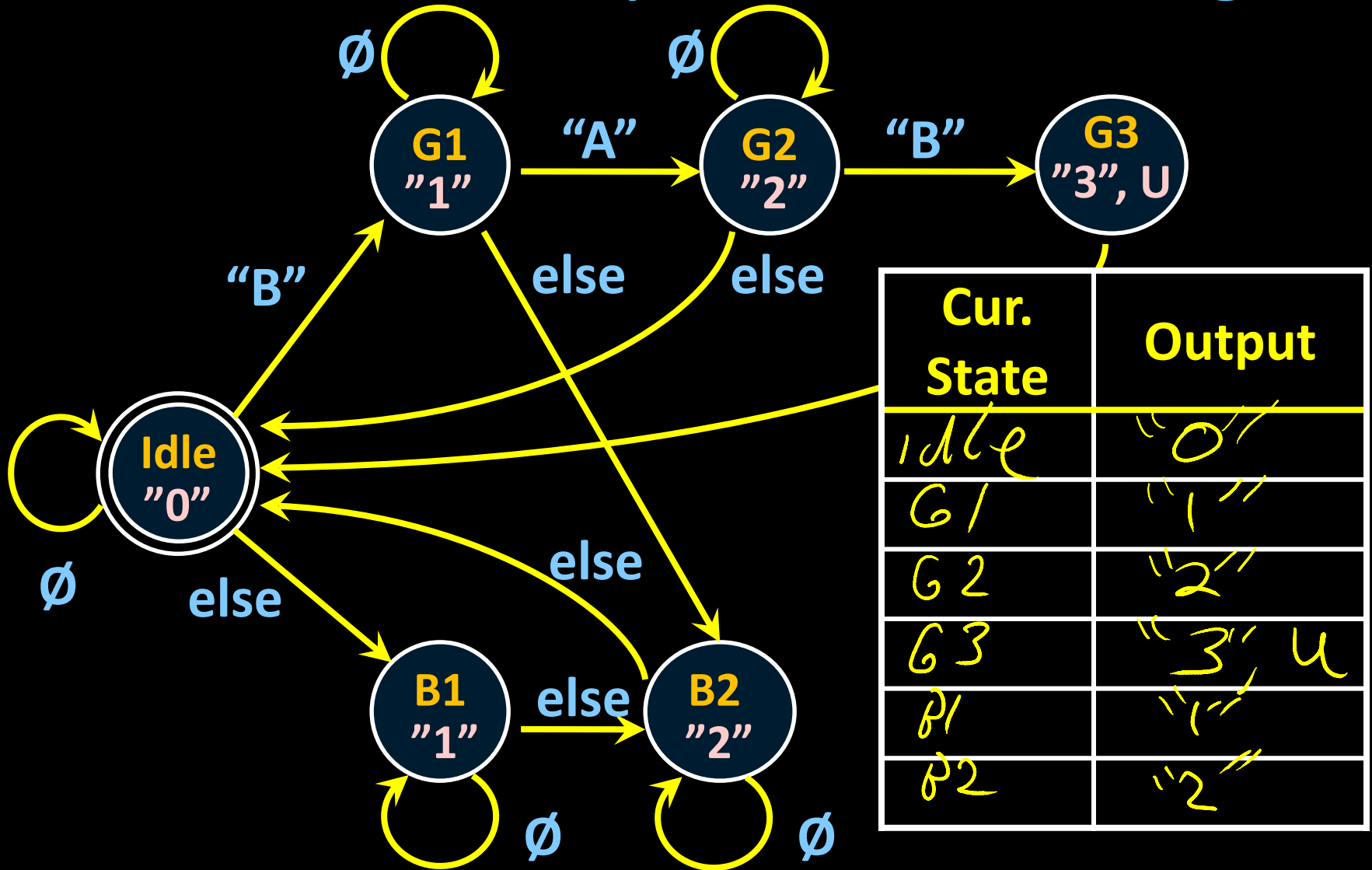
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# Door Lock: Simplified State Diagram



(1) Draw a state diagram (e.g. Moore Machine)

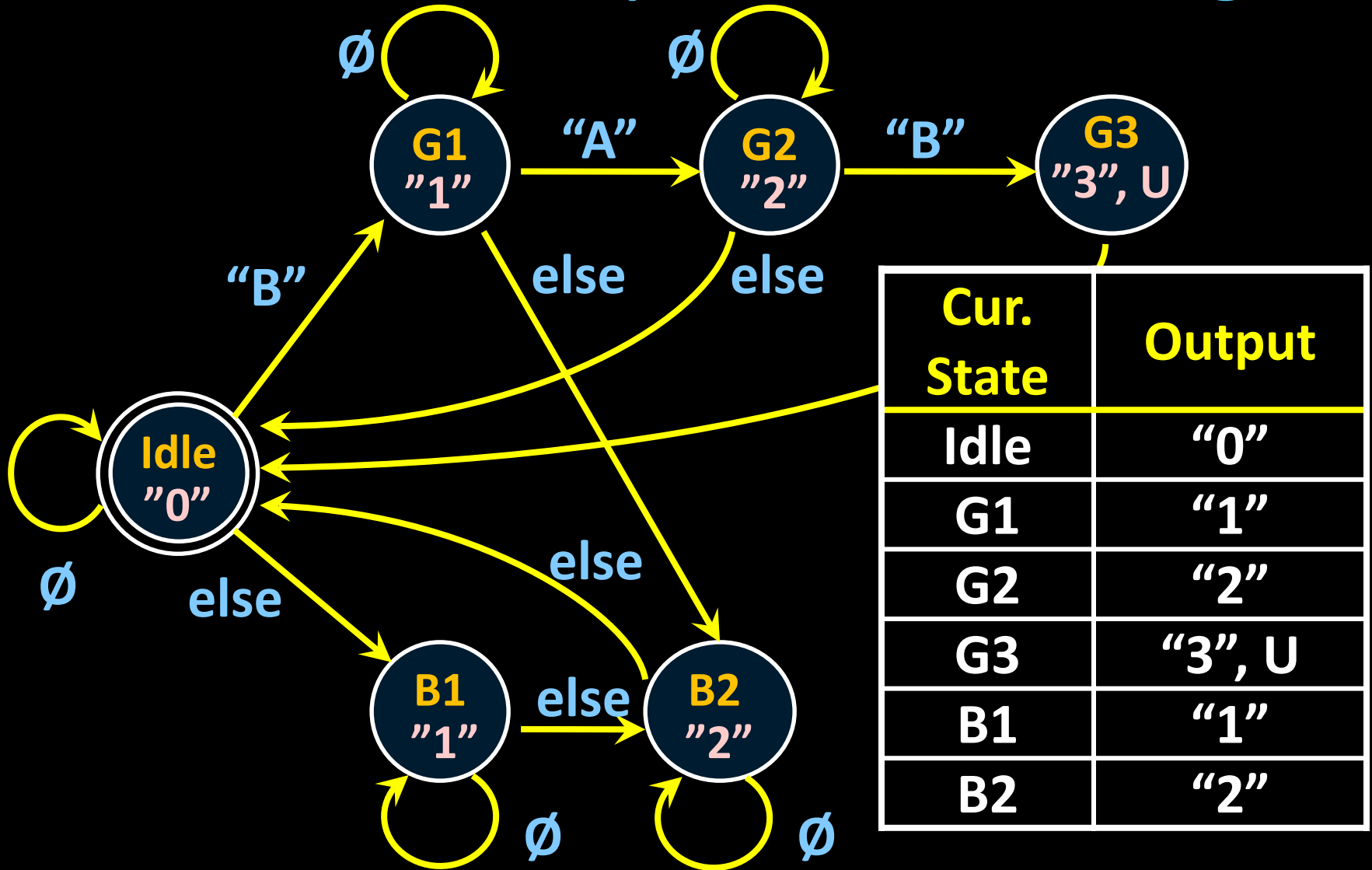
# Door Lock: Simplified State Diagram



(2) Write output and next-state tables

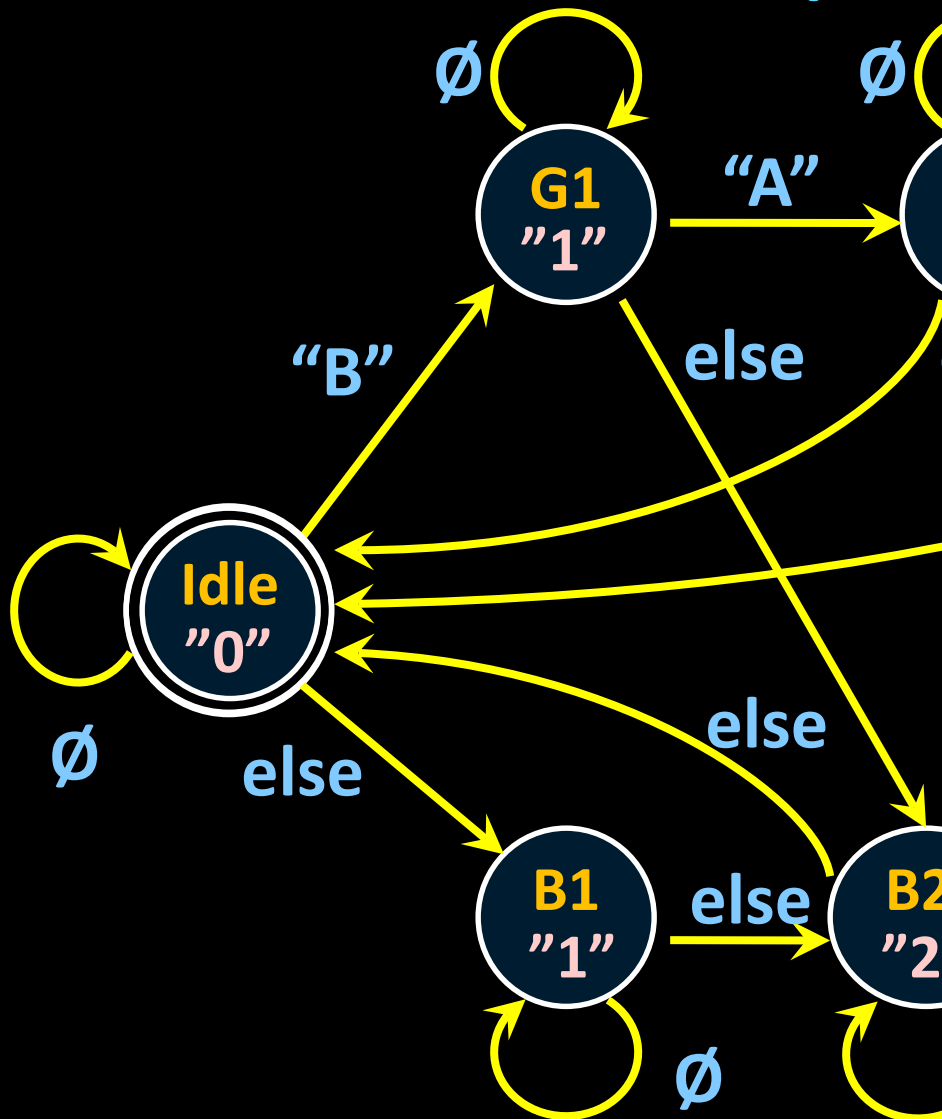


# Door Lock: Simplified State Diagram



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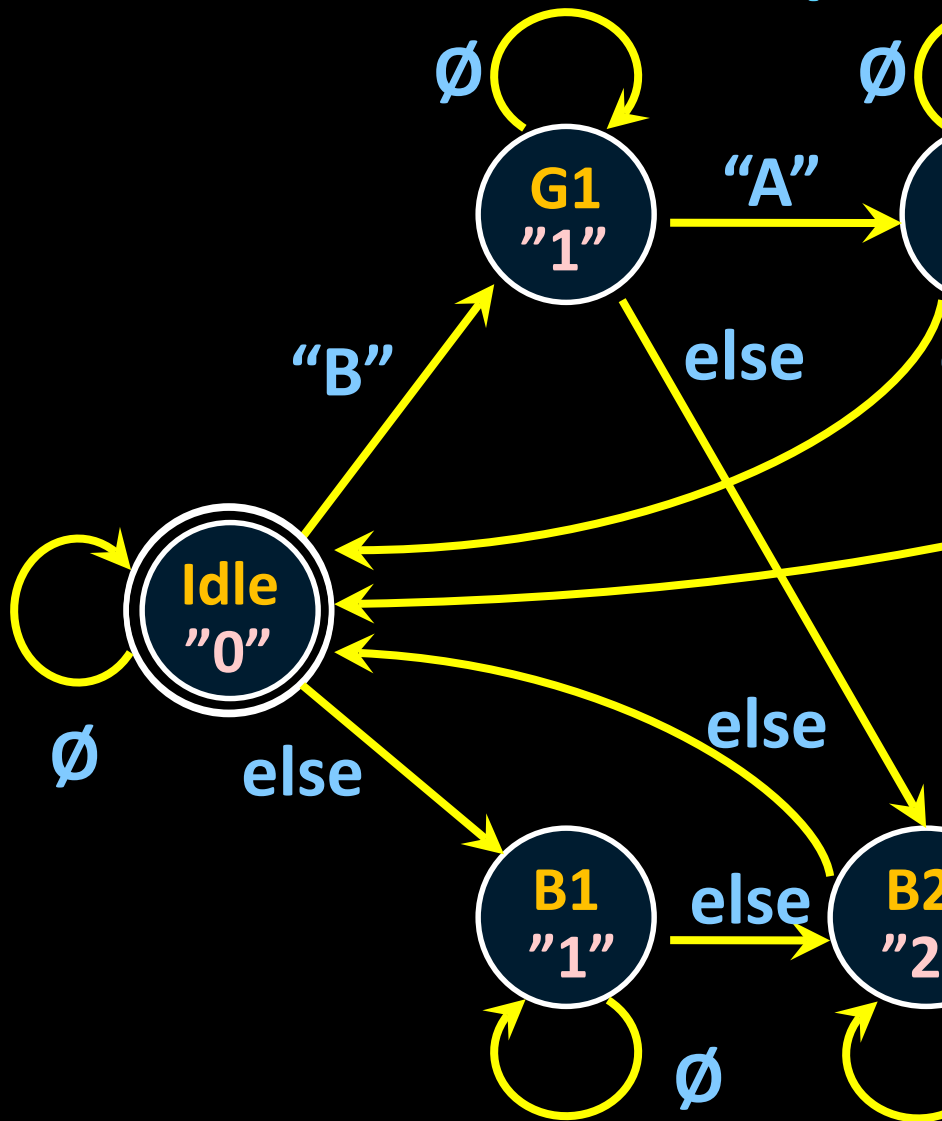
# Door Lock: Simplified State Diagram



Cur. State	Input	Next State
Idle	0	Idle
Idle	"B"	G1
Idle	"A"	∅
G1	0	G1
G1	A	G2
G1	B	∅
G2		
G2		
G2		
G2		
B1		
B1		
B2		
B2		

(2) Write output and next-state tables

# Door Lock: Simplified State Diagram



Cur. State	Input	Next State
Idle	∅	Idle
Idle	"B"	G1
Idle	"A"	B1
G1	∅	G1
G1	"A"	G2
G1	"B"	B2
G2	∅	G2
G2	"B"	G3
G2	"A"	Idle
G3	any	Idle
B1	∅	B1
B1	K	B2
B2	∅	B2
B2	K	Idle

(2) Write output and next-state tables

# State Table Encoding

$S_2$	$S_1$	$S_0$	$D_3$	$D_2$	$D_1$	$D_0$	U
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0

