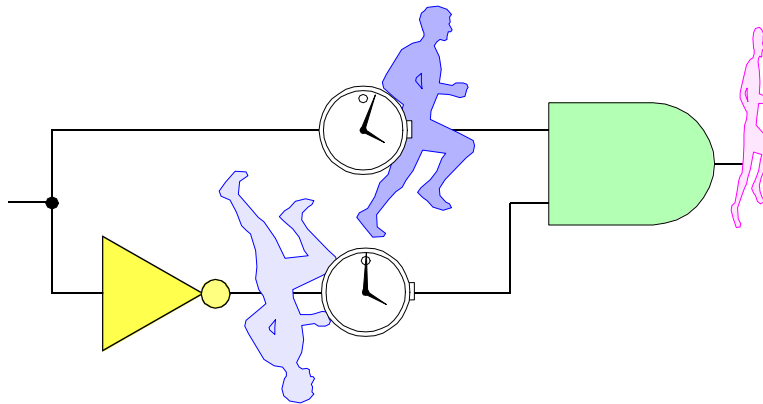




## Glitches and Hazards in Digital Circuits



"After a moment you change your mind"



## Hazards

### Glitches and a Hazards

A *glitch* is a fast "spike" usually unwanted'



A *hazard* is a circuit which **may** produce a glitch.

We will see this happens if the propagation delays are unbalanced.

### The Classification of Hazards by the Glitch They May Produce

*static-zero hazard*;

signal is static at zero, glitch rises. 

*static-one hazard*;

signal is one, glitch falls. 

*dynamic hazard*;

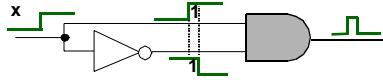
signal is changing, up  or down 



**The Two Basic Static-Hazard Circuits**

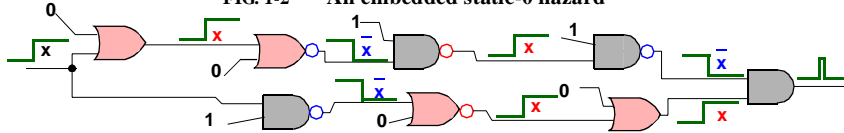
**Basic Static-Zero Hazard Circuit**

FIG. 1-1 Basic static-0



Any circuit with a static-0 hazard must reduce to the equivalent circuit of FIG. 1-1, if other variables are set to appropriate constants.

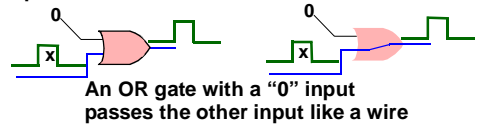
FIG. 1-2 An embedded static-0 hazard



**Static-zero Hazard's Characteristics**

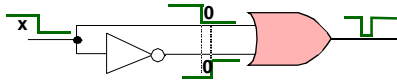
- Two parallel paths for x.
- One inverted.
- Reconverge at an AND gate.

**Explanation:**



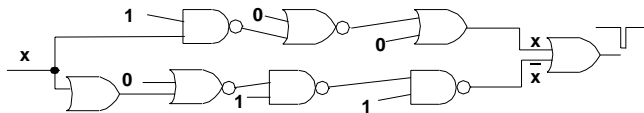
**Basic Static-One Hazard Circuit**

FIG. 1-3 Basic static-1 hazard circuit



Any circuit with a static-1 hazard must reduce to the equivalent circuit of FIG. 1-3

FIG. 1-4 An embedded static-1 hazard



**Static-One Hazard's Characteristics**

- Two parallel paths for x.
- One inverted.
- Reconverge at an OR gate.



**The Two Basic Dynamic-Hazard Circuits**

**Basic Dynamic Hazard Circuits**

A static hazard with an extra gate for the static level change.  
 Three parallel paths, one containing a static hazard.

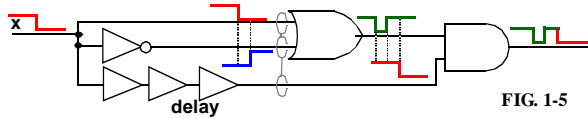


FIG. 1-5 The basic dynamic hazard circuit with its imbedded static-1 hazard.

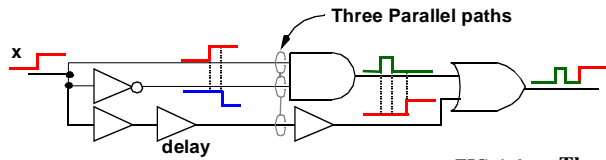


FIG. 1-6 The basic dynamic hazard circuit with its imbedded static-0 hazard.

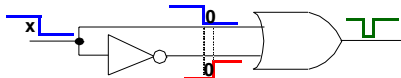
Note that a dynamic hazard always has three parallel paths.



**Adding Delay to Hazards**

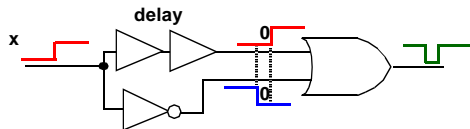
Adding delay can remove hazards, if one has good control of propagation delays.  
 The original circuit with the delay in the inverter.

FIG. 1-7 Basic static-1 hazard circuit from FIG. 1-3. Note the hazard appears on the falling edge of x.



- Adding an equal delay in the other path removes the falling-edge glitch.
- Adding too much delay will make the glitch appear on the rising edge.

FIG. 1-8 Adding delay, moves the glitch from  $\overline{x}$  to  $x$ . To kill the glitch balance the delays exactly, if you can!



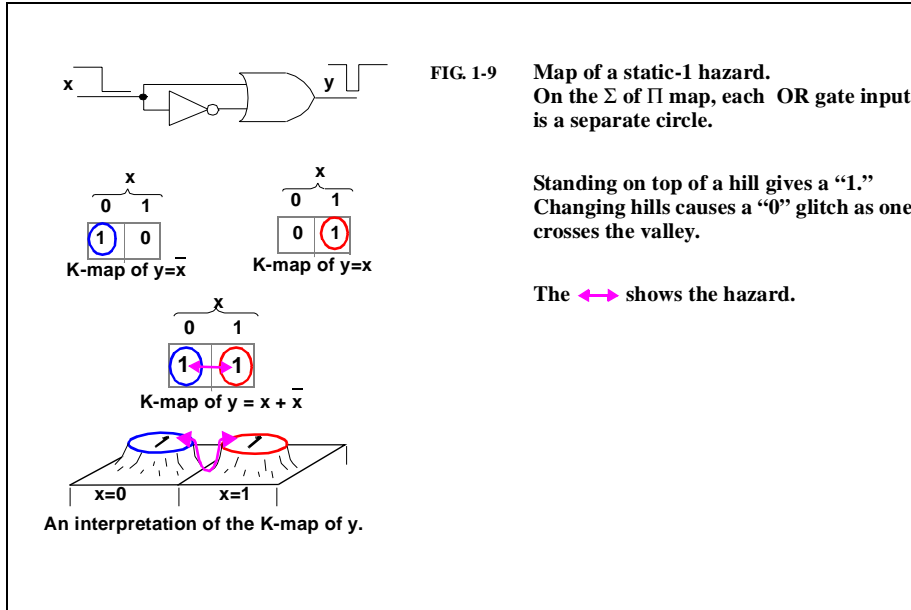
At the silicon layout level, one might balance delays closely enough to suppress the glitch.  
 With standard cells and field-programmable arrays, balancing is harder.

