Introduction to Logisim

Adam Arbree cs 3410 Week of 9/1 – 9/5, 2008

Always Use Library Elements Do not build elements that already exist Remember most elements are customizable Number of inputs Bit depth This big mess equals this element.

Overview

- Logisim example
 - 1-bit full adder
 - 2-bit full adder
- Logisim tips

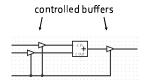
Do Not Use Constants

- Almost never necessary
- Use only when component has an unused input
- Optimize away using truth tables



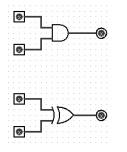
Do Not Use Controlled Buffers

- Has unexpected behavior
- Uses special tri-state logic
- Causes Logisim wires to have unknown values

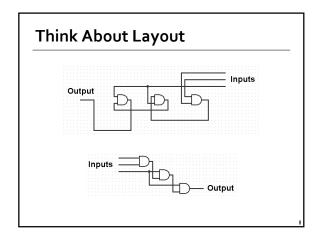


Avoid Small Sub-circuits

- Make sub-circuits that have a useful meaning
- Why?
 - Lots of identical subcircuit icons is confusing
 - Extra time spent naming sub-circuit I/O
 - Logisim performs poorly when many sub-circuits are nested



Label Splitters • Just so the me and graders (and you) stay sane. BAD 4-bit bus inputs Select lower two bits selected for output GOOD



Overall

- Organization is key
 - For you and for us
 - We must be able to understand your code easily
- Logisim simulation can be buggy
 - Too few sub-circuits or too many sub-circuits