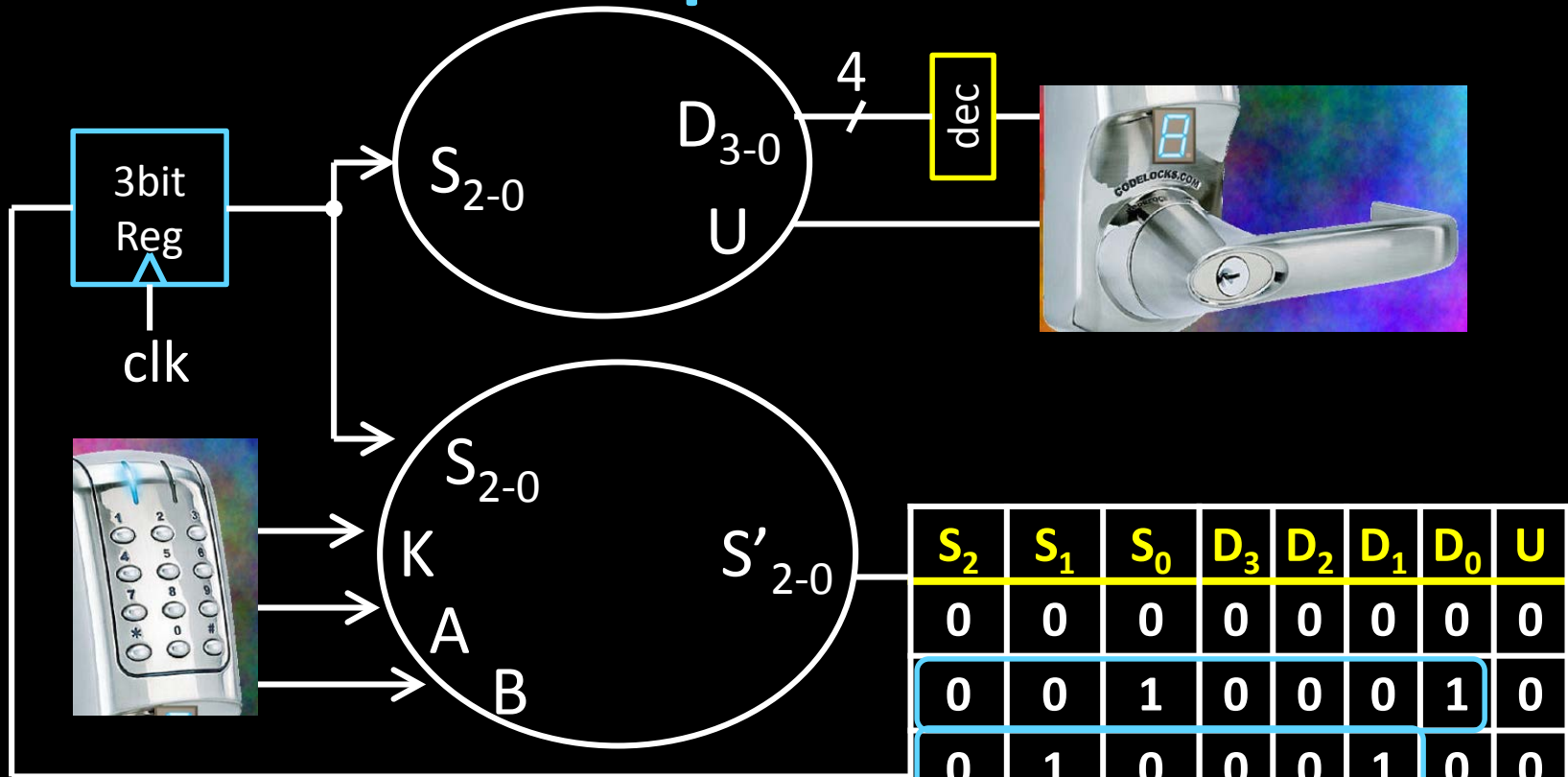
$S_2$	$S_1$	$S_0$	K	A	B	$S'_2$	$S'_1$	$S'_0$
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	x	x	x	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	0	0	1	x	x	1	0	1
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	x	x	0	0	0

$D_3$  [

State	$S_2$	$S_1$	$S_0$
Idle	0	0	0
G1	0	0	1
G2	0	1	0
G3	0	1	1
B1	1	0	0
B2	1	0	1

ts, and outputs as bits

# Door Lock: Implementation



$$U = \bar{S}_2 S_1 S_0$$

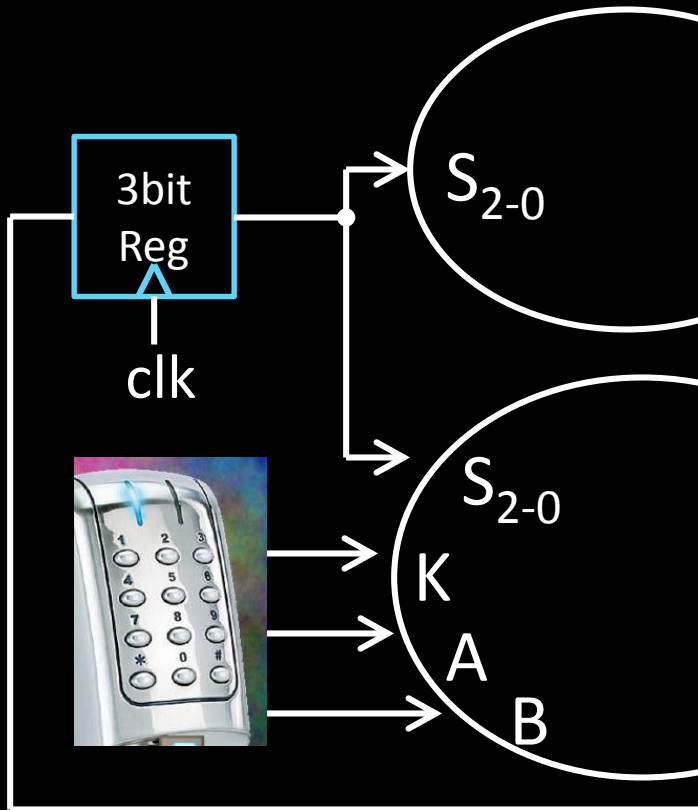
$$D_0 = \bar{S}_2 \bar{S}_1 S_0 + \bar{S}_2 S_1 \bar{S}_0 + S_2 \bar{S}_1 \bar{S}_0$$

$$D_1 = \bar{S}_2 \bar{S}_1 S_0 + \bar{S}_2 S_1 S_0 + \bar{S}_2 S_1 \bar{S}_0$$

$S_2$	$S_1$	$S_0$	$D_3$	$D_2$	$D_1$	$D_0$	$U$
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0

(4) Determine logic equations for next state and outputs

# Door Lock: Implementation



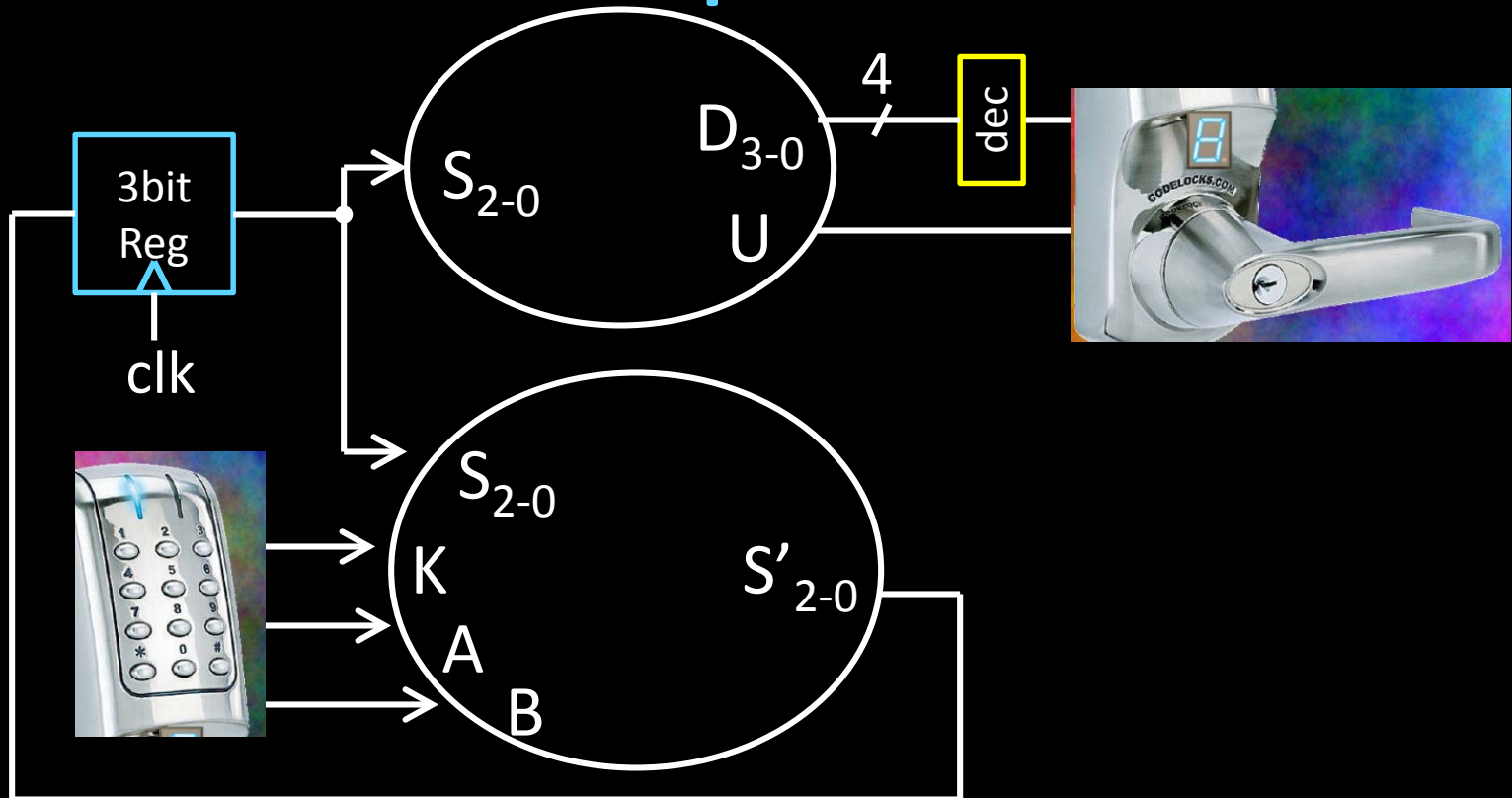
$S_2$	$S_1$	$S_0$	K	A	B	$S'_2$	$S'_1$	$S'_0$
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	x	x	x	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	0	0	1	x	x	1	0	1
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	x	x	0	0	0

$$S'_0 = ?$$

$$S'_1 = ?$$

$$S'_2 = \overline{S_2 S_1 S_0} K A \overline{B} + \overline{S_2 S_1 S_0} K \overline{A} B + S_2 \overline{S_1 S_2} K A \overline{B} + \overline{S_2 S_1 S_0} K + S_2 \overline{S_1 S_0} \overline{K A B}$$

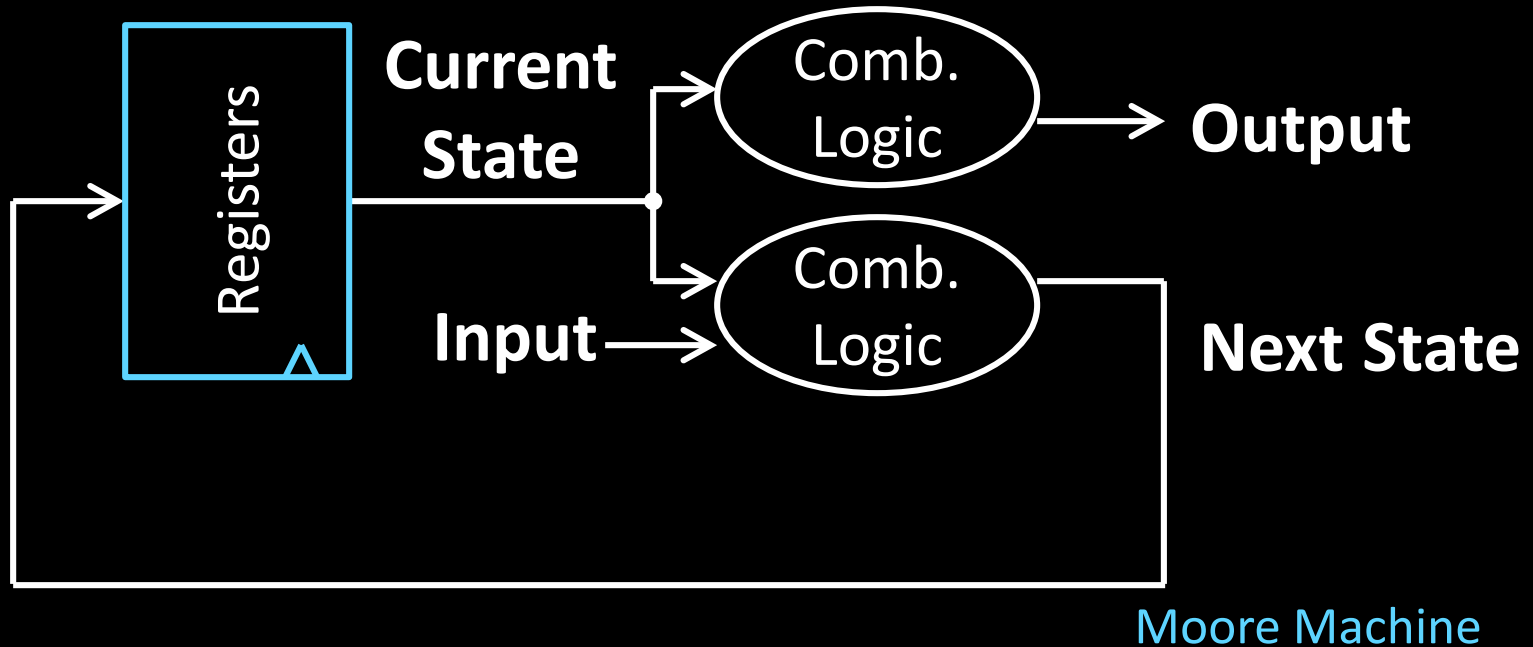
# Door Lock: Implementation



## Strategy:

- (1) Draw a state diagram (e.g. Moore Machine)
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# Door Lock: Implementation



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# Goals for today

## Review

- Finite State Machines

## Memory

- CPU: Register Files (i.e. Memory w/in the CPU)
- Scaling Memory: Tri-state devices
- Cache: SRAM (Static RAM—random access memory)
- Memory: DRAM (Dynamic RAM)

## Goal:

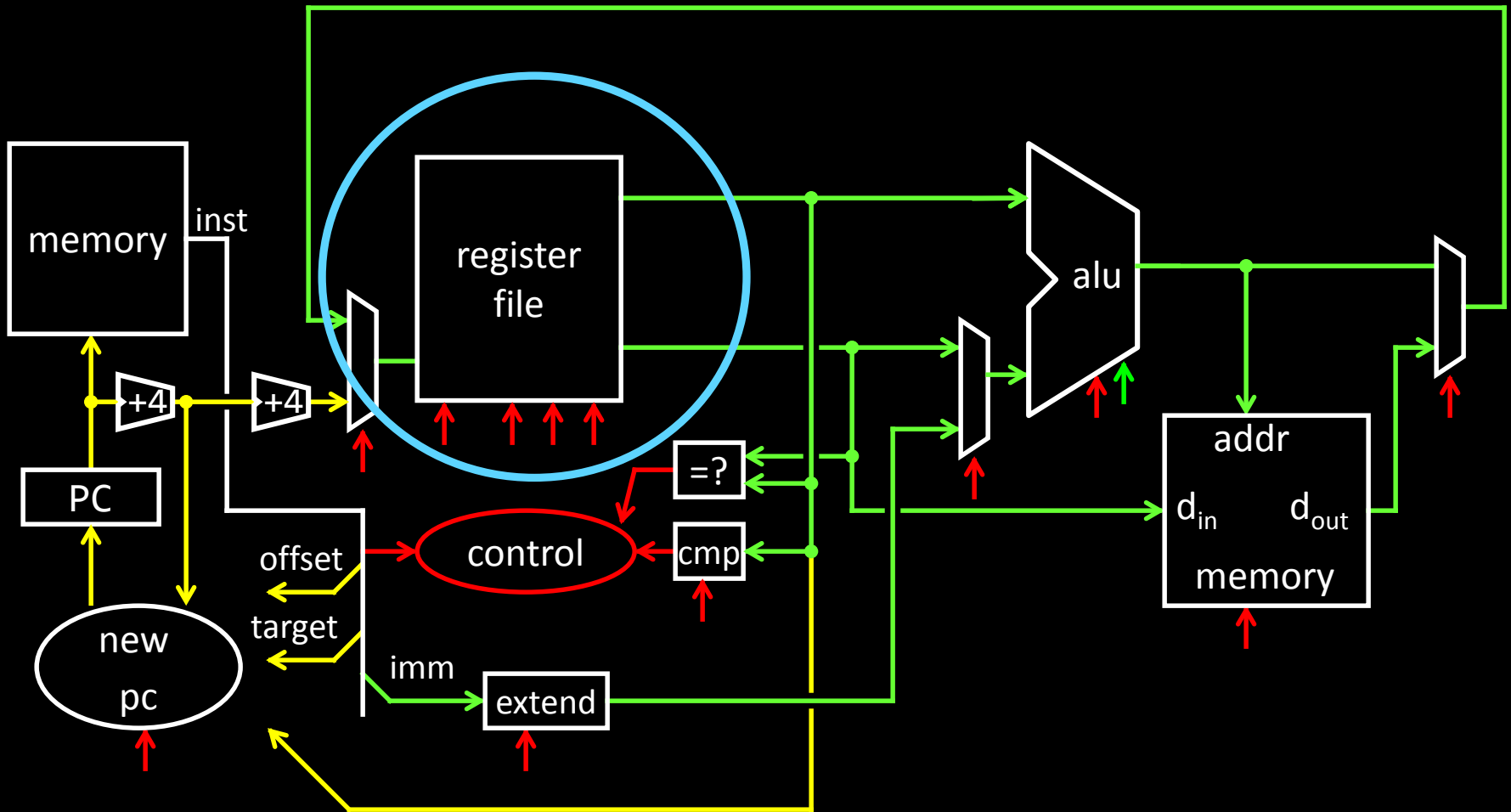
How do we store results from ALU computations?

How do we use stored results in subsequent operations?

## Register File

How does a Register File work? How do we design it?