But see "Summary Of Hazards" on page 36.



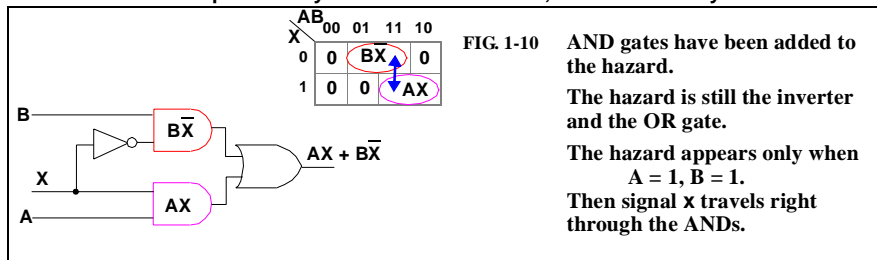
### Hazards on a Karnaugh Map

Adjacent but nonoverlapping circles on the map are hazards.



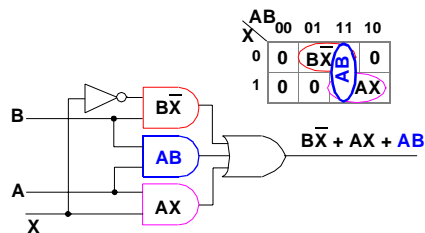
### A Static-1 Hazards on a Map

$\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$  maps can only show static-1 hazards, not static-0 or dynamic hazard.



### Masking a Hazard.

To mask static-1 hazards add a gate that stays high across the  $\leftrightarrow$  transition. This gate is logically redundant.





### DeMorgan's General Theorem (Review)

#### Simple form of DeMorgan's Theorems

$$\overline{A \cdot B} = \overline{A} + \overline{B} \quad \overline{A + B} = \overline{A} \cdot \overline{B} \quad \overline{D + E} = \overline{D} \cdot \overline{E} \quad D + E = \overline{\overline{D} \cdot \overline{E}}$$

#### The general form

$$\overline{F(A, B, C, \dots, +, \cdot)} = F(\overline{A}, \overline{B}, \overline{C}, \dots, +, \cdot)$$

- a) Take the dual of F
  - i) Bracket all groups of ANDs
  - ii) Change AND to OR and OR to AND  
Clean brackets

$$F = [\overline{A} \cdot B \cdot C + D \cdot (A + B + C)] \cdot \overline{A}$$

$$F_{DUAL} = \{[\overline{A} + B + C] \cdot [D + (A + B + C)]\} + \overline{A}$$

$$F_{DUAL} = \{A + B + C\} \cdot \{D + A + B + C\} + \overline{A}$$

$$\overline{F} = \{A + B + C\} \cdot \{D + A + B + C\} + A$$

#### Examples

$F = \overline{A} \cdot B \cdot C$	↪	$\{\overline{A} \cdot B \cdot C\}$	↪	$\overline{F} = \{A + \overline{B} + \overline{C}\}$
$F = \overline{A} \cdot B \cdot C + A \cdot \overline{B}$	↪	$\{\overline{A} \cdot B \cdot C\} + \{A \cdot \overline{B}\}$	↪	$\overline{F} = \{A + \overline{B} + \overline{C}\} \cdot \{\overline{A} + B\}$
$F = \overline{A} \cdot B \cdot (C + \overline{A} \cdot B)$	↪	$\{\overline{A} \cdot B\} \cdot \{C + \{\overline{A} \cdot B\}\}$	↪	$\overline{F} = \{A + \overline{B}\} + \{C \cdot \{\overline{A} + \overline{B}\}\}$



### Getting a Π of Σ Map from an Equation

Take a Π of Σ equation **F**

The Π of Σ map is found by

1. Apply generalized DeMorgan to **F**  
This gives a formula for  $\overline{F}$ .
2. Map  $\overline{F}$  on a Karnaugh map  
This is a Σ of Π which is easy to map.
3. Change this  $\overline{F}$  map into a map of **F**:  
write 0 in the circled squares,  
write 1 in the uncircled squares.

This gives the Π of Σ map for **F**.

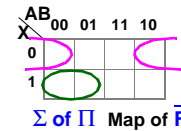
$$F = (X + B) \cdot (\overline{X} + A)$$

$$F_{DUAL} = (X \cdot B) + (\overline{X} \cdot A)$$

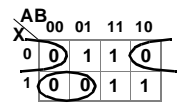
Place bars over single letters

$$\overline{F} = (\overline{X} \cdot \overline{B}) + (X \cdot \overline{A})$$

$$\overline{F} = \overline{X} \cdot \overline{B} + X \cdot \overline{A}$$



Map of F with "0"s circled.



Π of Σ map for **F**

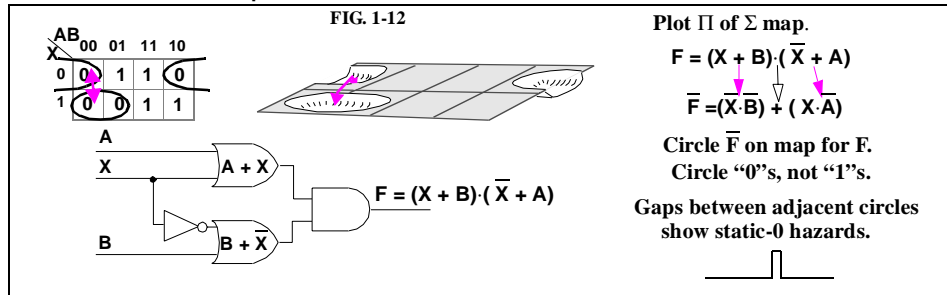
$$F = (X + B) \cdot (\overline{X} + A)$$



### Showing a Static-0 Hazards

Use a  $\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  Map

$\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  maps show static-0 hazards.

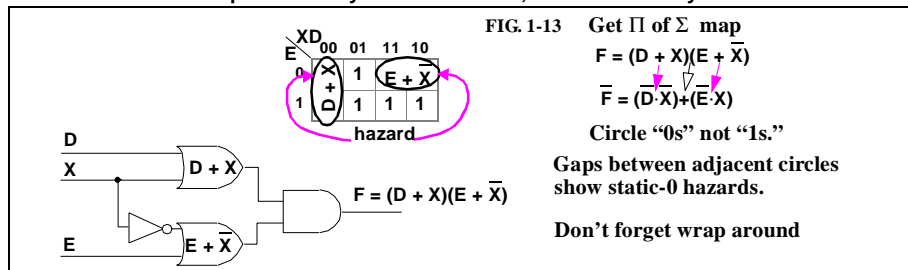


If the circles overlap, there is no hazard,  
 The circles have to be adjacent, not corner-to-corner.

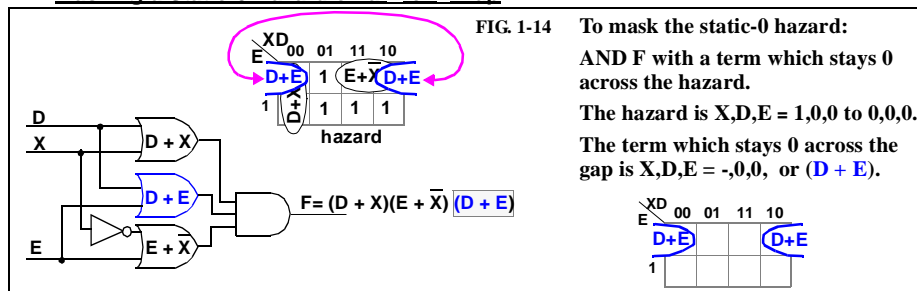


### Static-0 Hazard with Map Wrap Around

$\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  maps show only static-0 hazards, not static-1 or dynamic hazards



### Masking a Static-0 Hazard on a $\Pi$ of $\Sigma$ Map





**Algebra and Hazards.**

In hazards, delays temporarily make  $x = \bar{x}$ .  
 In algebra with hazards, treat  $x$  and  $\bar{x}$  as separate variables.

**For work with hazards, do not use:**

Complementing	Reduction	Swap	Consensus
$x\bar{x} = 0$ $x + \bar{x} = 1$	$x + \bar{x}y = x + y$ $(x + y) = xy$ $\bar{x}y + xy = y$ $(x + y)(x + y) = y$	$(x + y)(\bar{x} + z) = xz + \bar{x}y$ $xy + \bar{x}z = (x + z)(\bar{x} + y)$	$xy + yz + \bar{x}z = xy + \bar{x}z$ $(x + y)(y + z)(\bar{x} + z) = (x + y)(\bar{x} + z)$

**For work with dynamic hazards, avoid the distributive law. (Factoring)**

The distributive laws can create dynamic hazards from static hazards, even a masked one.

They will not remove or create *static* hazards.

The Distributive Laws
<del><math>x(y + z) = xy + xz</math></del>
<del><math>x + yz = (x + y)(x + z)</math></del>

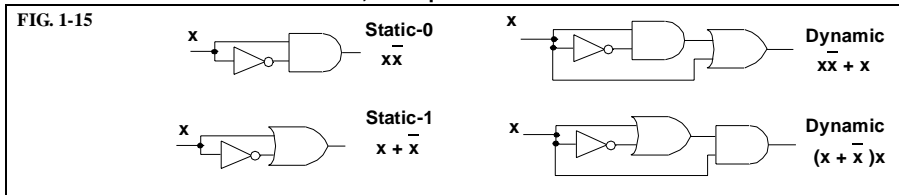
**The Simplification Laws are All Right**

$xy + x = x$        $(x + y)x = x$



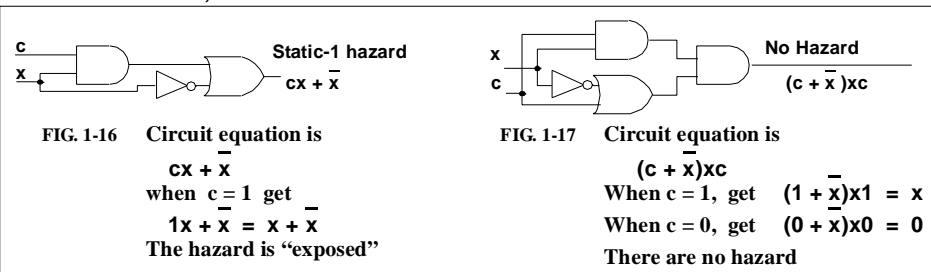
**Algebra of Hazards**

The basic forms for hazards and their equations.  
 $x$  and  $\bar{x}$  are treated as separate variables.  
 If a circuit has a hazard, the equation of the circuit will reduce to one of these forms.



**An Example**

Below, a hazard in  $x$  must reduce to a basic hazard circuit when  $c=1$  or when  $c=0$ .

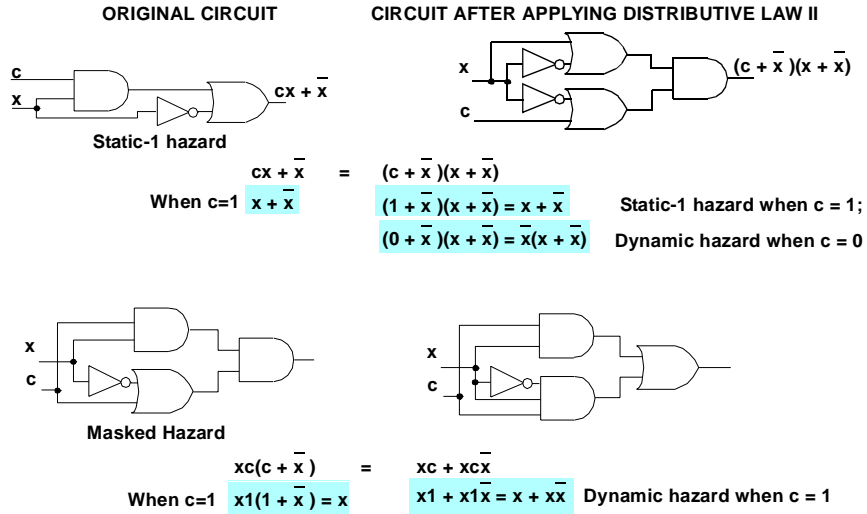




**The Distributive Law and Hazards**

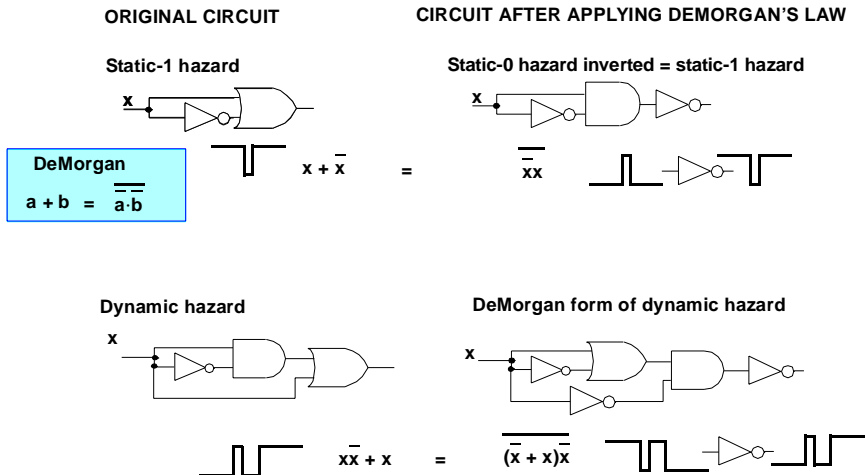
The distributive laws can change 2 parallel paths into 3, this may create a dynamic hazard from a static one. They can create a dynamic hazard from a masked hazard ( FIG. 1-18 bottom).

FIG. 1-18 The distributive law changing static hazards to dynamic hazards.



**DeMorgan's Law Does Not Change Hazards**

FIG. 1-19 DeMorgan's Law does not change static hazards or dynamic hazards, other than possibly inverting them.







### Locating Hazards Algebraically

- This method will find all hazards static-1, static-0, and dynamic.
- The circuits do not need to be  $\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$  or  $\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$ .  
 $F = (a + b + cb)de + (ea + db)c$
- It will find all types of hazards on one pass.
- Extensions can show how to mask them.