# Big Picture: Building a Processor

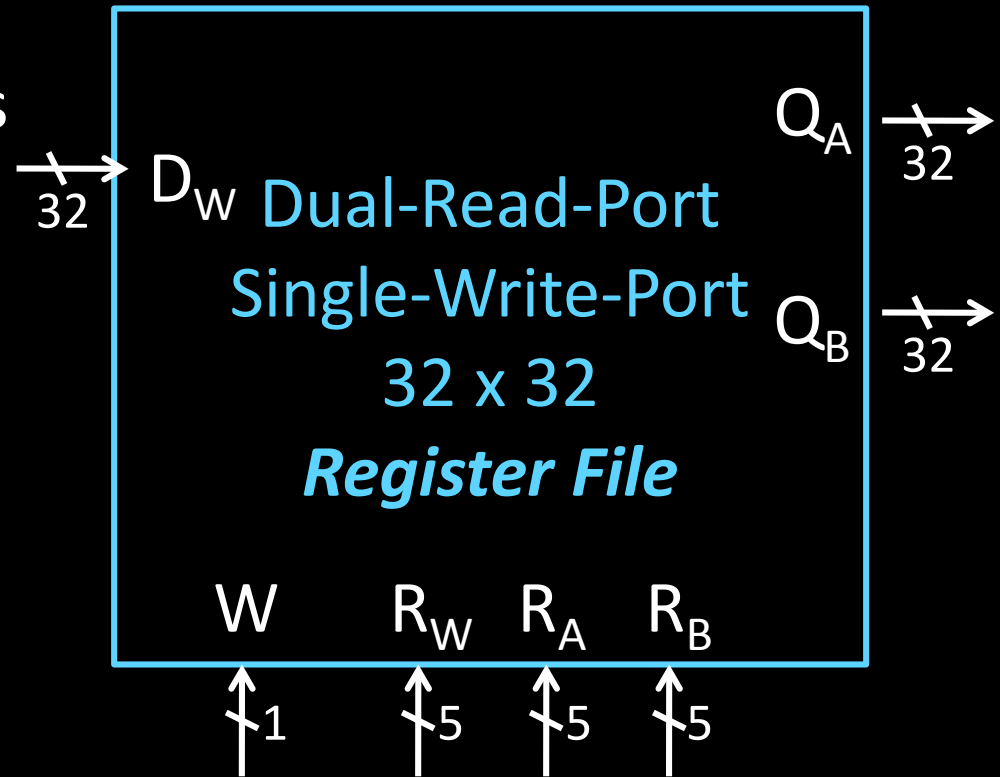


A Single cycle processor

# Register File

## Register File

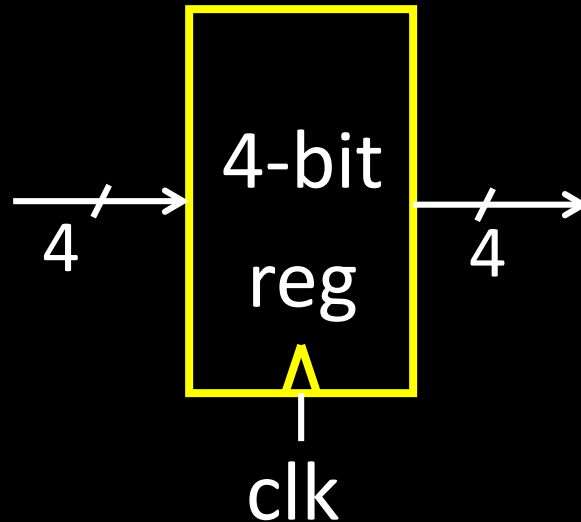
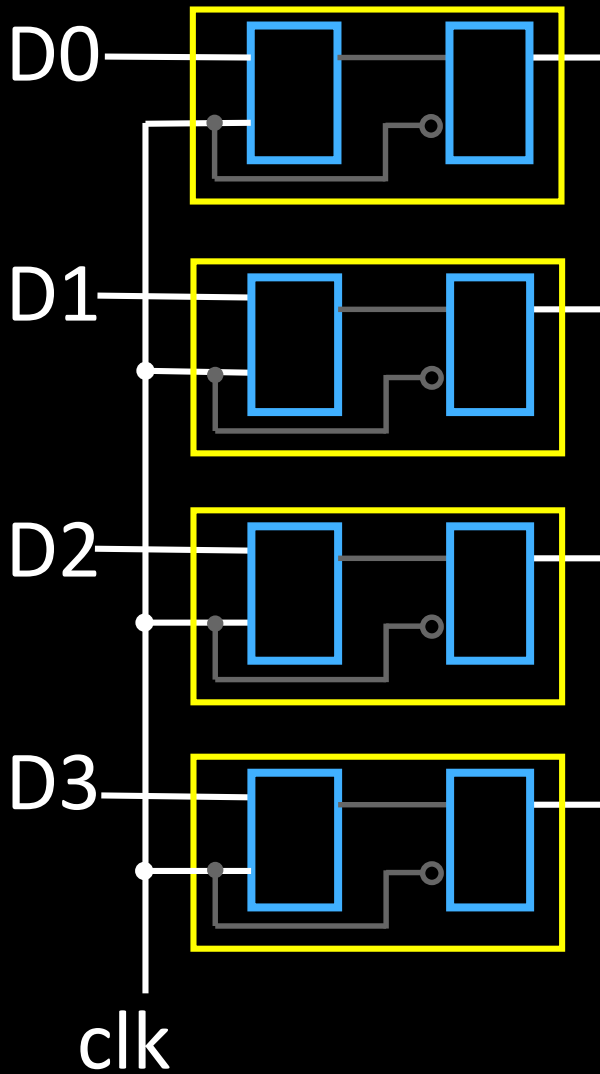
- N read/write registers
- Indexed by register number



# Register File

## Recall: Register

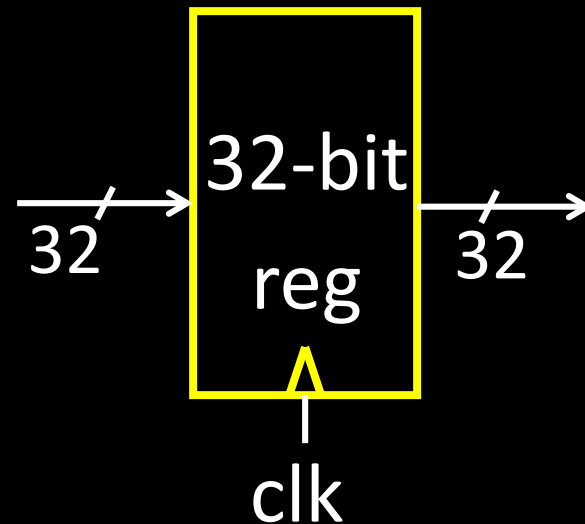
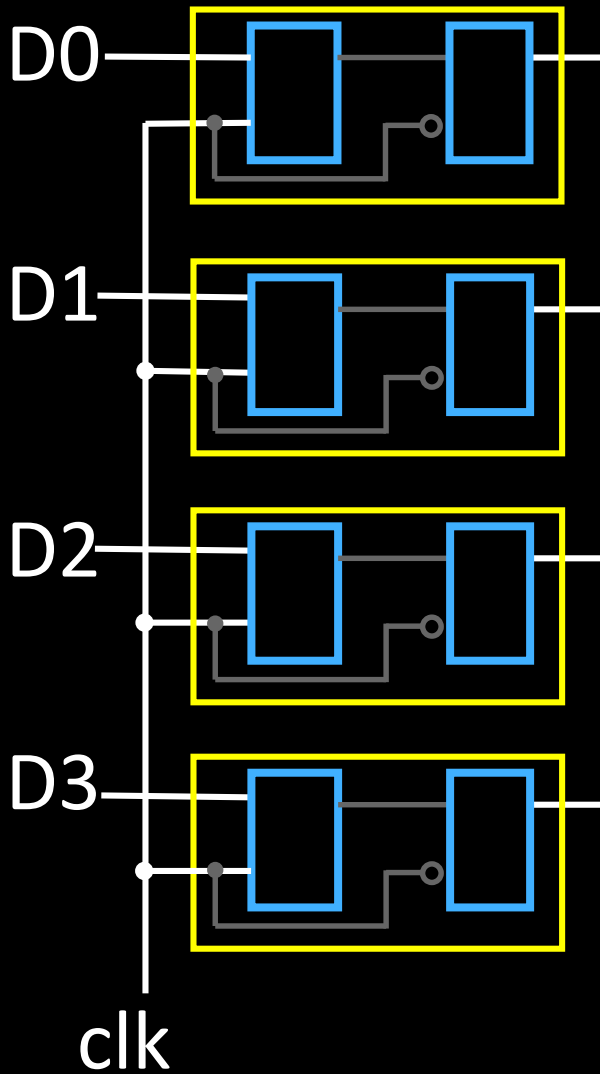
- D flip-flops in parallel
- shared clock
- extra clocked inputs: write\_enable, reset, ...



# Register File

## Recall: Register

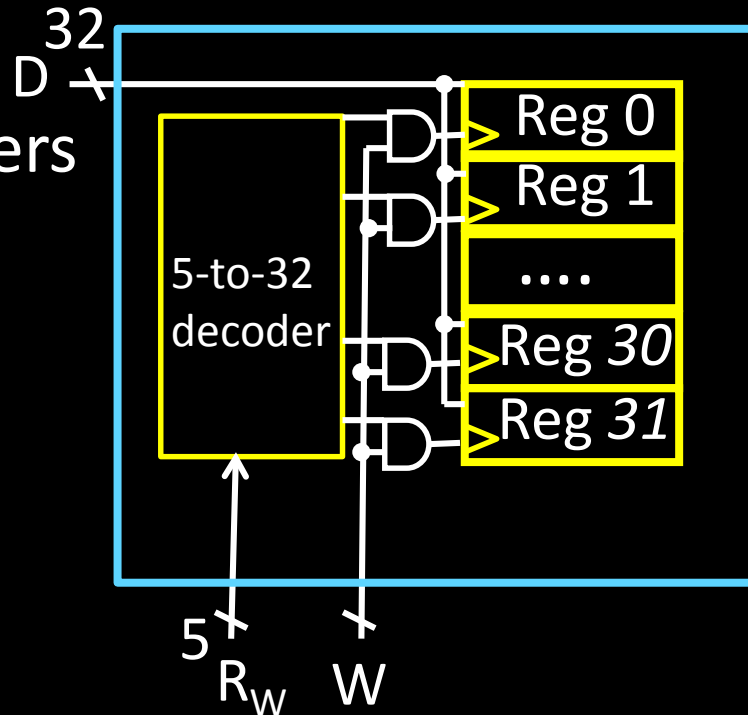
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# Register File

## Register File

- N read/write registers
- Indexed by register number



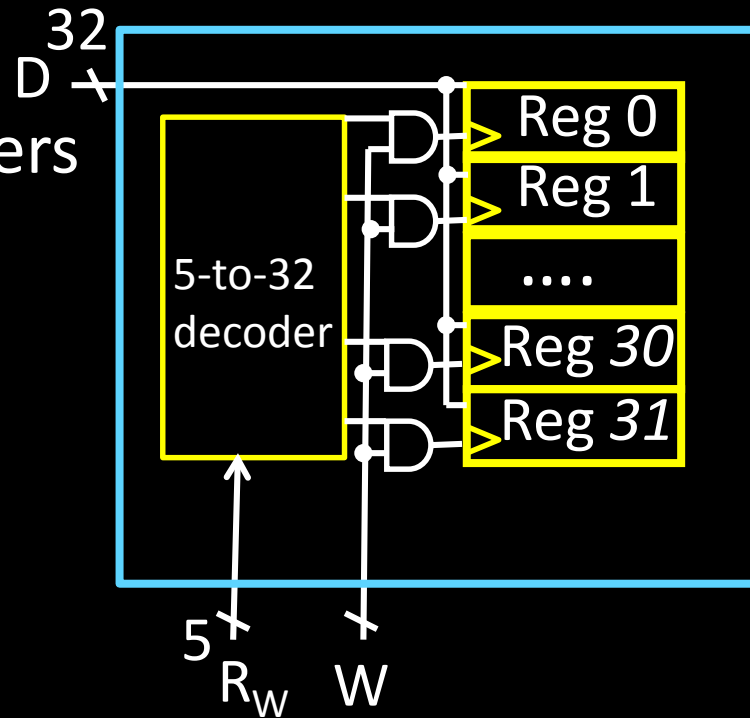
How to write to **one** register in the register file?

- Need a decoder

# Activity# write truth table for 3-to-8 decoder

## Register File

- N read/write registers
- Indexed by register number



How to write to **one** register in the register file?

- Need a decoder



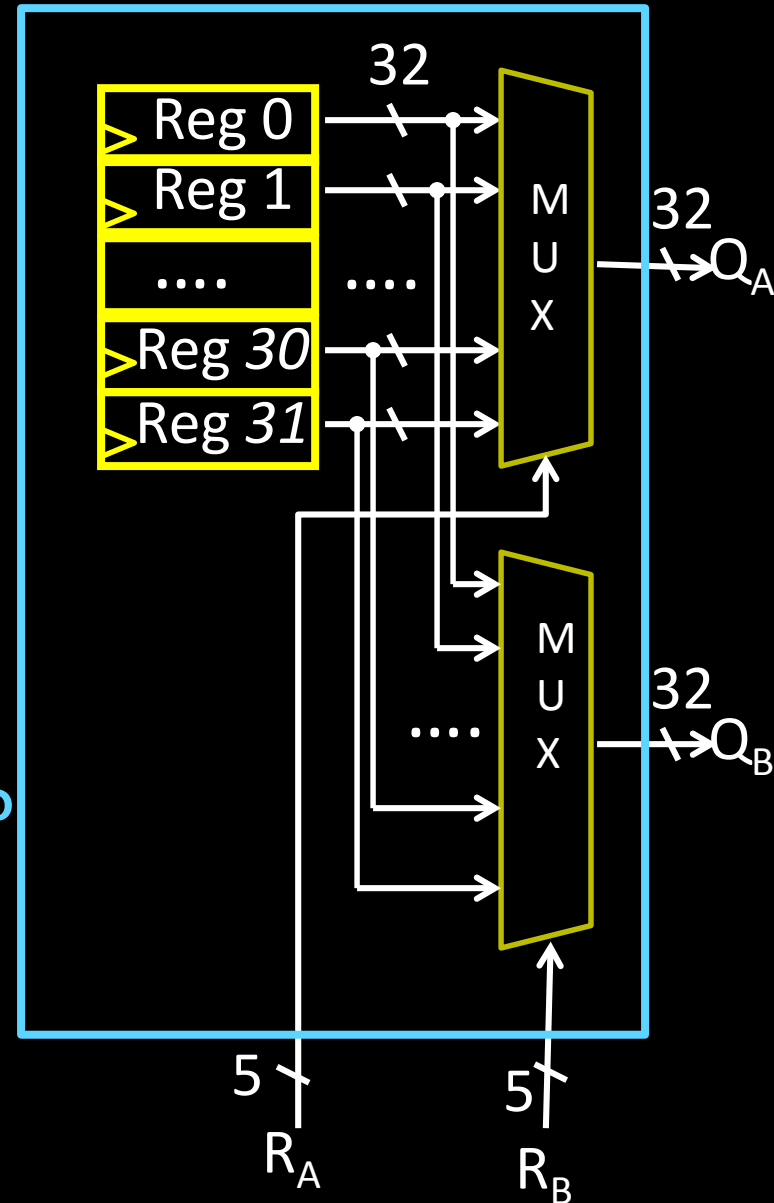
# Register File

## Register File

- N read/write registers
- Indexed by register number

How to read from two registers?

- Need a multiplexor



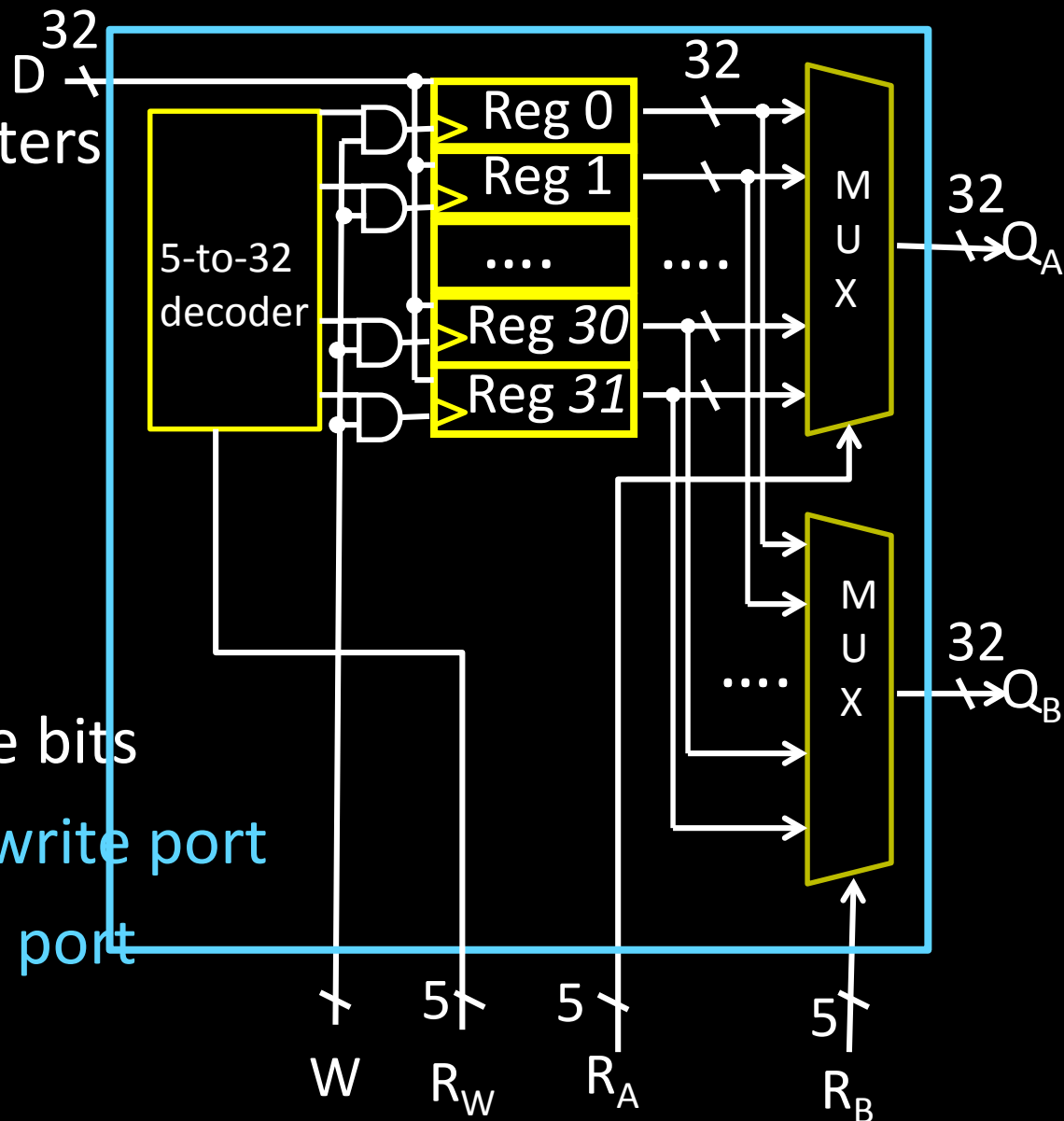
# Register File

## Register File

- N read/write registers
- Indexed by register number

## Implementation:

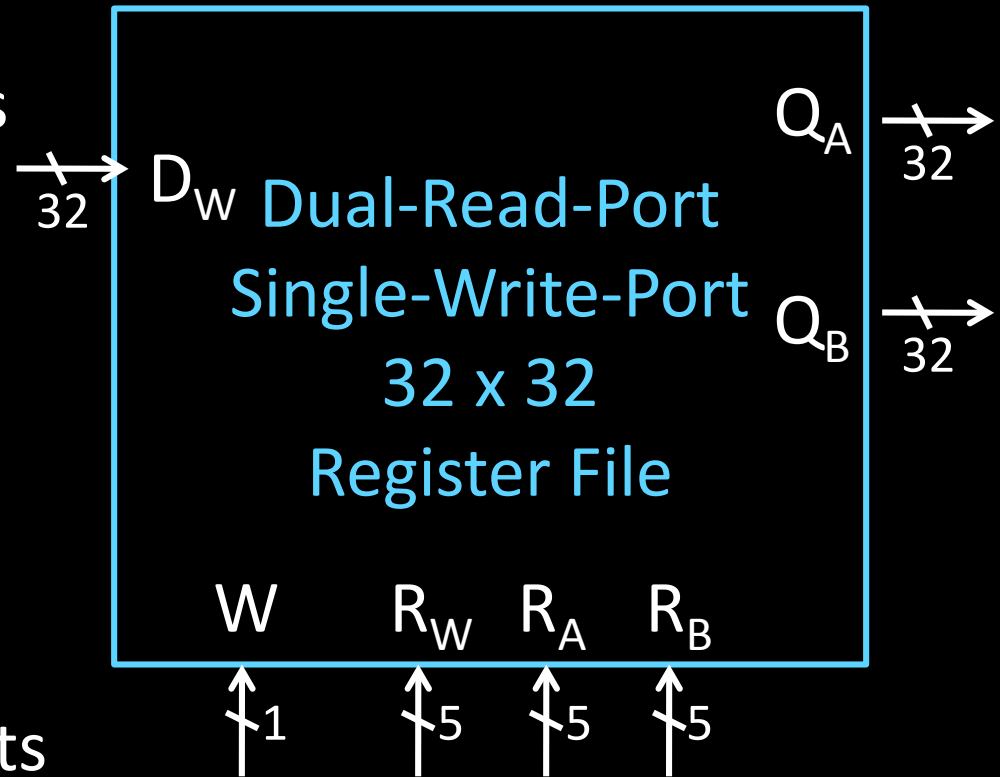
- D flip flops to store bits
- Decoder for each write port
- Mux for each read port



# Register File

## Register File

- N read/write registers
- Indexed by register number



## Implementation:

- D flip flops to store bits
- Decoder for each write port
- Mux for each read port

# Register File

## Register File

- N read/write registers
- Indexed by register number

What happens if same register read and written during same clock cycle?

## Implementation:

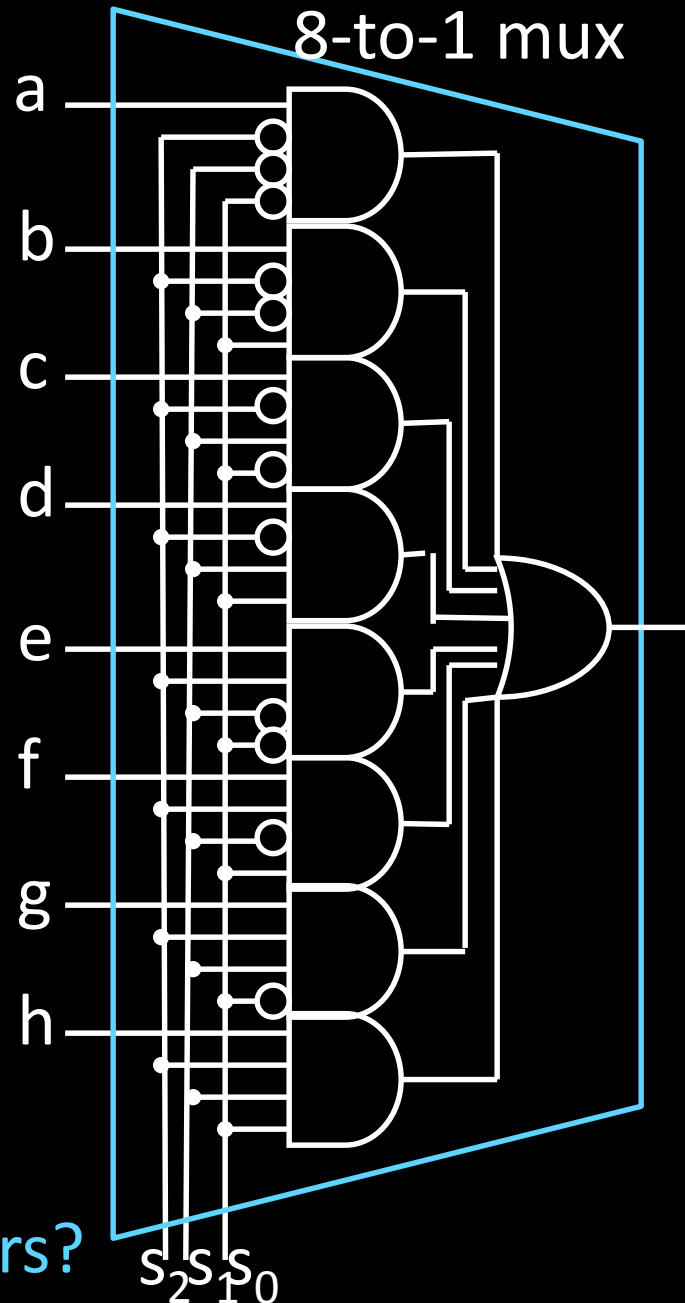
- D flip flops to store bits
- Decoder for each write port
- Mux for each read port

# Tradeoffs

## Register File tradeoffs

- + Very fast (a few gate delays for both read and write)
- + Adding extra ports is straightforward
- Doesn't scale  
e.g. 32Mb register file with 32 bit registers  
Need 32x 1M-to-1 multiplexor and 32x 20-to-1M decoder

How many logic gates/transistors?



# Takeway

Register files are very fast storage (only a few gate delays), but does not scale to large memory sizes.

# Goals for today

## Review

- Finite State Machines

## Memory

- CPU: Register Files (i.e. Memory w/in the CPU)
- Scaling Memory: Tri-state devices
- Cache: SRAM (Static RAM—random access memory)
- Memory: DRAM (Dynamic RAM)

# Next Goal

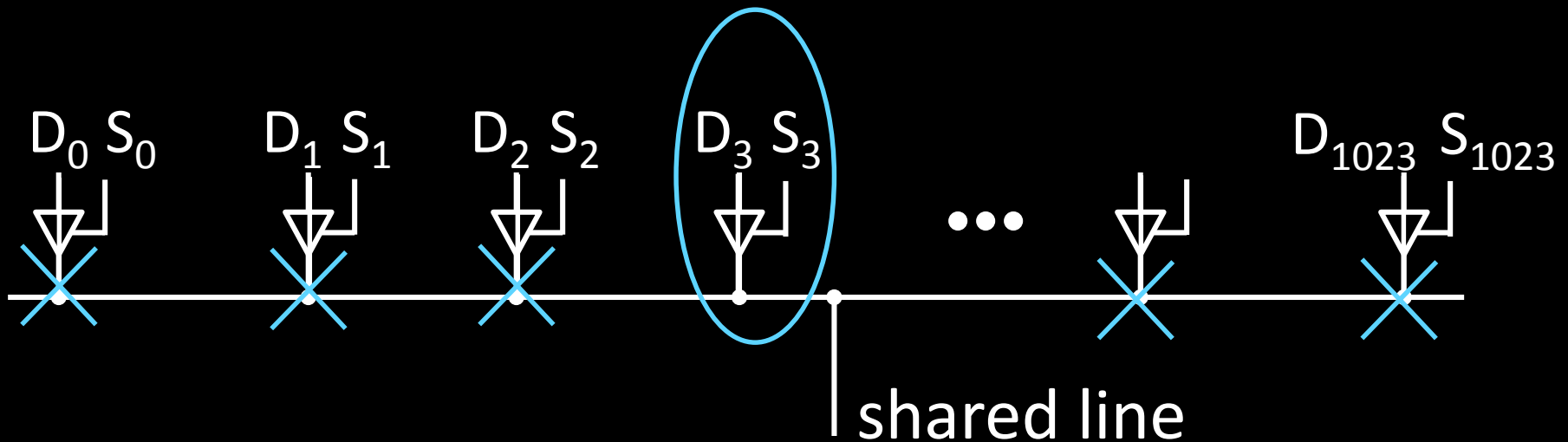
How do we scale/build larger memories?



# Building Large Memories

Need a shared **bus** (or shared **bit line**)

- Many FlipFlops/outputs/etc. connected to single wire
- Only one output *drives* the bus at a time

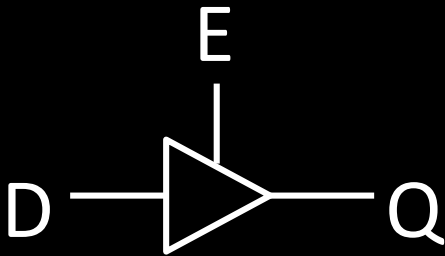


- How do we build such a device?

# Tri-State Devices

## Tri-State Buffers

- If enabled ( $E=1$ ), then  $Q = D$
- Otherwise,  $Q$  is not connected ( $z = \text{high impedance}$ )

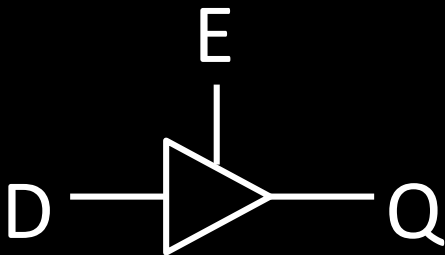


E	D	Q
0	0	z
0	1	z
1	0	0
1	1	1

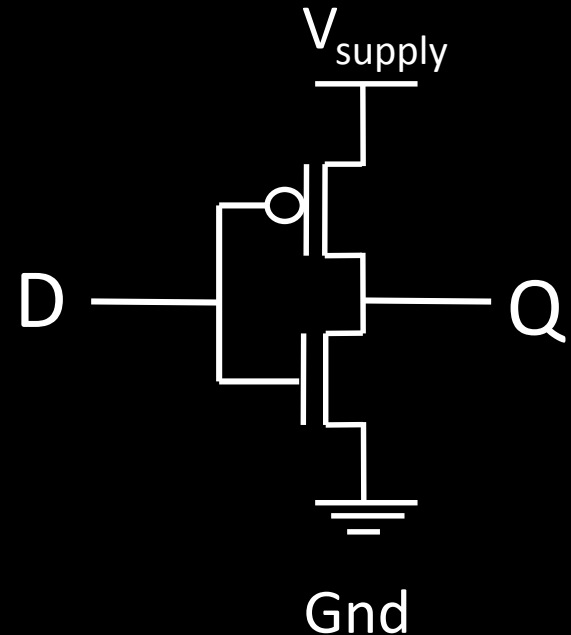
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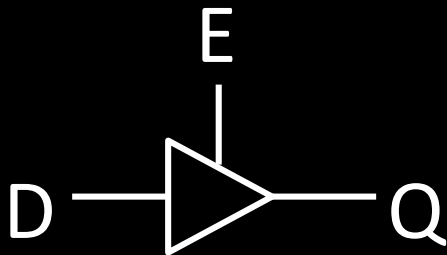
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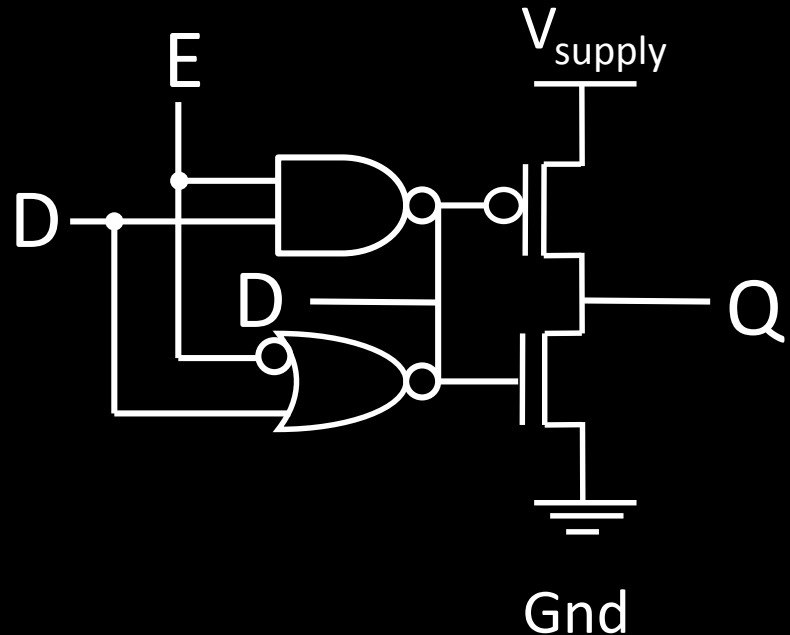
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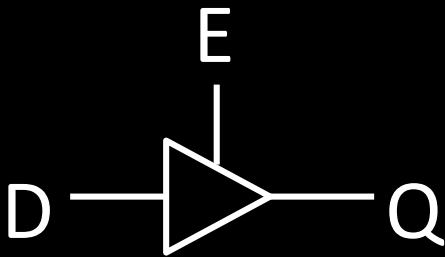
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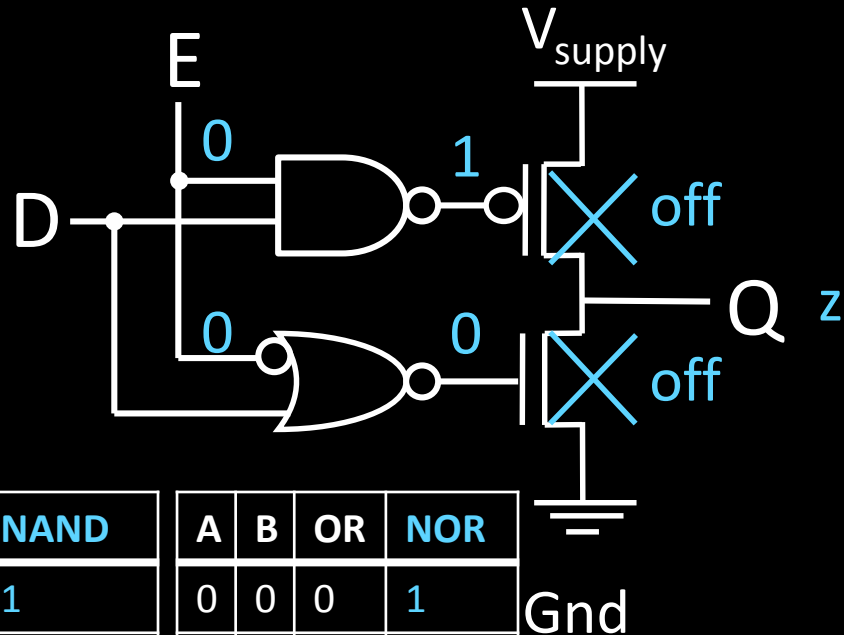
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E	D	Q
0	0	z
0	1	z
1	0	0
1	1	1



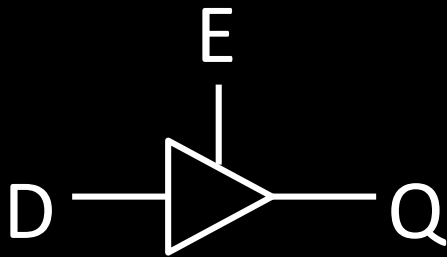
A	B	AND	NAND
0	0	0	1
0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1
1	1	1	0