**Method**

- Step 1) Remove confusing extended overbars. using DeMorgan.
- Step 2) Find which variables cannot have hazards.
- Step 3) Check for hazards in each variable. Select one variable for checking. make other variables 1 or 0 to bring out hazard.

1.  $(\overline{A+X}) + \overline{X}C$   
 $\Rightarrow \overline{A}\overline{X} + (\overline{X} + \overline{C})$

2. Need both X and  $\overline{X}$

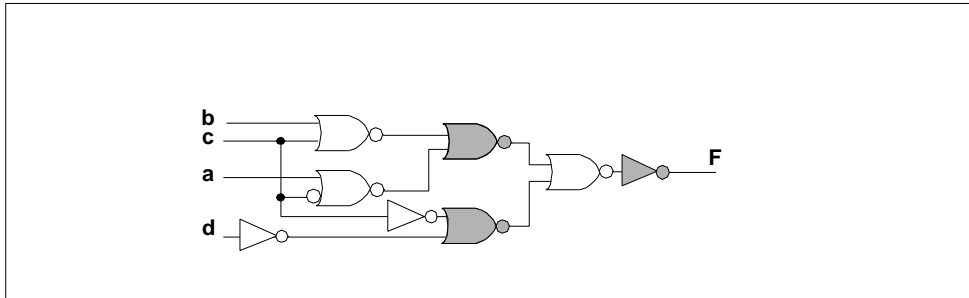
3.  $X\overline{X}$ ,  $X + \overline{X}$ ,  $X + X\overline{X}$

Select x for checking  
 $AX + (\overline{B}\overline{X} + C)$   
 Make A=1, B=1, C=0  
 $1X + (\overline{1}\overline{X} + 0)$   
 Static-1 hazard  
 $X + \overline{X}$



### Example

Find All The Hazards In F.



**Method**

- Step 1) Remove confusing extended overbars.

$$\overline{\overline{b + c + \overline{a} + c + \overline{c} + d}}$$

This is legal because DeMorgan's law does not change hazards



**DeMorgan's Laws in Graphical Form (Review)**

FIG. 1-20 Equivalent graphical forms for AND, OR, NAND and NOR.

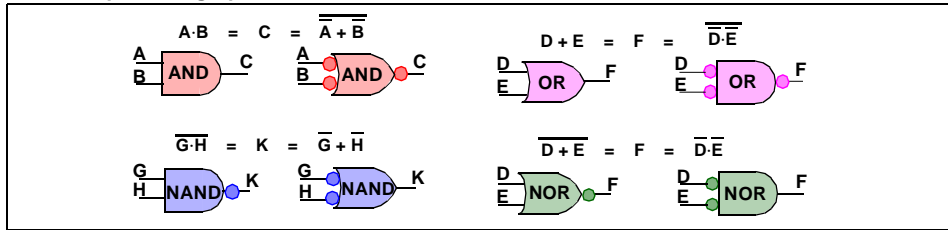
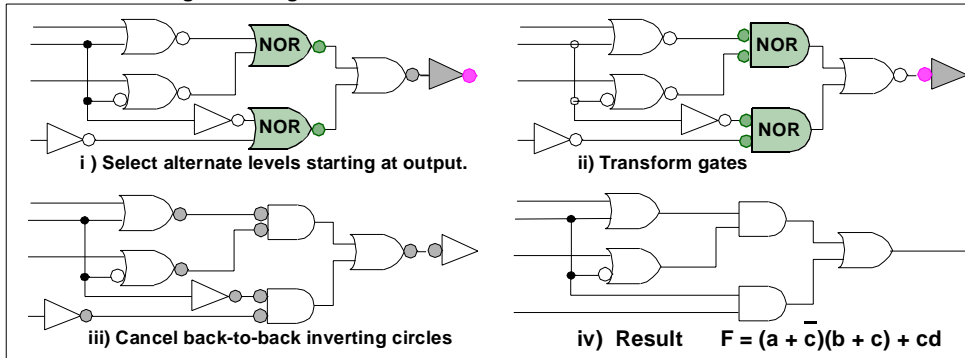


FIG. 1-21 Removing confusing inversions.



**Step 2. Estimating which variables might have hazards.**

A hazard, has two paths which reconverge in an AND or OR gate.

One path must have an even number of inversions, and the other path must have an odd number.

One need only check for hazards in variables which have such paths.

**Checking a circuit for potentially hazardous paths.**

FIG. 1-22 Remove internal inverting circles using DeMorgan's laws.

To see hazardous paths:

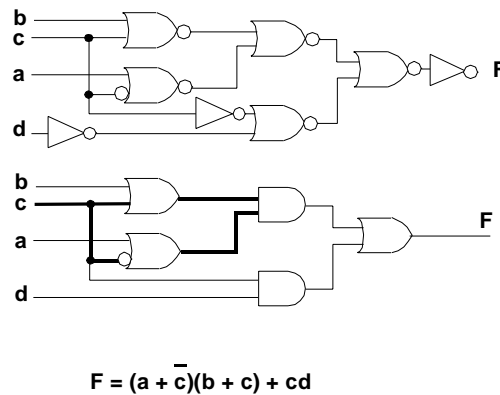
Check for reconvergent paths one of which is inverting.

Only variable c has such a path; only c can have hazards.

To check which variables can have hazards.

Check which variables have x and  $\bar{x}$

Only c has both c and  $\bar{c}$  terms.





**Step 3. Locating Hazards From the Circuit Equation**

A. Take the circuit equation.

$$F = (a + \bar{c})(b + c) + cd$$

B. Note which variables do not have both  $\bar{x}$  and  $x$ .

In this case  $a, b$  and  $d$ .  $\Rightarrow$  only  $c$  needs to be checked.

C. Substitute 0s and 1s for the other variables. Try to get forms like:

$$c\bar{c}, c + \bar{c}, c\bar{c} + c, (c + \bar{c})c.$$

a	b	c	d	$(a + \bar{c})(b + c) + cd$	F	Type of hazard.
0	0	c	0	$(0 + \bar{c})(0 + c) + c0$	$\bar{c}c$	Static-0
0	0	c	1	$(0 + \bar{c})(0 + c) + c1$	$\bar{c}c + c$	Dynamic
0	1	c	1	$(0 + \bar{c})(1 + c) + c1$	$\bar{c} + c$	Static-1
0	1	c	0	$(0 + \bar{c})(1 + c) + c0$	$\bar{c}$	
1	0	c	0	$(1 + \bar{c})(0 + c) + c0$	$c$	
1	0	c	1	$(1 + \bar{c})(0 + c) + c1$	$c + c$	c
1	1	c	1	$(1 + \bar{c})(1 + c) + c1$	$1 + c$	1
1	1	c	0	$(1 + \bar{c})(1 + c) + c0$	1	

Static-0 hazard in c when

Dynamic hazard in c when

Static-1 hazard in c when

$a, b, d = 0, 0, 0,$

$a, b, d = 0, 0, 1,$

$a, b, d = 0, 1, 1.$



**Same Example With More Organization and Less Writing**

Equation.

$$F = (a + \bar{c})(b + c) + cd$$

Note only  $c$  can have a hazard.