A	B	OR	NOR
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	1	0
1	1	1	0

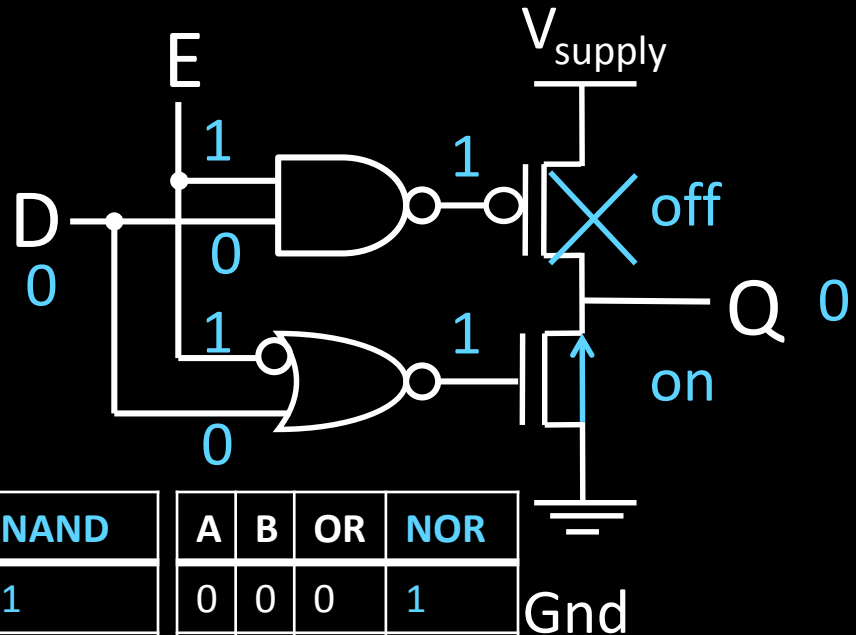
# Tri-State Devices

## Tri-State Buffers

- If enabled ( $E=1$ ), then  $Q = D$
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E	D	Q
0	0	z
0	1	z
1	0	0
1	1	1



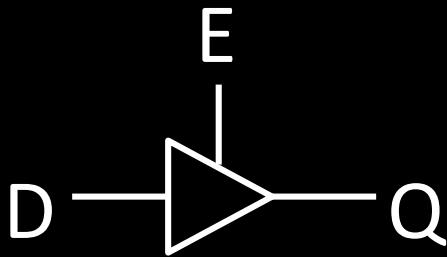
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# Tri-State Devices

## Tri-State Buffers

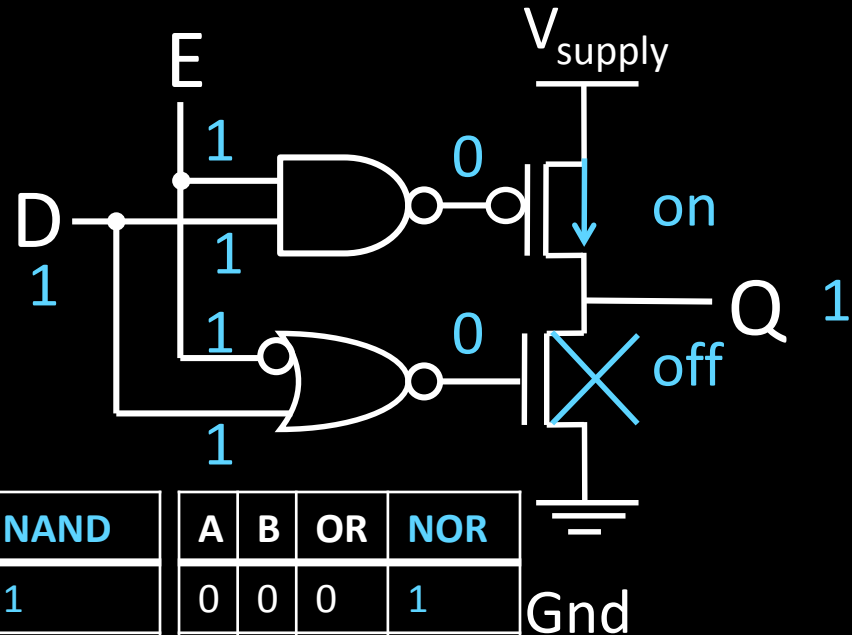
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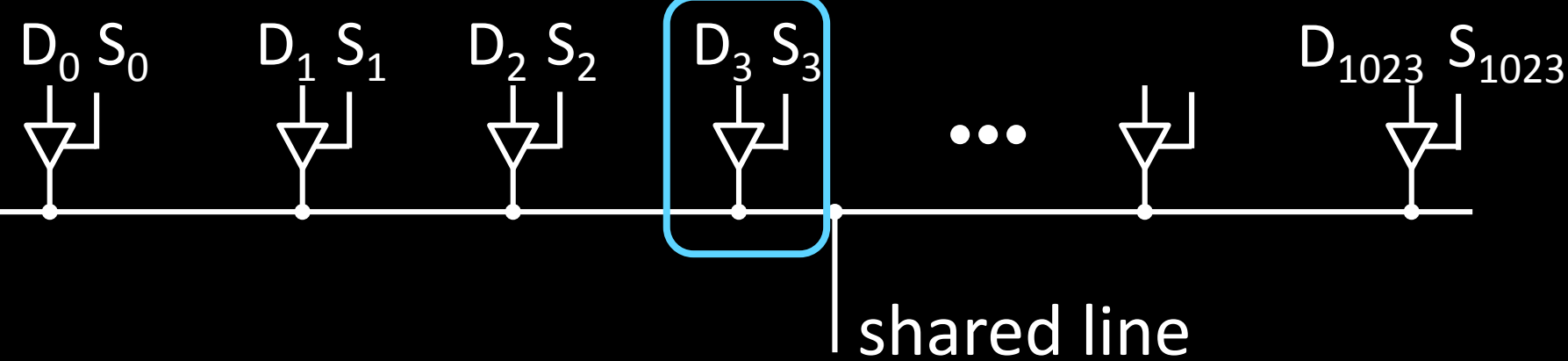
E	D	Q
0	0	z
0	1	z
1	0	0
1	1	1

A	B	AND	NAND
0	0	0	1
0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1
1	1	1	0

A	B	OR	NOR
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	1	0
1	1	1	0



# Shared Bus





# Takeaway

Register files are very fast storage (only a few gate delays), but does not scale to large memory sizes.

Tri-state Buffers allow scaling since multiple registers can be connected to a single output, while only one register actually drives the output.

# Goals for today

## Review

- Finite State Machines

## Memory

- CPU: Register Files (i.e. Memory w/in the CPU)
- Scaling Memory: Tri-state devices
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# Next Goal

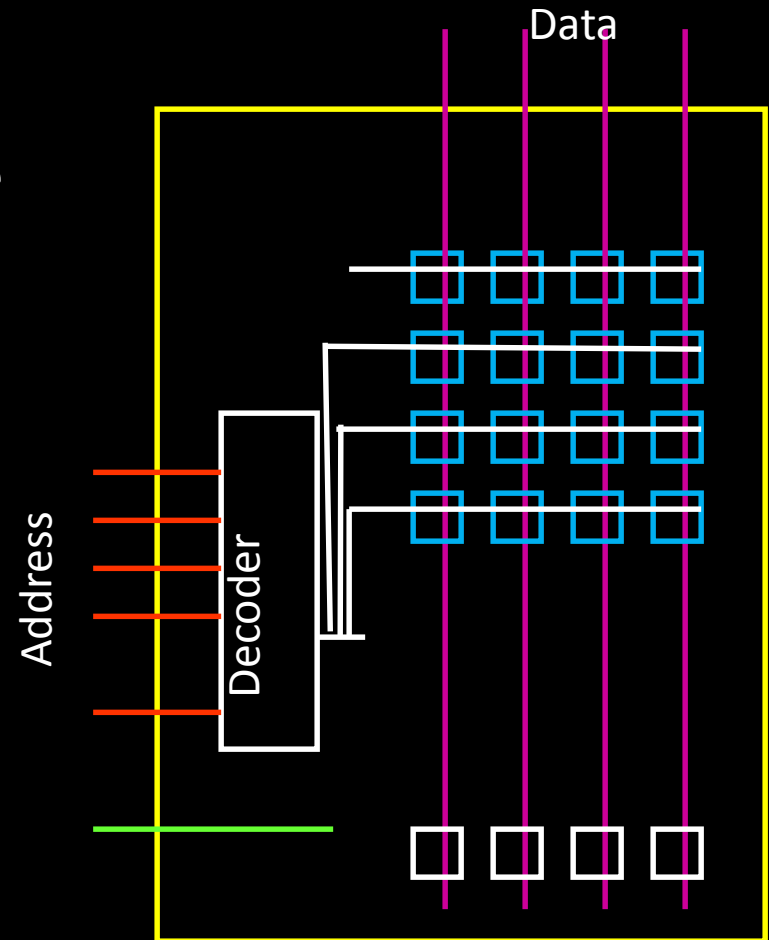
How do we build large memories?

Use similar designs as Tri-state Buffers to connect multiple registers to output line. Only one register will drive output line.

# SRAM

## Static RAM (SRAM)—Static Random Access Memory

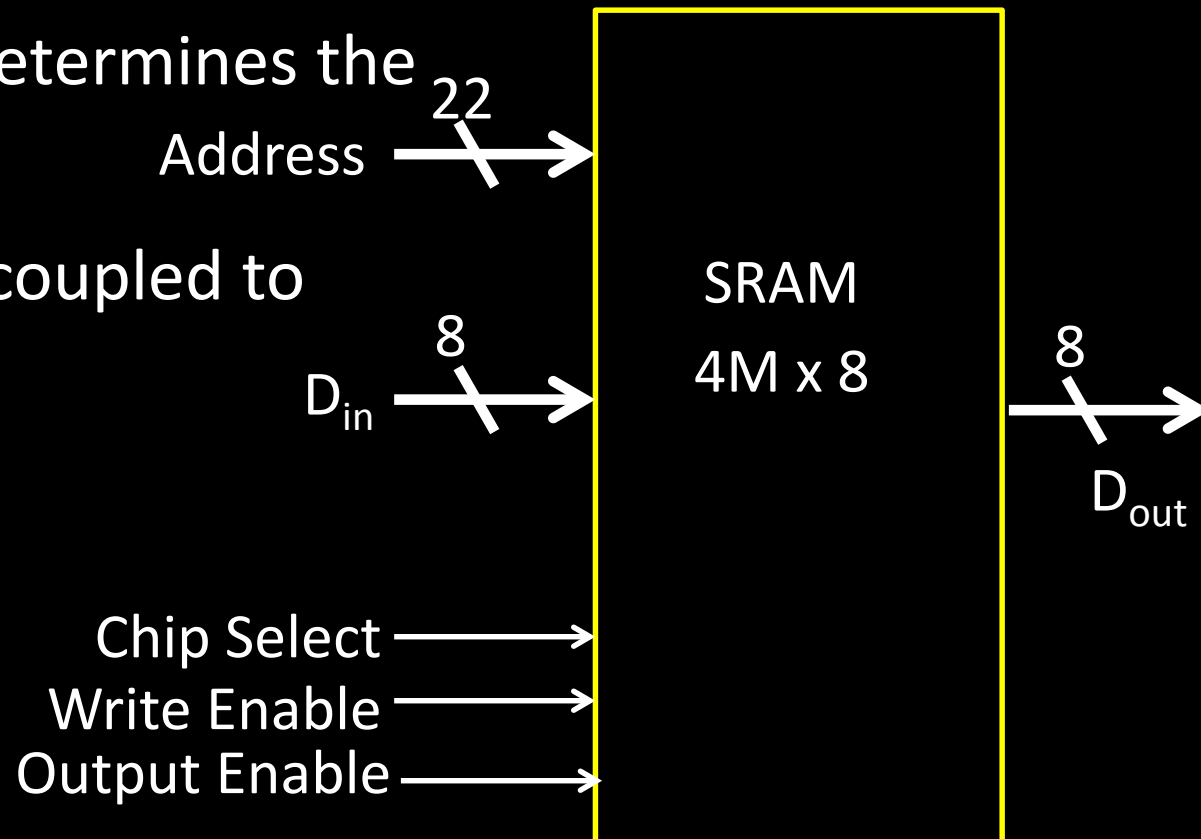
- Essentially just D-Latches plus Tri-State Buffers
- A decoder selects which line of memory to access (i.e. word line)
- A R/W selector determines the type of access
- That line is then coupled to the data lines



# SRAM

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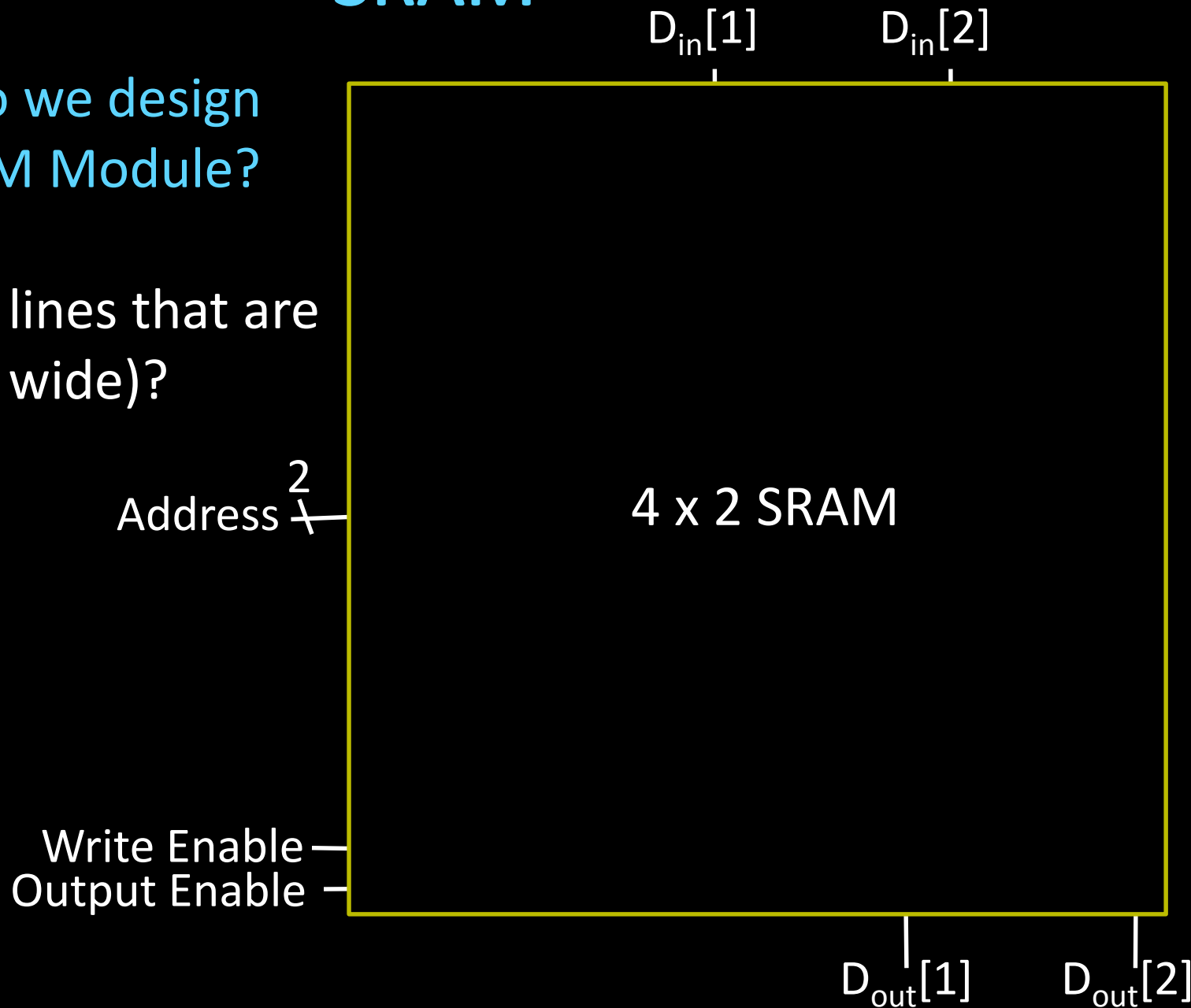
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# SRAM

E.g. How do we design  
a 4 x 2 SRAM Module?

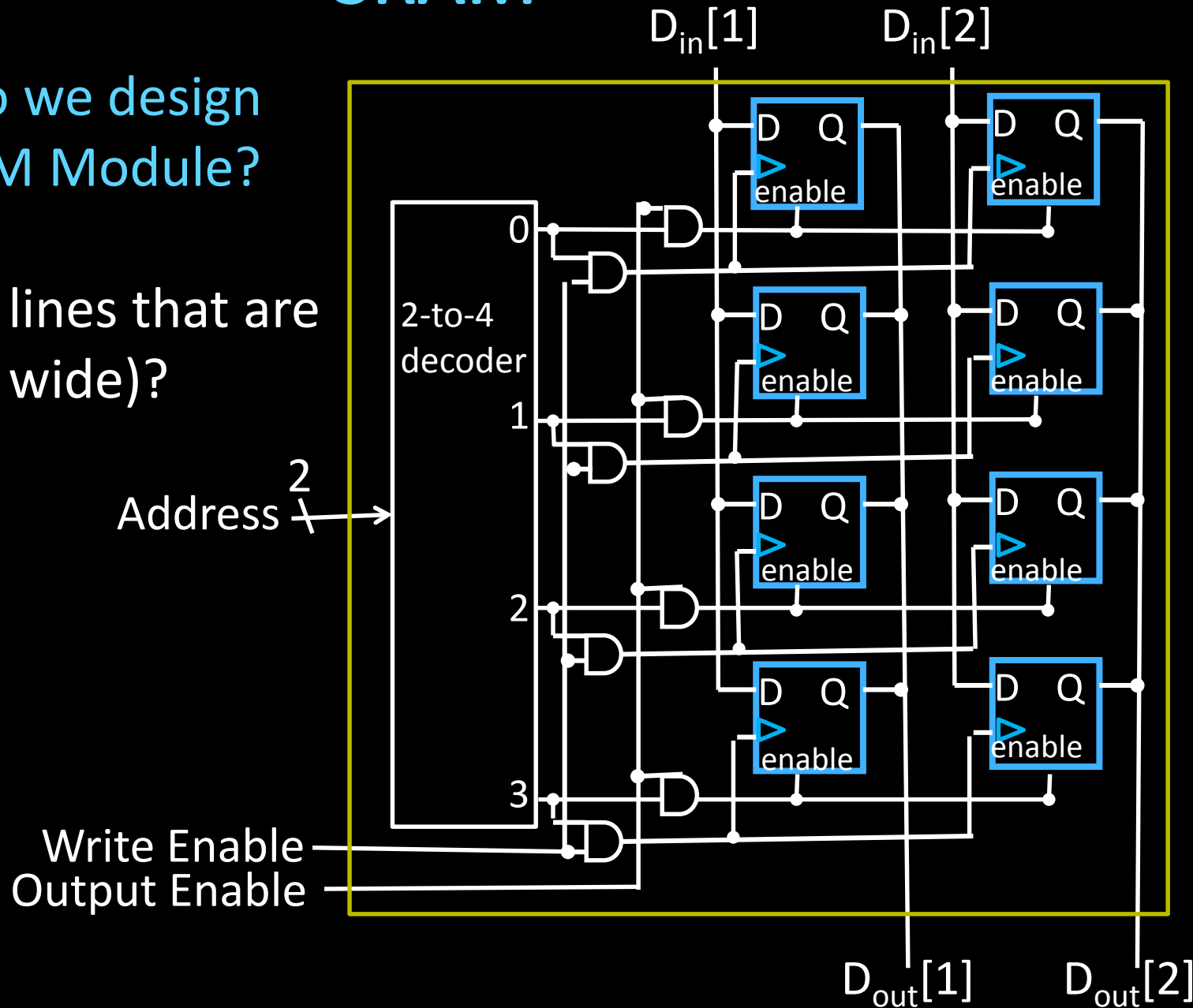
(i.e. 4 word lines that are  
each 2 bits wide)?



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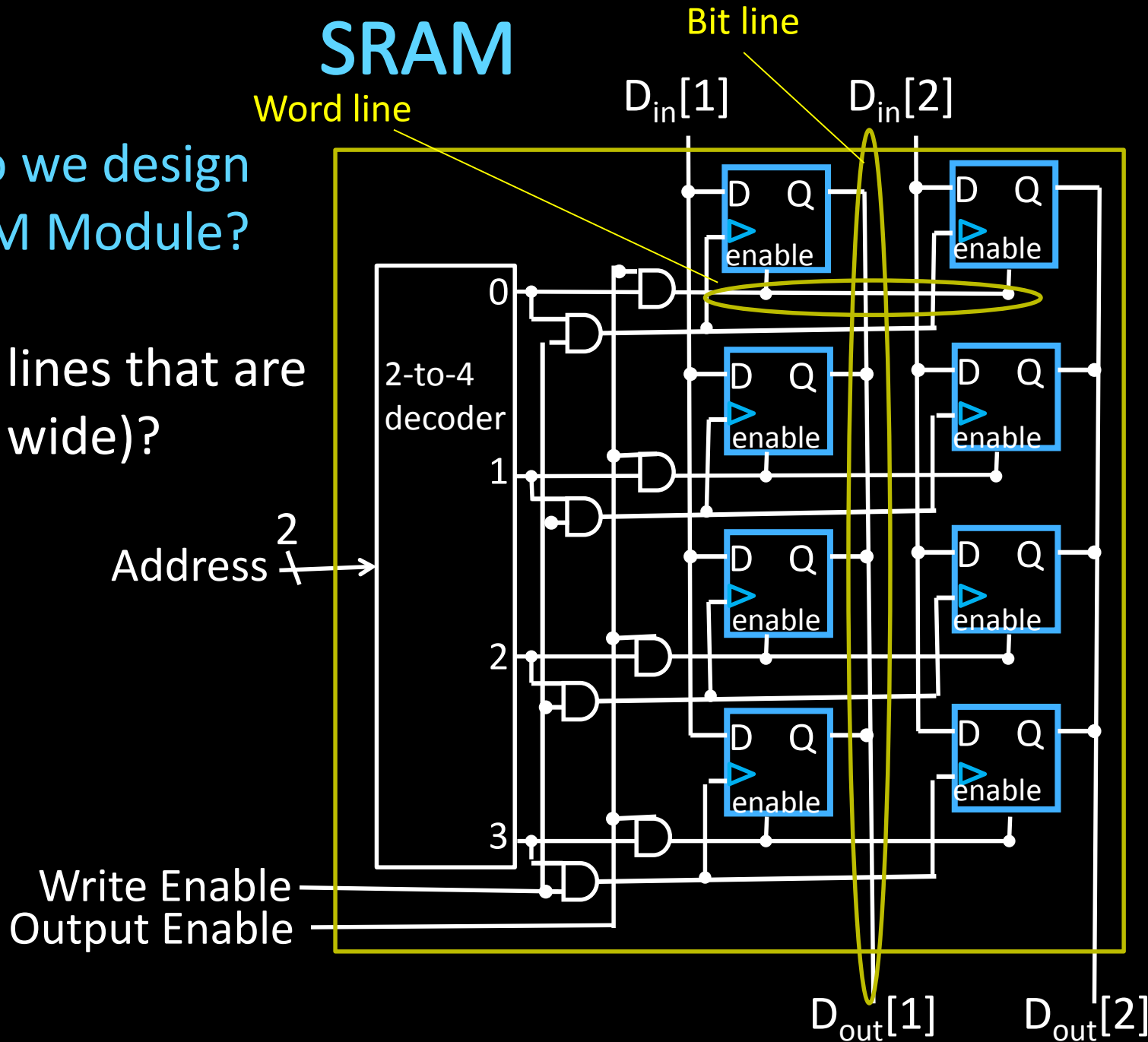
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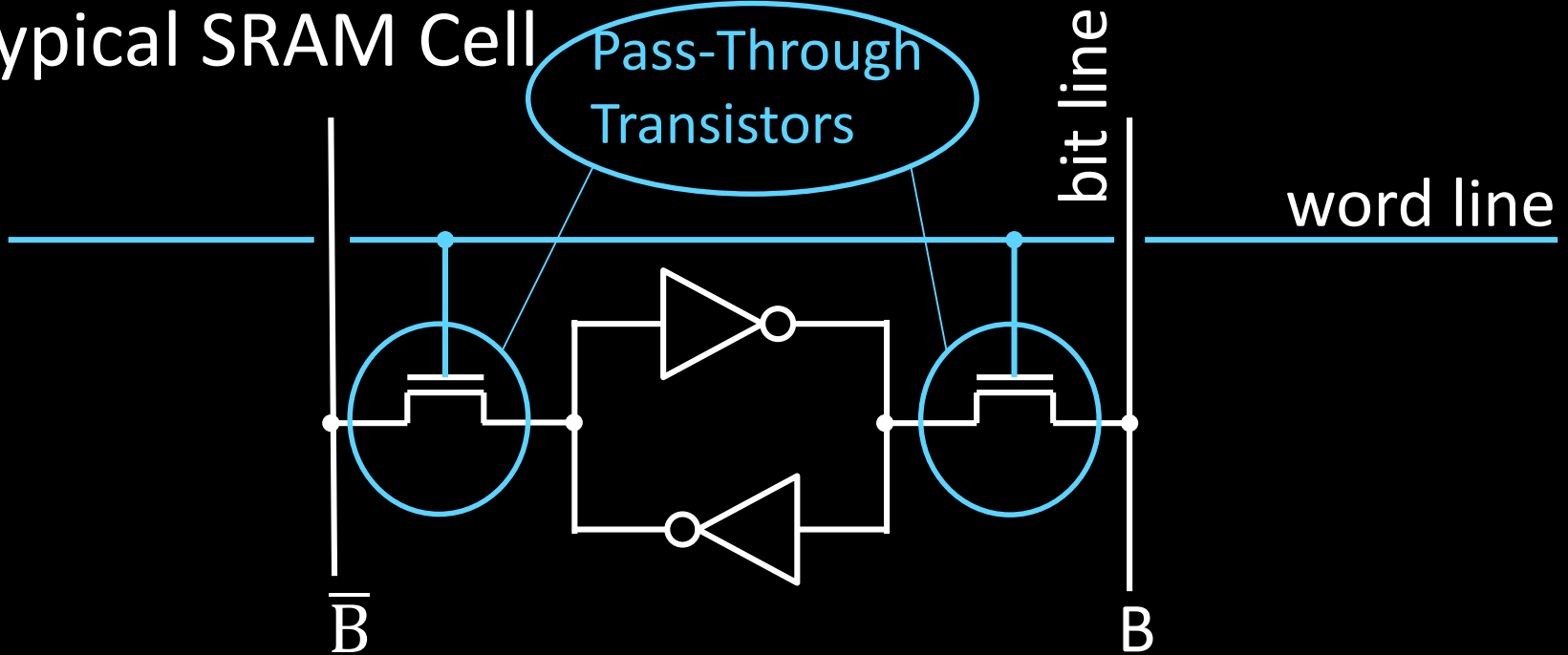
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# SRAM Cell

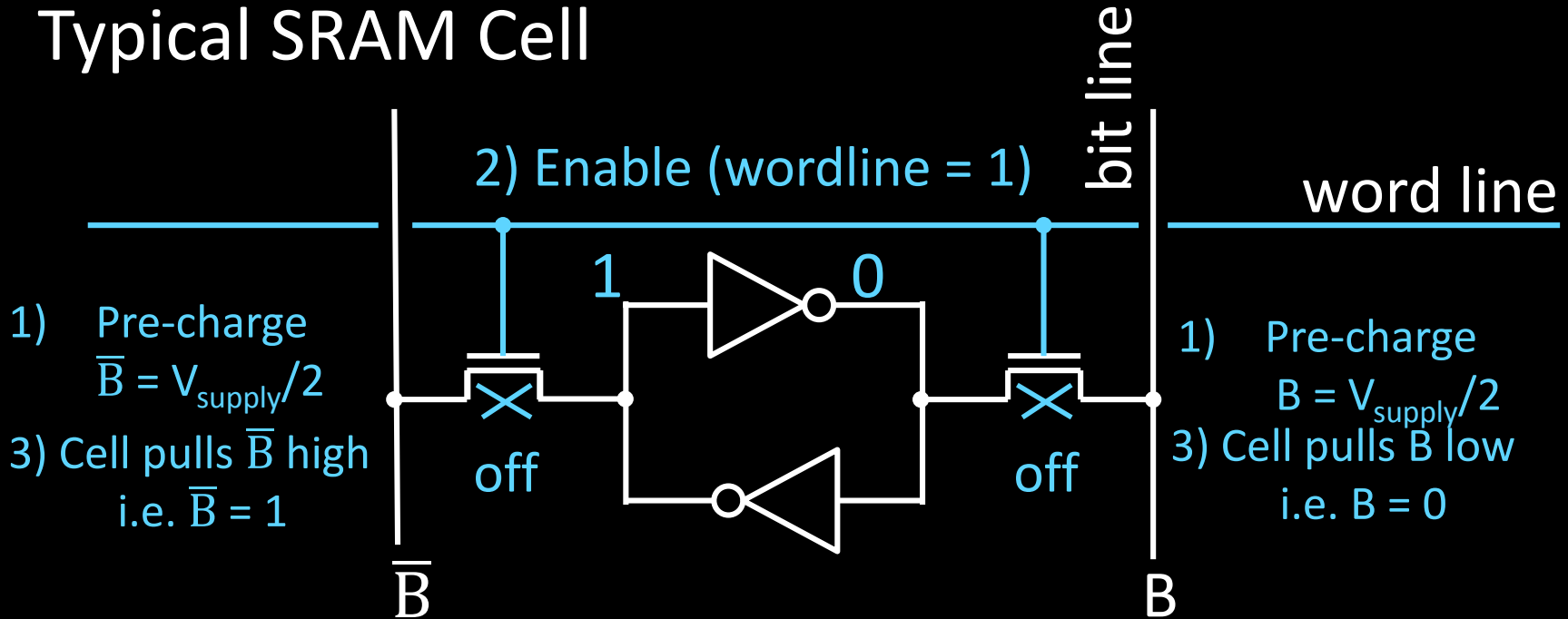
Typical SRAM Cell



Each cell stores one bit, and requires 4 – 8 transistors (6 is typical)

# SRAM Cell

## Typical SRAM Cell



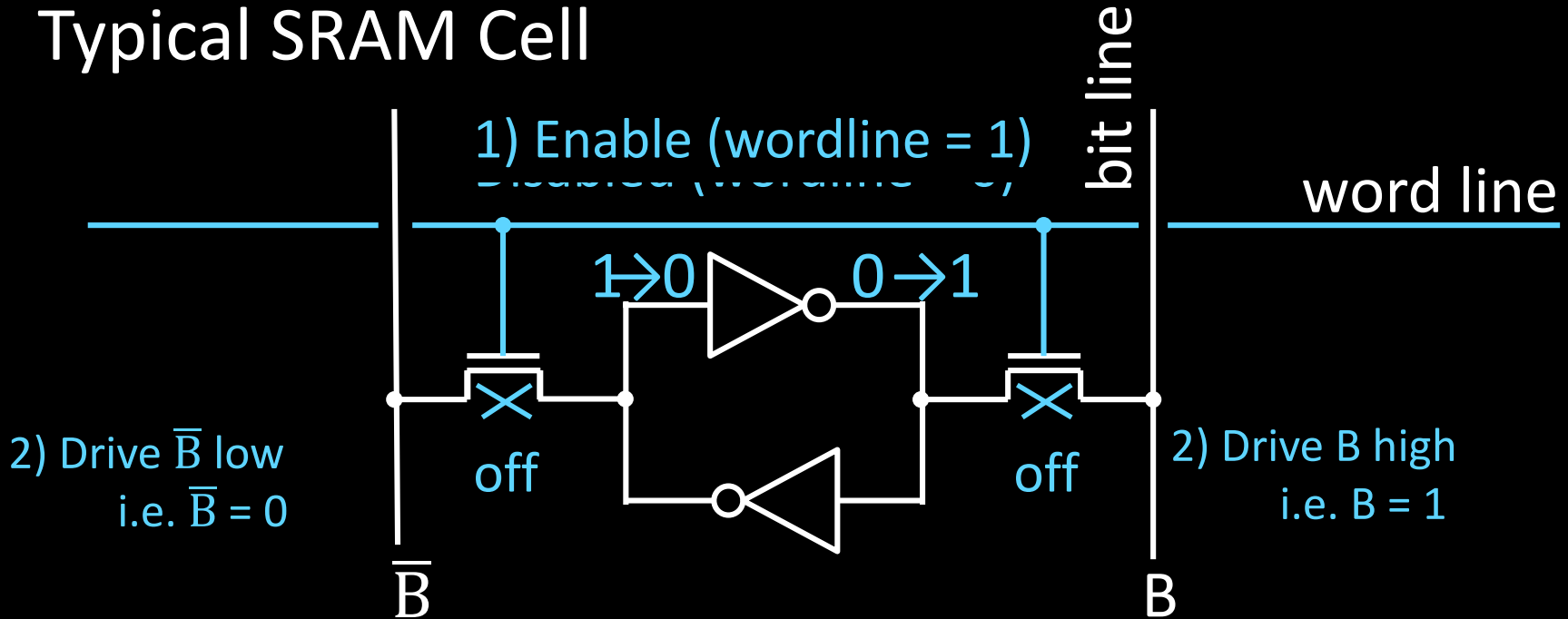
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### Read:

- pre-charge B and  $\bar{B}$  to  $V_{\text{supply}}/2$
- pull word line high
- cell pulls B or  $\bar{B}$  low, sense amp detects voltage difference