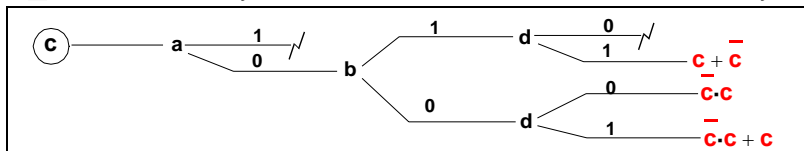
Select  $c$  to be the variable that changes.

Sequentially substitute 1 or 0 for the other letters.  $\underline{\quad}$   $\underline{\quad}$

A little thought shows  $a$  must be 0, else  $a + \bar{c} = 1 \Rightarrow$  no  $\bar{c} \Rightarrow$  no hazard

Set  $a = 0$  first.

abcd	$(a + \bar{c})(b + c) + cd$					a,b,c,d.
a <b>bc</b> d	$(a + \bar{c})(b + c) + cd$					
0 <b>bc</b> d	$(0 + \bar{c})(b + c) + cd = \bar{c}(b + c) + cd$				$a$ must be 0, or no $\bar{c}$ .	
0 <b>1c</b> d	try $b = 1$	$= \bar{c}(1 + c) + cd = \bar{c} + cd$				<b>a,b,c,d.</b>
0 <b>1c</b> 1	$d$ must be 1	$= \bar{c} + c1 = c + \bar{c}$		$= c + \bar{c}$	Static-1 for	0 1 c 1
0 <b>0c</b> d	try $b = 0$	$= \bar{c}(0 + c) + cd = \bar{c}c + cd$				
0 <b>0c</b> 0	$d$ may be 0	$= \bar{c}c + c0 = \bar{c}c$			Static-0 for	0 0 c 0
0 <b>0c</b> 1	or $d$ may be 1	$= \bar{c}c + c1 = c\bar{c} + c$			Dynamic for	0 0 c 1





**Example:**

Find all the single-variable change hazards

$$f = (abc + acd)(abc + de)$$

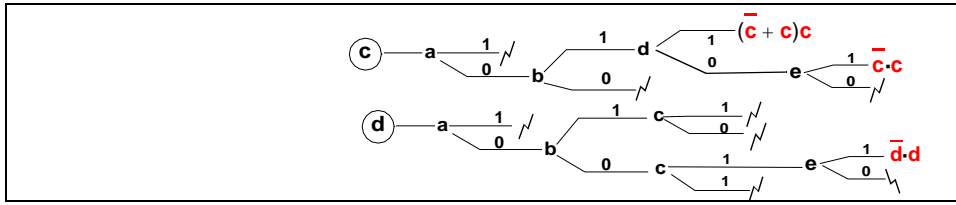
Note only c or d can have hazards.

$$abcd\ e \quad (\overline{abc} + \overline{acd})(\overline{abc} + \overline{de})$$

$$abcd\ e \quad (\overline{abc} + \overline{acd})(\overline{abc} + \overline{de}) \quad a \text{ must be } 0 (\overline{a} = 1), \text{ or no } \overline{c} \text{ or } d$$

$$0bcd\ e \quad (\overline{bc} + \overline{cd})(\overline{bc} + \overline{de}) = (\overline{bc} + \overline{cd})(\overline{bc} + \overline{de})$$

0 c d e	b = 1 or no c =	$(\overline{c} + cd)(c + \overline{de})$	
01 c e	if d is 1	$= (\overline{c} + c)(c + 0) = \overline{c}(c + c)$	Dynamic for any e
01 c 0 e	if d is 0	$= (c + 0)(c + 1e) = \overline{c}(c + e)$	
01 c 0	if e is 0	$= (c)(c)$	Static-0
0 0 c d e	try b = 0	$= (0 + cd)(0 + \overline{de}) =$	
00 1 d 1	if c=1 and e=1	$= (0 + d)(0 + \overline{d}) = d\overline{d}$	Static-0
0 1 c d e	try b = 1	$= (\overline{c} + cd)(c + \overline{de})$	
00 d e	try c=1	$= 0 + 1d(1 + \overline{de})$	No hazard
00 d e	try c=0	$= (1 + 0d)(0 + \overline{de})$	No hazard



**Locating Hazards; More Complex Exmple**

Equation.  $F = [(a + bc)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{ac})\overline{d}]ab$

Note which variables do not have both  $\overline{x}$  and  $x$ .  
Here all variables need further checking.

Select one letter to to be the variable that changes.

Sequentially (one at a time) substitute 1 or 0 for the other letters.

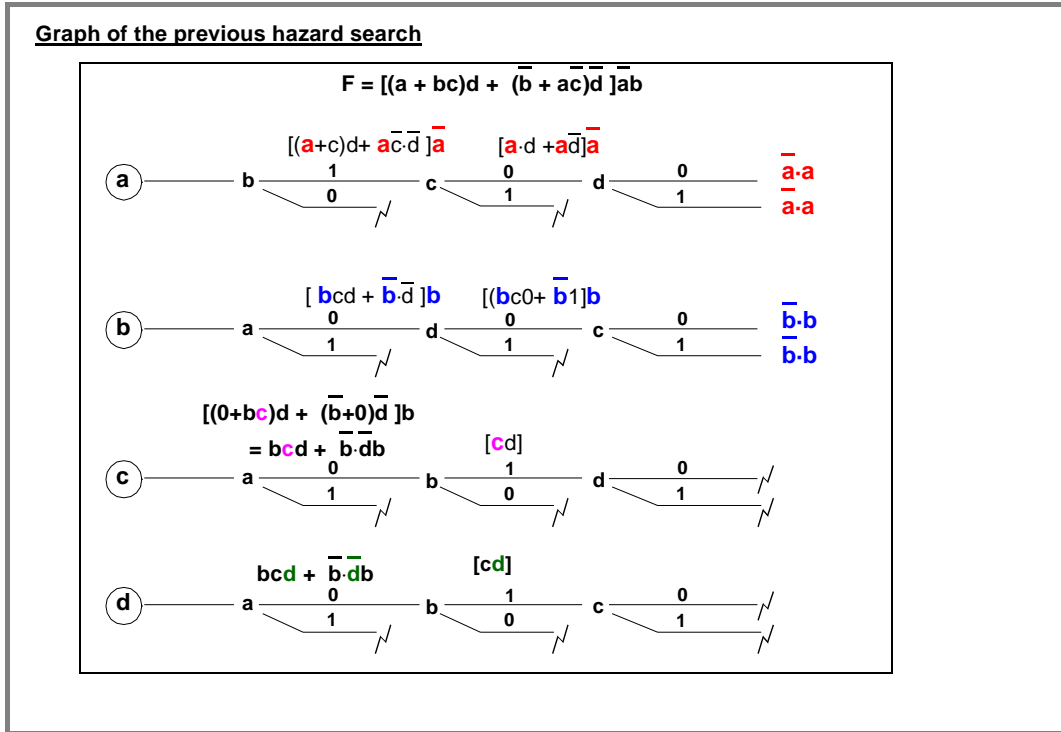
A little thought helps select which letter to make 1 (or 0) first.