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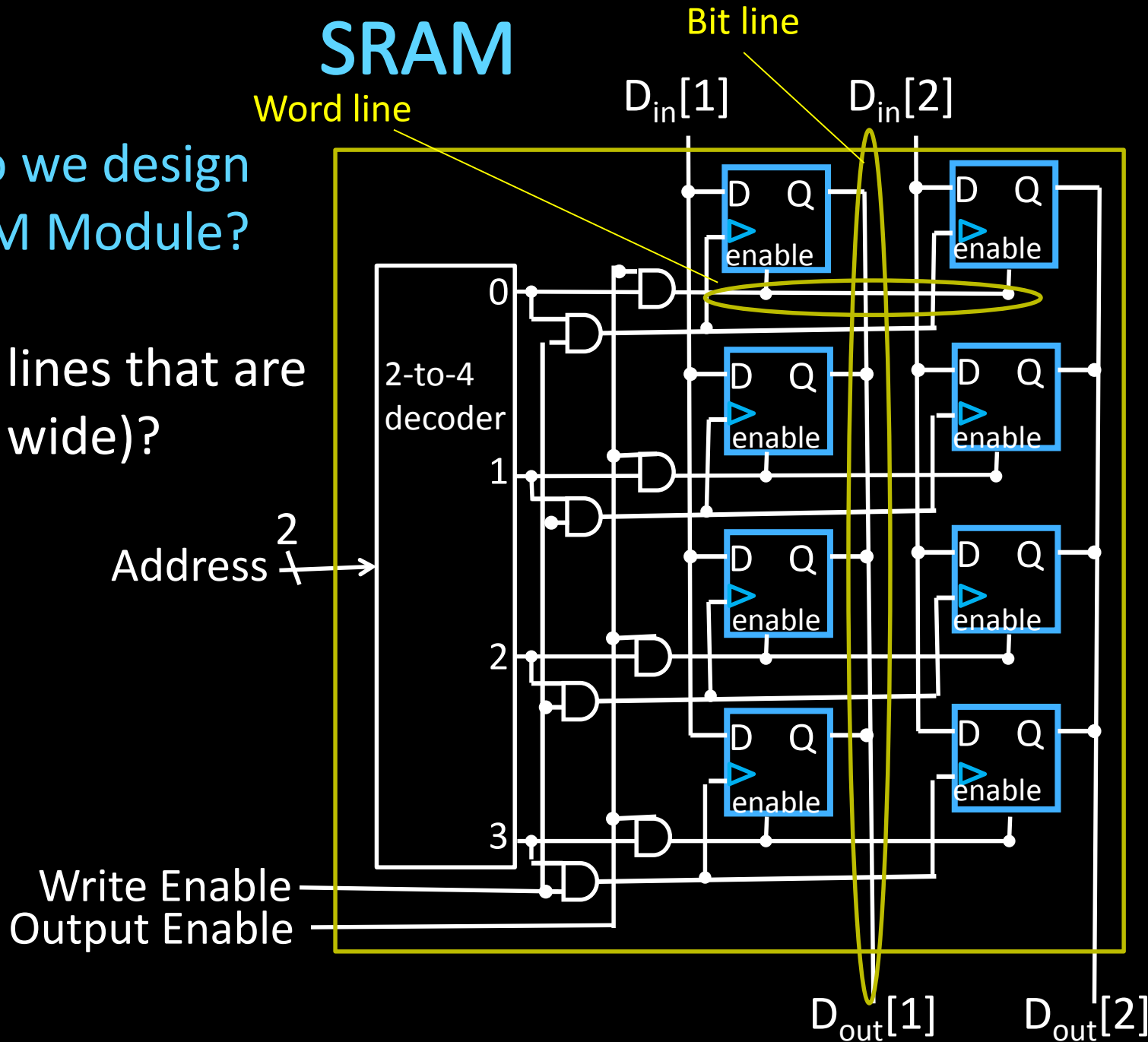
### Write:

- pull word line high
- drive B and  $\bar{B}$  to flip cell

# SRAM

E.g. How do we design a 4 x 2 SRAM Module?

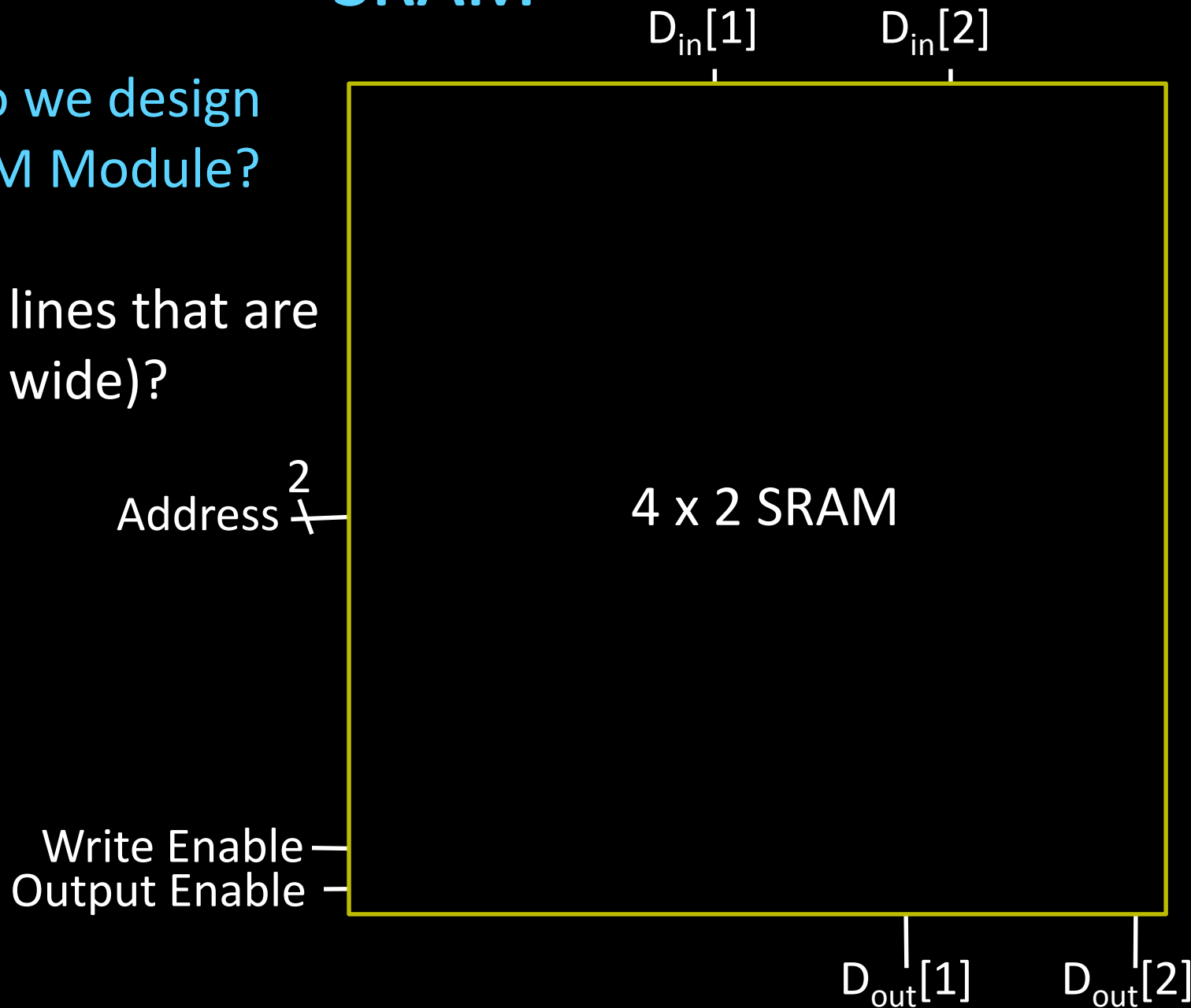
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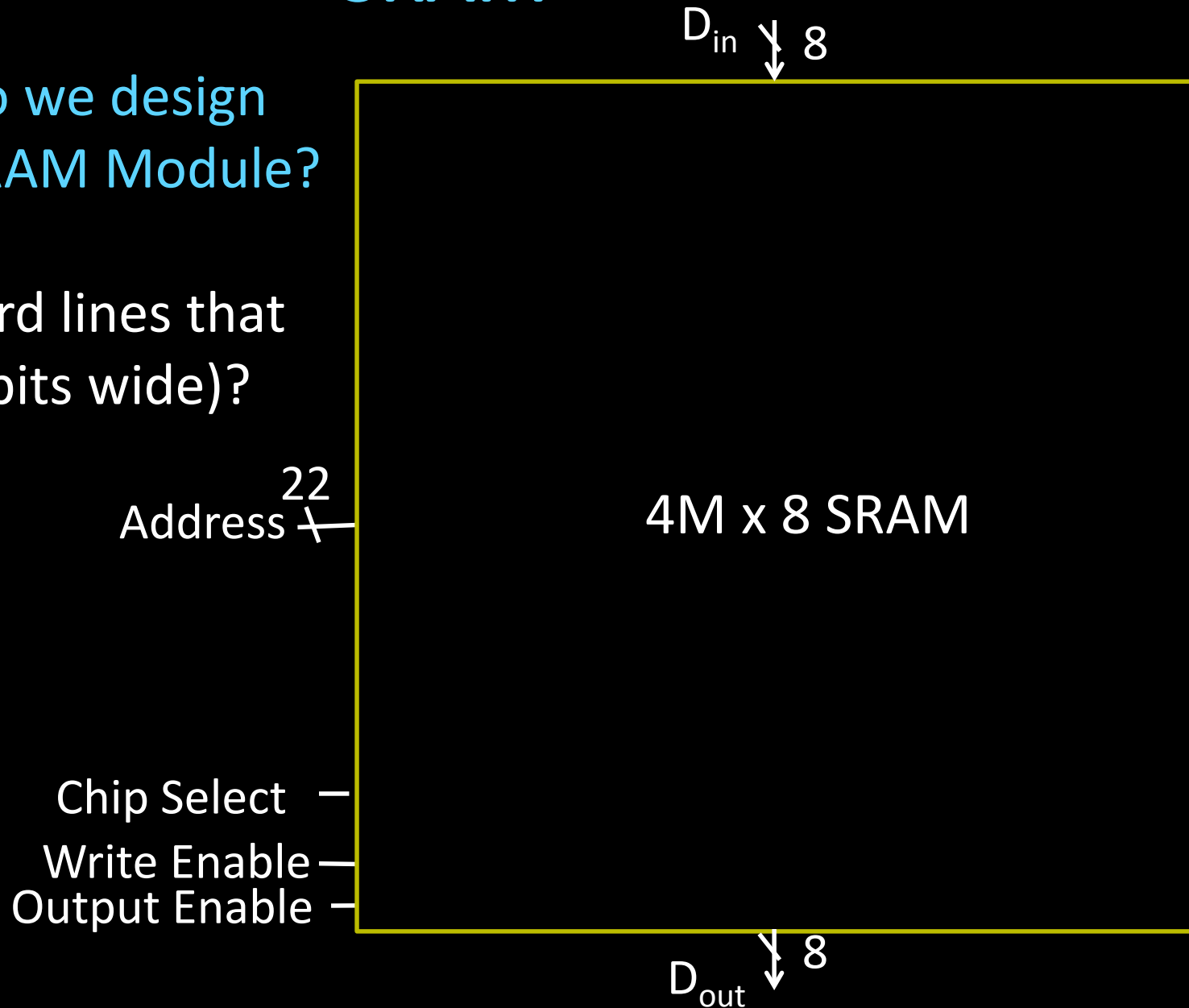
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# SRAM

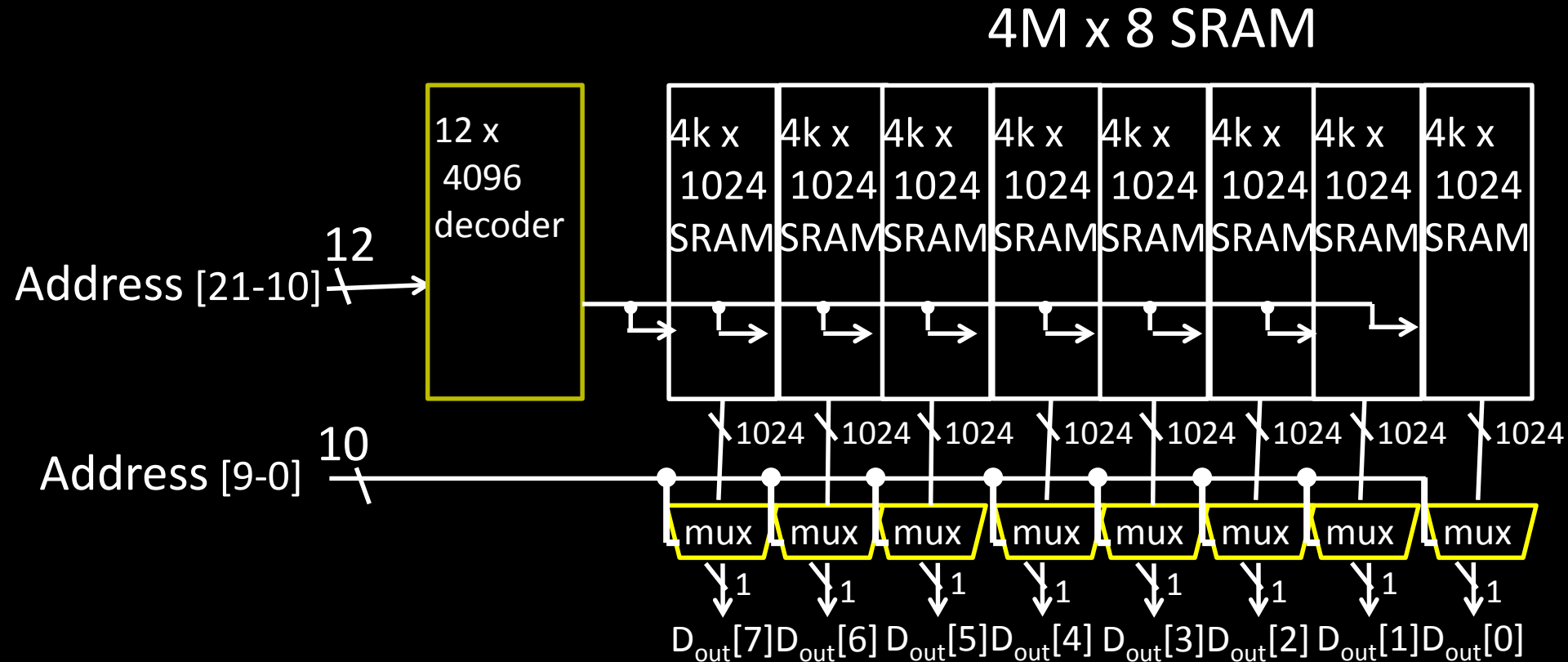
E.g. How do we design a **4M x 8** SRAM Module?

(i.e. 4M word lines that are each 8 bits wide)?



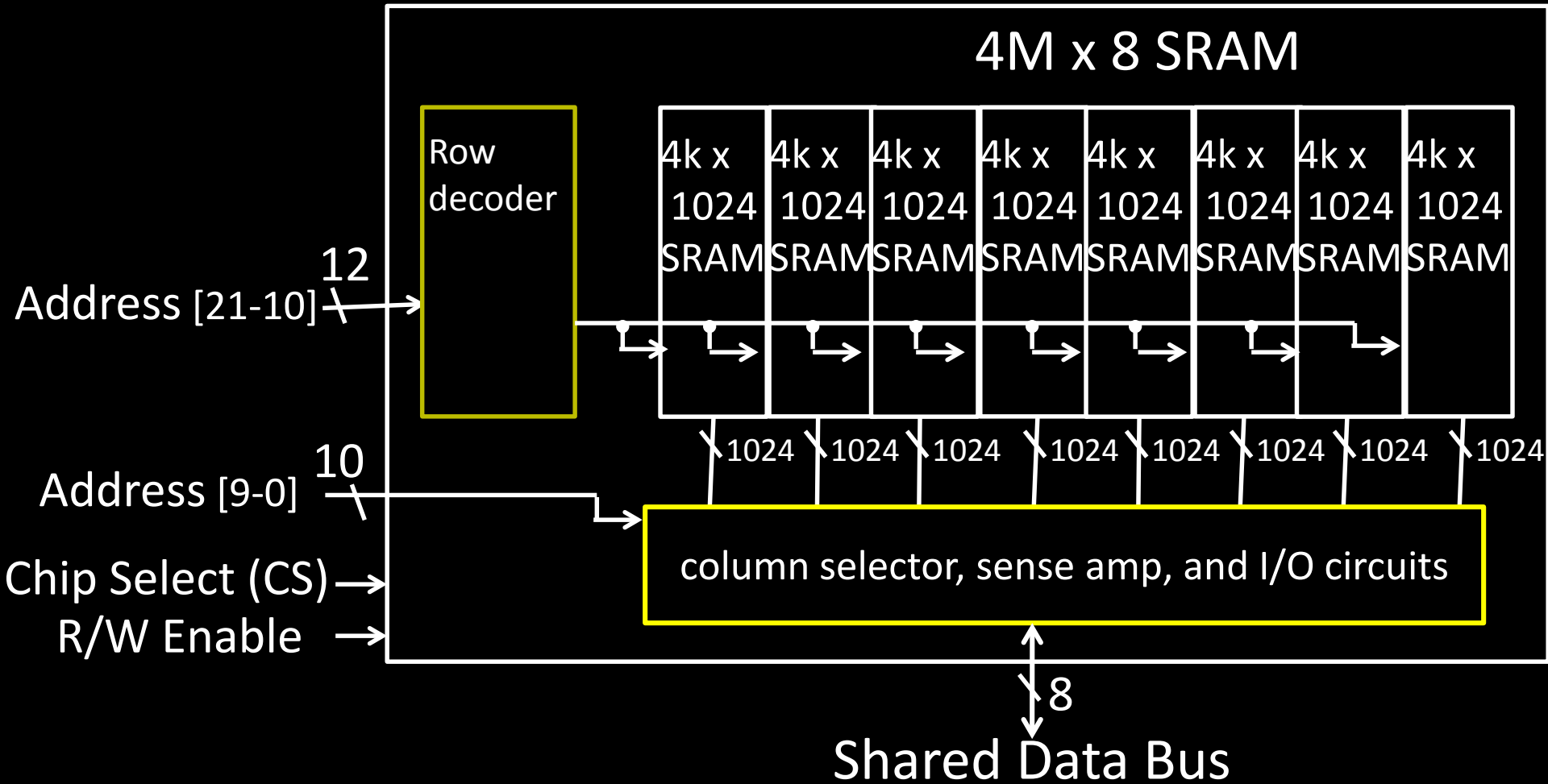
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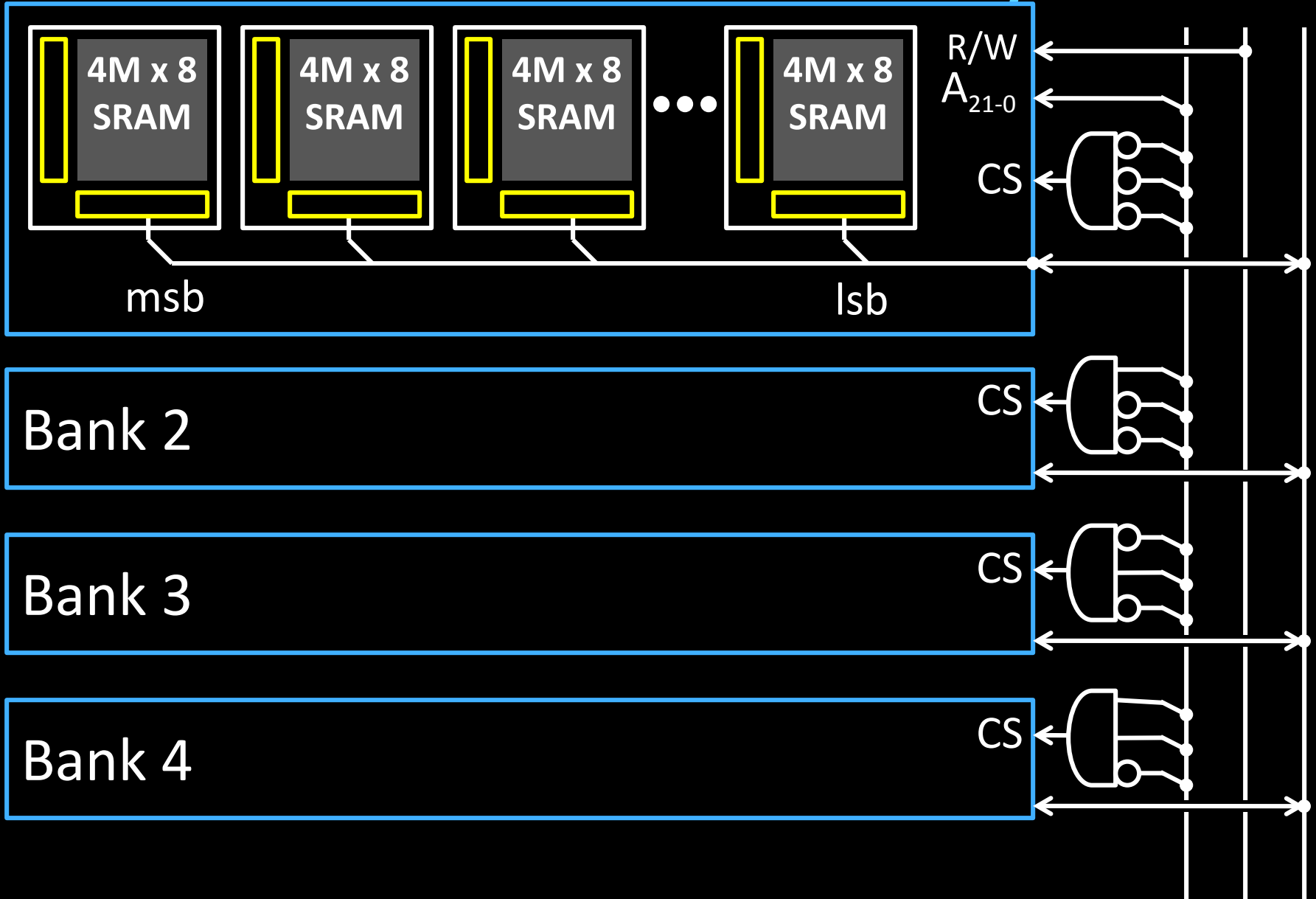
# SRAM

E.g. How do we design a **4M x 8** SRAM Module?





# SRAM Modules and Arrays



# SRAM Summary

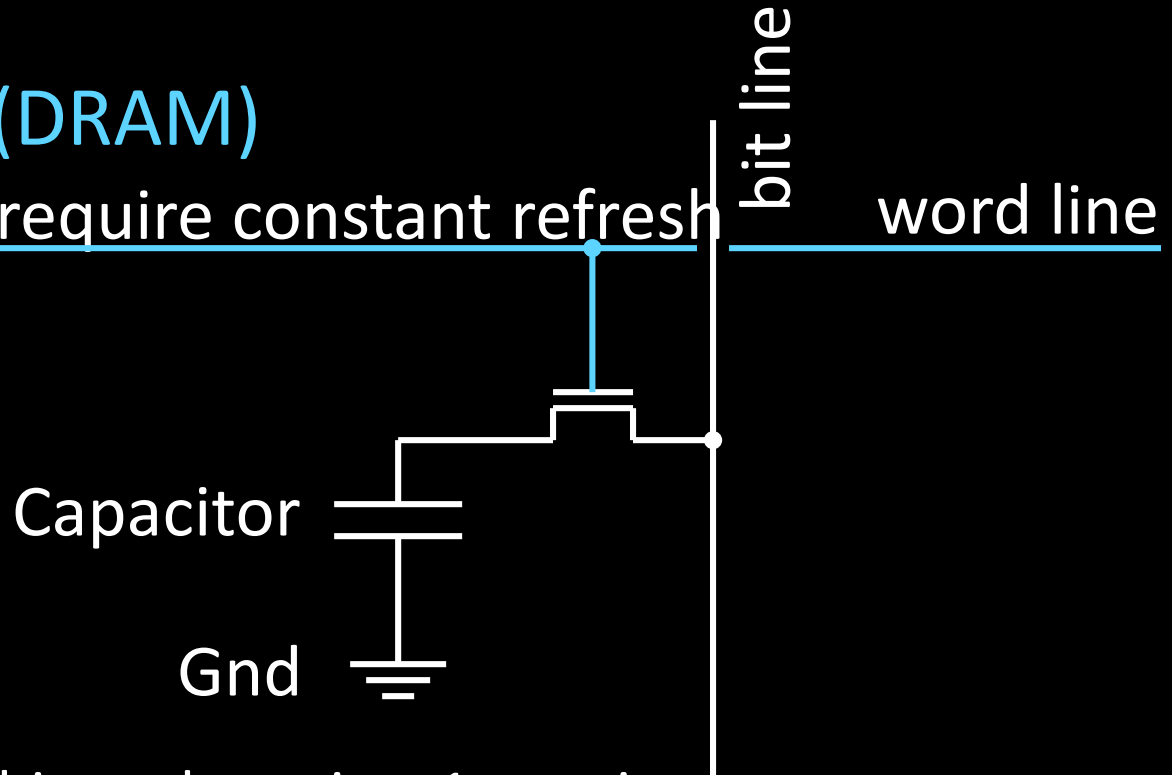
## SRAM

- A few transistors ( $\sim 6$ ) per cell
- Used for working memory (caches)
  
- But for even higher density...

# Dynamic RAM: DRAM

## Dynamic-RAM (DRAM)

- Data values require constant refresh



Each cell stores one bit, and requires 1 transistors

# Dynamic RAM: DRAM

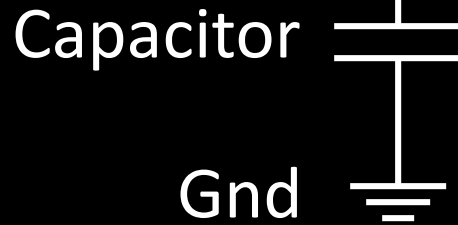
Dynamic-RAM (DRAM)

Pass-Through Transistors

- Data values require constant refresh

bit line

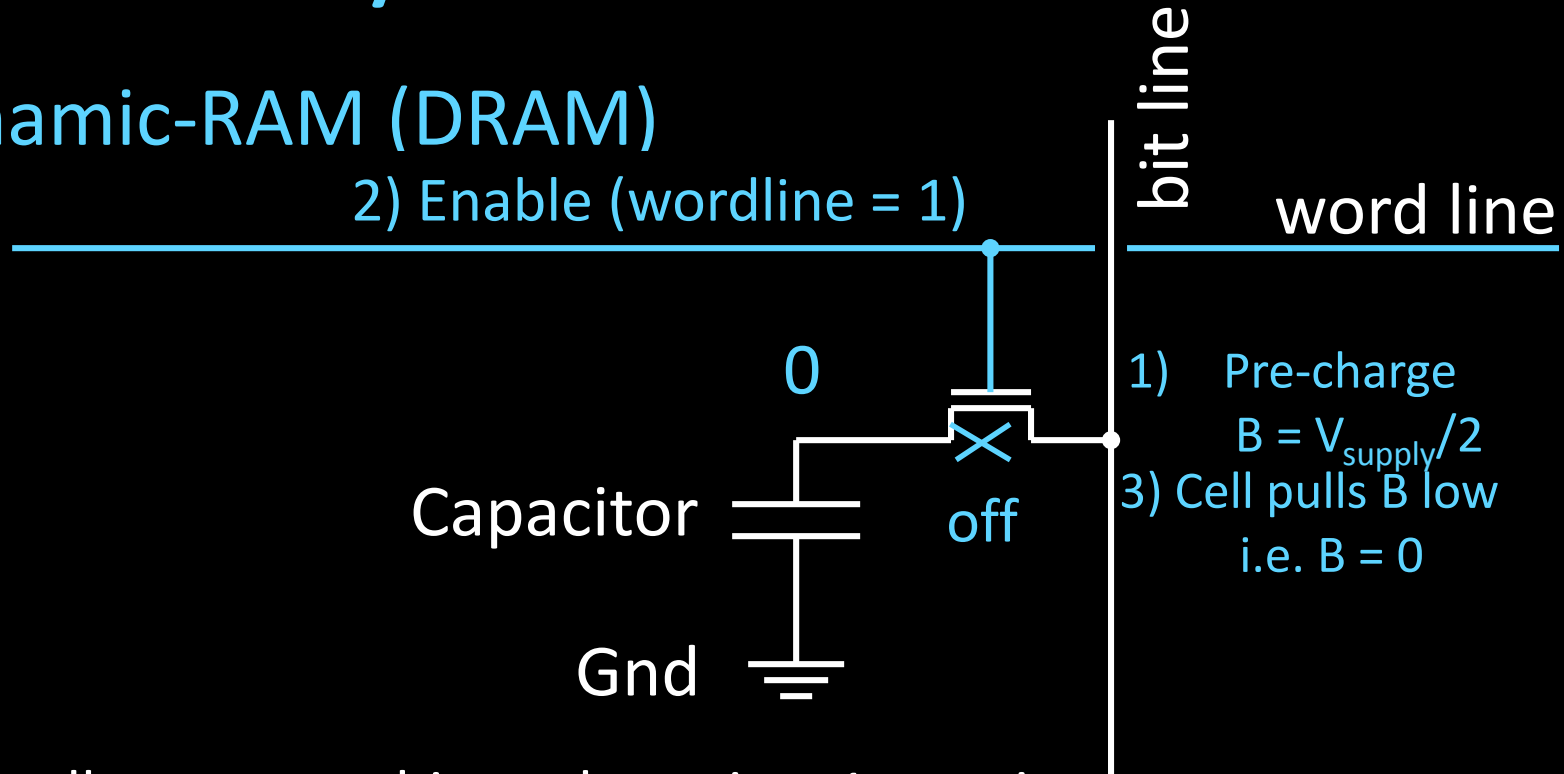
word line



Each cell stores one bit, and requires 1 transistors

# Dynamic RAM: DRAM

## Dynamic-RAM (DRAM)



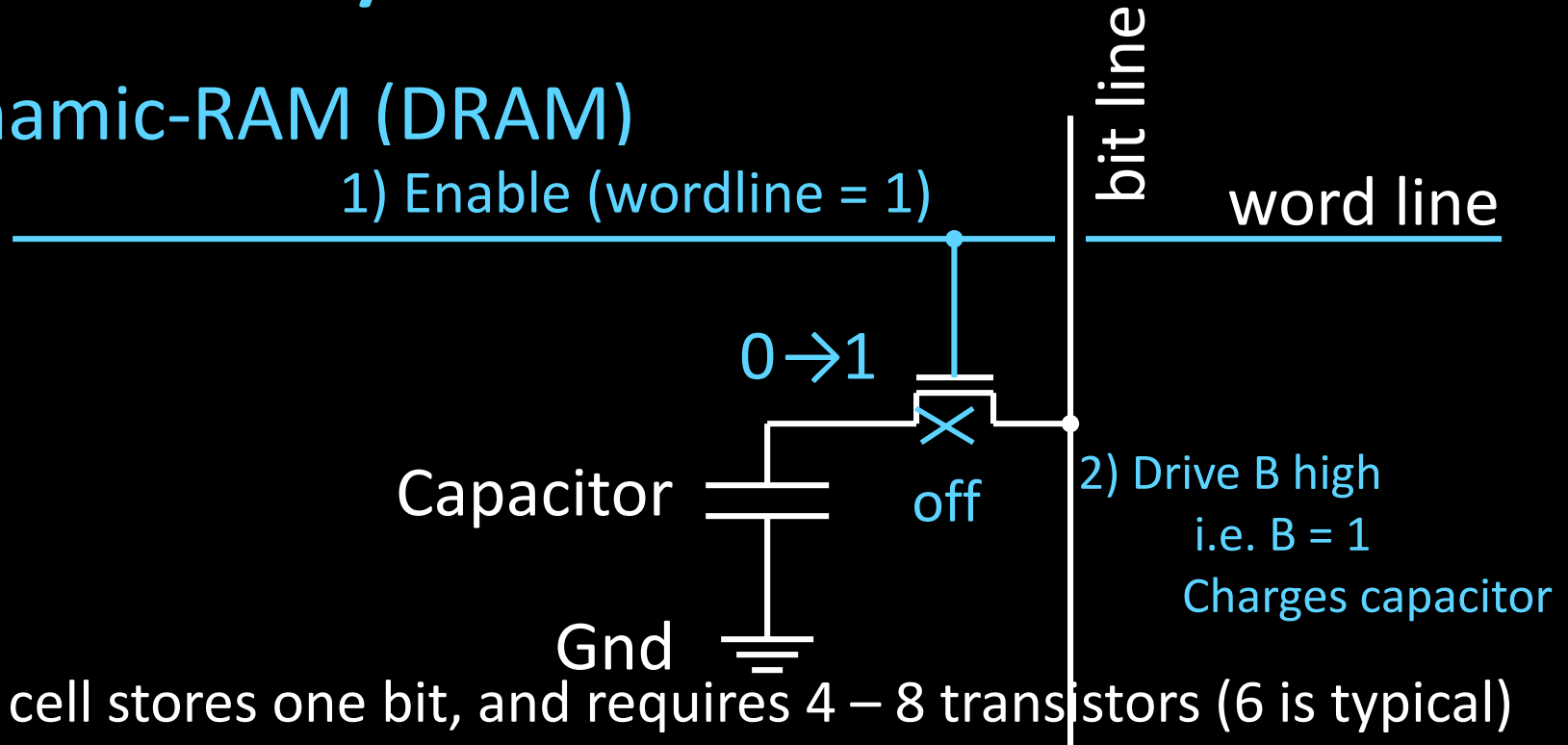
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### Read:

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# Dynamic RAM: DRAM

## Dynamic-RAM (DRAM)



Each cell stores one bit, and requires 4 – 8 transistors (6 is typical)

### Read:

- pre-charge B and  $\bar{B}$  to  $V_{\text{supply}}/2$
- pull word line high
- cell pulls B or  $\bar{B}$  low, sense amp detects voltage difference

### Write:

- pull word line high
- drive B charges capacitor

# DRAM vs. SRAM

Single transistor vs. many gates

- Denser, cheaper (\$30/1GB vs. \$30/2MB)
- But more complicated, and has analog sensing

Also needs refresh

- Read and write back...
- ...every few milliseconds
- Organized in 2D grid, so can do rows at a time
- Chip can do refresh internally

Hence... slower and energy inefficient

# Memory

## Register File tradeoffs

- + Very fast (a few gate delays for both read and write)
- + Adding extra ports is straightforward
- Expensive, doesn't scale
- Volatile

## Volatile Memory alternatives: SRAM, DRAM, ...

- Slower
- + Cheaper, and scales well
- Volatile

## Non-Volatile Memory (NV-RAM): Flash, EEPROM, ...

- + Scales well
- Limited lifetime; degrades after 100000 to 1M writes



# Summary

We now have enough building blocks to build machines that can perform non-trivial computational tasks

Register File: Tens of words of working memory

SRAM: Millions of words of working memory

DRAM: Billions of words of working memory

NVRAM: long term storage

(usb fob, solid state disks, BIOS, ...)

Next time we will build a simple processor!