$$abcd \quad [(a + bc)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{ac})\overline{d}]ab$$

a bcd	$[(a + bc)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{ac})\overline{d}]ab$	$b \text{ must be } 1, \text{ or } F \equiv 0$
a 1 cd	$[(a + 1c)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{ac})\overline{d}]a1 = [(a+c)d + \overline{ac}\overline{d}]a$	$c, \text{ must be } 0, \text{ or no } a$
a 1 0 d	set c = 0	$= [(a+0)d + \overline{a}1\overline{d}]a = [a\overline{d} + \overline{a}d]a$
a 1 0 0	d may be 0	$= [a\cdot 0 + \overline{a}1]a = a\overline{a}$ Static-0 for a100
a 1 0 1	or d may be 1	$= [a\cdot 1 + \overline{a}0]a = a\overline{a}$ Static-0 for a101

a bcd	$[(a + bc)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{ac})\overline{d}]ab$	$\overline{a} \text{ must be } 1, \text{ or } F \equiv 0$
0 bcd	$[(0 + bc)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{0c})\overline{d}]1b = [bcd + \overline{b}\overline{d}]b$	$d \text{ must be } 0 \text{ or no } \overline{b}$
0 bc 0	$[(0c0 + \overline{b}1]b = [b]b$	Static-0 for 0 b - 0 This hazard is independent of c.

ab cd	$[(a + bc)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{ac})\overline{d}]ab =$	$\overline{a}, b \text{ must be } 1, 1, \text{ or } F \equiv 0$
0 1 cd	$[(0 + 1c)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{0c})\overline{d}]11 = [cd]$	There is no c, hence no hazard
abc d	$[(a + bc)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{ac})\overline{d}]ab =$	$\overline{a}, b \text{ must be } 1, 1, \text{ or } F \equiv 0$
0 1 cd	$[(0 + 1c)d + (\overline{b} + \overline{0c})\overline{d}]11 = [cd]$	There is no d, hence no hazard



**Implementing Hazard Free Circuits**

**Sum-of-Product Circuits Have No Static-0 Hazards**

Sum of products circuits always have an equation of the form  
 $F = abc + ab\bar{c} + a\bar{b}c + \dots + \bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c}d$

Static-0 hazards are like  $c\bar{c}$ . {  $c + \bar{c}$  is static-1}

To get  $c\bar{c}$  in F as above on must place c and  $\bar{c}$  as inputs to the same AND gate.  
 This is ignorant.

**Rule I:**

Except for the gross carelessness of including terms like  $acc$ ,  $\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$  implementations have no static-0 hazards.



### Sum-of-Product Circuits Have No Dynamic Hazards

$\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$  circuit have equations of the form

$$F = abc + ab\bar{d} + ab\bar{c}d + \dots + ab\bar{c}d + ab\bar{c}d$$

Dynamic hazards are of the form  $c\bar{c} + c$  or  $(c+c)c$ .

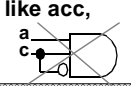
In  $F$ , try fixing  $a, b$  and  $d$  at any combination of 0 or 1.

A dynamic hazard in  $c$ , must have a term containing  $c\bar{c}$ .

In  $F$  above, one can only get a dynamic hazard by using the "ignorant" term  $ab\bar{c}d$ .

Thus Rule II is:

Except for the gross carelessness of including terms like  $acc$ ,  
 $\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$  implementations have no dynamic hazards.





### Sum-of-Product Circuits Have Only Easily Eliminated Static-1 Hazards

$\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$  circuits can still have static-1 hazards

They are easily found and removed using:

- a Karnaugh map,
- or algebraically.

FIG. 1-23 Map of function

$$F = b\bar{x} + ax$$

It is  $\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$

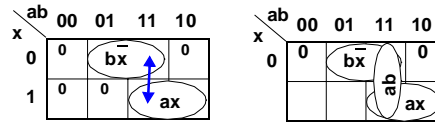
The hazards must all be static-1.

Hazard when  $a, b = 1, 1$ .

Add term  $\bar{a}b$  to mask the hazard.

$$F = b\bar{x} + ax + \bar{a}b$$

Is shown on the right.





**Product-of Sum Circuits Have No Static-1 Hazards**

$\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  circuit equations are of the form

$$F = (a+b+c)(a+b+\bar{d})(a+b+\bar{c}+d)(\dots\dots\dots)(a+b+\bar{c}+d)$$

Static-1 hazards are of the form  $c + \bar{c}$

To get  $c+\bar{c}$  in F one must place c and  $\bar{c}$  as inputs to the same OR gate.  
This is ignorant.

Except for the gross carelessness of including terms like  $a+c+\bar{c}$ ,  
 $\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  implementations have no static-1 hazards.



**Product-of Sum Circuits Have No Dynamic Hazards**

Except for the gross carelessness of including terms like  $acc$ ,  
 $\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  implementations have no dynamic hazards.



**Product-of Sum Circuits Have Only Easily Eliminated Static-0 Hazards**

$\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  circuits can still have static-0 hazards

They are easily found and removed using a  $\Pi$  of  $\Sigma$  Karnaugh map



**Example: Single-Variable-Change Hazard-Free Circuit From a Map**

A digital function defined by a map; FIG. 1-24(left).

Choose a circling for the map; see FIG. 1-24 (middle),

$\leftrightarrow$  indicate the hazards.

$$F = a \cdot b + \bar{b} \cdot c + \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} \cdot d$$

Then add circles which cover the arrows; FIG. 1-24(right).

The hazard free equation, on this final map, is -

$$F = a \cdot b + \bar{b} \cdot c + \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} \cdot d + a \cdot c + \bar{b} \cdot c \cdot d + \bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} \cdot d$$

FIG. 1-24 Left) Example to be implemented as a hazard free circuit.  
 Centre) A possible  $\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$  encirclement showing hazards.  
 Right) The map with the hazards covered.

	cd			
ab	00	01	11	10
00	0	1	1	1
01	0	1	0	0
11	1	1	1	1
10	0	0	1	1

	cd			
ab	00	01	11	10
00	0	a·c	1	b·c
01	0	1	0	0
11	1	1	1	1
10	0	0	1	1

$F = a \cdot b + \bar{b} \cdot c + \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} \cdot d$

	cd			
ab	00	01	11	10
00	0	1	a·b	1
01	0	1	0	0
11	1	b·c	1	a·c
10	0	0	1	1

$F = a \cdot b + \bar{b} \cdot c + \bar{a} \cdot \bar{c} \cdot d + a \cdot c + \bar{b} \cdot c \cdot d + \bar{a} \cdot \bar{b} \cdot d$

Since it is  $\Sigma$  of  $\Pi$ , all single-variable change hazards are removed

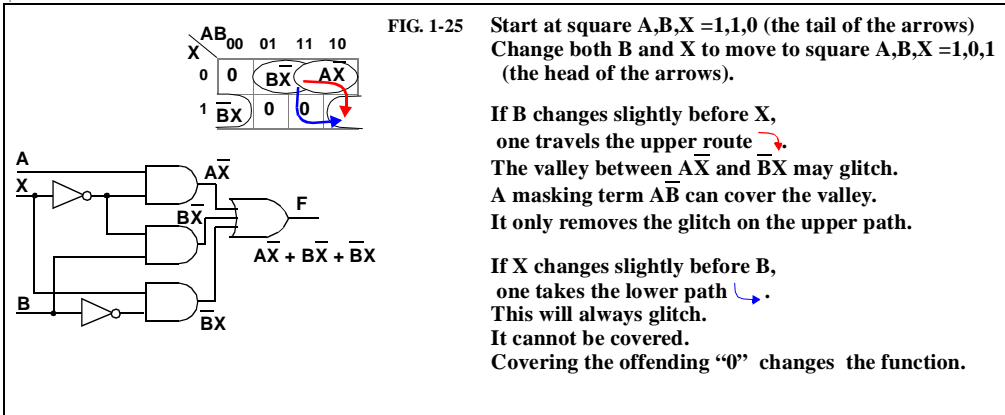


## Hazards With Multiple Input Changes

### Two-variable-change hazards

Two-variables changes, move two squares on the Karnaugh map.

Some 2-change hazards are maskable. (upper arrow in FIG. 1-25)  
 Many 2-variable hazards are not maskable. (lower arrow)

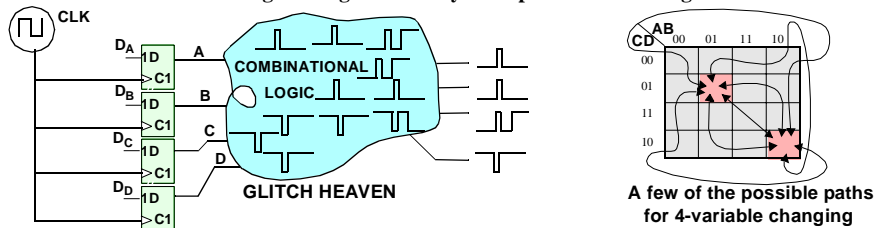


## When Are Hazards Important?

### Multiple Variable Change Hazards are Plentiful

Take a synchronous circuit  
 Let 4 flip-flops change at once.  
 16 possible map squares.  
 Most paths will have function hazards

**FIG. 1-26** The vast number of glitches generated by multiple variable changes



With 2 variables changing one is very likely to have hazards.  
 With more variables changing they are like waves in the ocean.

*But very fast glitches will be absorbed inside gates (inertial delay)..*

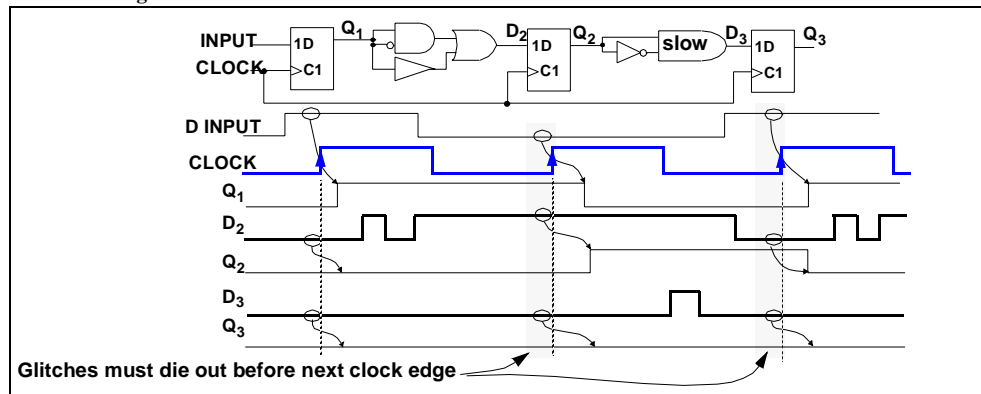




### Hazards do not hurt synchronous circuits

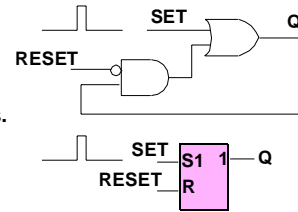
In clocked logic, flip-flops only respond to the inputs slightly before the clock edge. See the circles on the waveforms below. All variables change shortly after the clock edge. The clock cycle is made long enough so the glitches die out long before the clock edge.

FIG. 1-27 The flip-flops only respond in the circled region on the waveforms below. A glitch at any other time will not influence state of the machine. The glitches die out long before the clock edge. The glitches have no influence on the state.



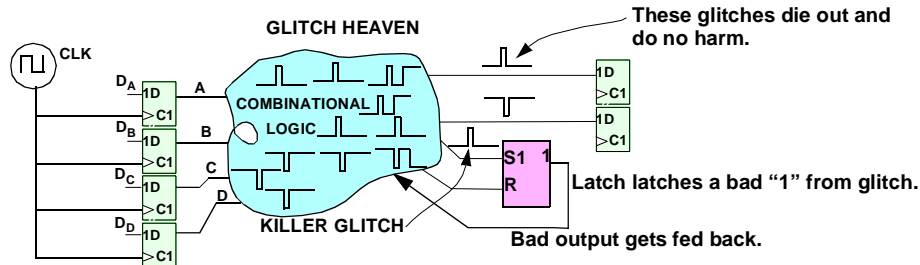
### Hazards Kill Asynchronous Circuits

By asynchronous circuits, we mean ones with feedback that can latch signals. A glitch may causes a wrong value to be latched. All hazards must be eliminated, or proven harmless. Analog simulation is used to prove it harmless.



#### Example: Placing an R-S Latch in a Synchronous Circuit

FIG. 1-28 The Russian Roulette of digital design with unlocked latches.





## Outputs where hazards are of concern

### Some displays are very sensitive to glitches.

Light emitting-diode displays may show slight "ghosts" in dim light.

Cathode-ray tube displays will often show any glitches on their input signals.

### Memories

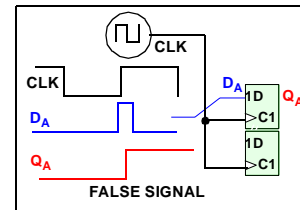
Memory chips are asynchronous latches, and are sensitive to glitches.

Memory control leads must be glitch free.

### Glitches in asynchronous inputs to synchronous circuits

Asynchronous inputs to synchronous circuits must be hazard free.

An input glitch on the clock edge, may be captured as a valid input.



## Summary Of Hazards

### Single variable change hazards

Can be found and cured.

### Multiple variable change hazards

Can be found

Are very plentiful

Cannot be cured in general, they are part of the logic.

May be reducible to single variable change.

### Hazards are not important in truly synchronous circuits

Except for power consumption.

Don't mention false-paths.

### Hazards are important in

Asynchronous circuits.

Latches and flip-flops

Pulse catchers

Debouncers

Memory interface signals

High speed displays

Bus Control



**Locating Hazards; Example three**

Equation.  $F = \bar{y}(\bar{e} + \bar{b}\bar{c}) + b(c\bar{e} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{e}) + a\bar{c}e\bar{y}$

Select one letter, call it X, to be the variable that changes.

Variables which do not have both forms, X and X, have no hazards.

If only one X, set all symbols ANDing X to 1.  $+ a\bar{c}e\bar{X}$  set a,c,e to 1,1,1 or no X

If only one X, set symbols ANDing X at 1, and ORing X at 0.  $\bar{y}(\bar{e} + X\bar{c})$  set  $\bar{c}, \bar{e}, y$  to 1,0,1 or no X.

If all Xs have a common factor, fix factor at 1.  $b(c\bar{X} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{X}) + a\bar{c}X\bar{y}$  c must be 1 or no X

abce y  $\bar{y}(\bar{e} + \bar{b}\bar{c}) + b(c\bar{e} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{e}) + a\bar{c}e\bar{y}$

abce y  $\bar{y}(\bar{e} + \bar{b}\bar{c}) + b(c\bar{e} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{e}) + a\bar{c}e\bar{y}$

ab1ey  $\bar{y}(e + \bar{b}0) + b(1\bar{e} + \bar{a}0\bar{e}) + \bar{a}1e\bar{y} = y\bar{e} + b\bar{e} + \bar{a}e\bar{y}$

c must be 1, or no a  
no  $\bar{a} \Rightarrow$  no hazards in a

abce y  $\bar{y}(\bar{e} + \bar{b}\bar{c}) + b(c\bar{e} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{e}) + a\bar{c}e\bar{y}$

ab010  $1(0 + \bar{b}1) + b(0\bar{1} + \bar{a}10) + \bar{a}010 = \bar{b} + 0$

$\bar{c}, \bar{e}, y$  must be 1,0,1 or no  $\bar{b}$ .  
no  $\bar{b} \Rightarrow$  no hazards in b.

abce y  $\bar{y}(\bar{e} + \bar{b}\bar{c}) + b(c\bar{e} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{e}) + a\bar{c}e\bar{y}$

ab1ey  $\bar{y}(0 + \bar{b}c) + b(c\bar{1} + \bar{a}\bar{c}0) + \bar{a}c1\bar{y} = \bar{y}\bar{b}\bar{c} + b\bar{c} + \bar{a}c\bar{y}$

a0c01  $= 1\bar{1}\bar{c} + 0\bar{c} + \bar{a}c0$

e must be 1 or no c.  
 $\bar{y}\bar{b}$  must be 1,1 or no  $\bar{c}$   
no c  $\Rightarrow$  No hazards.

abce y  $\bar{y}(\bar{e} + \bar{b}\bar{c}) + b(c\bar{e} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{e}) + a\bar{c}e\bar{y}$

ab1ey  $\bar{y}(e + \bar{b}0) + b(1\bar{e} + \bar{a}0\bar{e}) + \bar{a}1e\bar{y} = y\bar{e} + be + \bar{a}e\bar{y}$

ab1e0  $= 1e + be + \bar{a}e0 = \bar{e} + be$

a11e0  $= e + e$

c must be 1 or no e  
y must be 1 or no e  
b must be 1  
Static-1 for a11e0

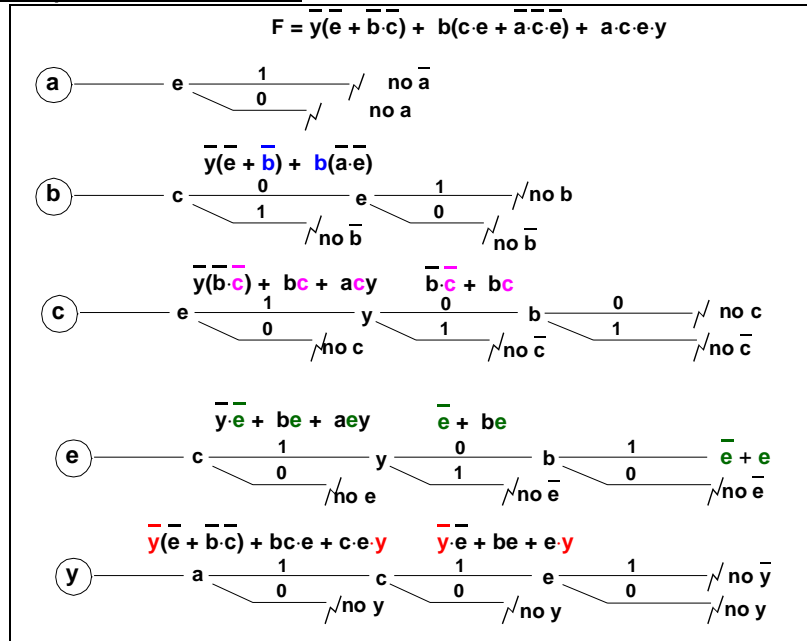
abce y  $\bar{y}(\bar{e} + \bar{b}\bar{c}) + b(c\bar{e} + \bar{a}\bar{c}\bar{e}) + a\bar{c}e\bar{y}$

1b11y  $\bar{y}(0 + \bar{b}0) + b(1\bar{1} + 0\bar{0}0) + 1\bar{1}1\bar{y} = \bar{b} + y$

a,c,e must be 1,1,1 or no y.  
no  $\bar{y} \Rightarrow$  No hazards in y.



**Graph of the previous hazard search**





**Example 4**

**Equation.**

$$f = (\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c} + \bar{a}cd)(\bar{a}bc + \bar{d}e)$$

**Note only c or d can have a hazard.**

a b c d e	$(\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c} + \bar{a}cd)(\bar{a}bc + \bar{d}e)$	
a b c d e	$(\bar{a}\bar{b}\bar{c} + \bar{a}cd)(\bar{a}bc + \bar{d}e)$	a must be 0 ( $\bar{a} = 1$ ), or no $\bar{c}$ or d
0 b c d e	$(\bar{b}\bar{c} + cd)(bc + \bar{d}e) = (bc + cd)(bc + \bar{d}e)$	
0 1 c d e	$b = 1$ or no $\bar{c}$	$= (\bar{c} + cd)(c + \bar{d}e)$
0 1 c e	if d is 1	$= (\bar{c} + c)(c + 0) = (\bar{c} + c)c$ Dynamic for any e
0 1 c 1e	if d is 0	$= (c + 0)(c + 1e) = (c)(c + e)$
0 1 c 0 0	if e is 0	$= (\bar{c})(c)$ Static-0
0 0 c d e	try b = 0	$= (0 + cd)(0 + \bar{d}e) =$
0 0 1 d 1	if c=1 and e=1	$= d\bar{d} + c0 = \bar{d}\bar{d}$ Static-0
0 1 c d e	try b = 1	$= (\bar{c} + cd)(c + \bar{d}e)$
0 0 d e	try c=1	$= (0 + 1d)(1 + \bar{d}e)$ No hazard
0 0 d e	try c=0	$= (1 + 0d)(0 + \bar{d}e)$ No hazard



**1. Problem**

a) Place arrows on the K-map for F to show where all the single-variable-change static-1 hazards might occur.

b) On another map show what AND terms must be added to F to mask these hazards.  
Write the equation for the simplest F you can find that still has masked hazards.  
You may change the original four terms of F if it would be beneficial.

$F = a\bar{b}\bar{c} + bc + \bar{b}\bar{d} + \bar{a}bc$

**2. Problem**

Given  $G = b\bar{a} + \bar{a}\bar{c} + \bar{b}\bar{c}\bar{d}$

(a) State with reasons, but without doing any calculation or map work,:

- How many static-0 hazards G has.
- How many dynamic hazards G has.

(b) Find all the single-variable-change hazards algebraically.