

# CSE 410 - Computer Systems

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<http://www.cs.washington.edu/410>

# Administrative

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- All class info is on the web site
  - `http://www.cs.washington.edu/410`
  - also known as
    - `http://www.cs.washington.edu/education/courses/cse410/01au/`

# Class Overview

- Provide an introduction to the inner workings of computer systems
- Levels of abstraction
  - bits, bytes, assembly language
  - operating system concepts
  - higher level languages - C, C++, Java, ...
  - application programs

# Goal

- You will understand
  - what is actually happening when a computer system is running application programs
- So that you will be able to
  - make good design choices as a developer, project manager, or system customer
- In other words ...
  - calibrate your hype-o-meter with facts

# The structure of this class

- The hardware / software interface
  - the elements of a computer system
  - what parts are visible to the software
  - instruction set architecture (ISA)
- Operating systems
  - services an OS performs for an application
  - design of various OS components

# Elements of a computer system

- Start with a point of view
  - purchase a CD on the Web
  - get class schedule from MyUW
  - write a resume using Word
  - write a Java program to do image processing
  - write a C program to read real time data
  - write assembly language for matrix operations
  - write microcode for instruction emulation

# “Top Level” elements

- At any level of abstraction, there are
  - elements at that level
  - the building blocks for those elements
- Rope analogy in the book
  - a cable: three hawsers twisted together
  - a hawser: three strands of many yarns
  - down to the molecular level and beyond

# Purchase a CD on the Web

- the “top level” system includes
  - your browser, your desktop computer
  - connection to the internet (ISP)
  - server - <http://www.amazon.com/>
  - server application code
    - method="POST"
    - action="/exec/obidos/handle-buy-box=B00005NFZB/..."
    - ...



# Write a resume using Word

- the “top level” system includes
  - winword.exe - the application program
  - Contemporary Resume.dot - document template
  - resume.doc - the file containing the text
  - Windows Explorer - file manager
  - network file and printer sharing

# Write assembly language for matrix operations

- the “top level” system includes
  - programmer’s editor (eg, Context)
  - assembler - convert source to machine language
  - linker, loader - build and run executable
  - Instruction Set Architecture (ISA) that you are writing the code for
    - defines the programmer-visible face of the CPU
    - in this class, we will be writing for MIPS 1 ISA

# Layers of abstraction

- Abstraction
  - isolates a layer from changes in the layer below
  - improves developer productivity by reducing detail needed to accomplish a task
  - helps define a single architecture that can be implemented with more than one organization

# Architecture and Organization

- Architecture
  - defines elements and interfaces between layers
  - ISA: instructions, registers, addressing
- Organization
  - components and connections
  - how instructions are implemented in hardware
  - many different organizations can implement a single architecture

# Computer Architecture

- Specification of how to program a specific computer family
  - what instructions are available?
  - how are the instructions formatted into bits?
  - how many registers and what is their function?
  - how is memory addressed?
- The MIPS 1 architecture is the basis for the first half of this course

# Architecture Families

- IBM 360, 370, ...
- PowerPC 601, 603, ...
- DEC PDP-11
- Intel x86 286, 386, 486, Pentium, ...
- Motorola 680x0
- MIPS R2000, R3000, R4000, R5000, ...

# Computer Organization

- Processor
  - datapath (functional units) manipulate the bits
  - control controls the manipulation
- Memory
  - cache memory - smaller, higher speed
  - main memory - larger, slower speed
- Input / Output
  - interface to the rest of the world

# Organizations and Architectures

- Architecture is another abstraction layer
- One architecture can be implemented with many organizations
- One organization can support multiple architectures
- Different manufacturing technologies
  - TTL, ECL, PMOS, NMOS, CMOS
  - ropes and pulleys - see Dewdney reference



# Many possible implementations

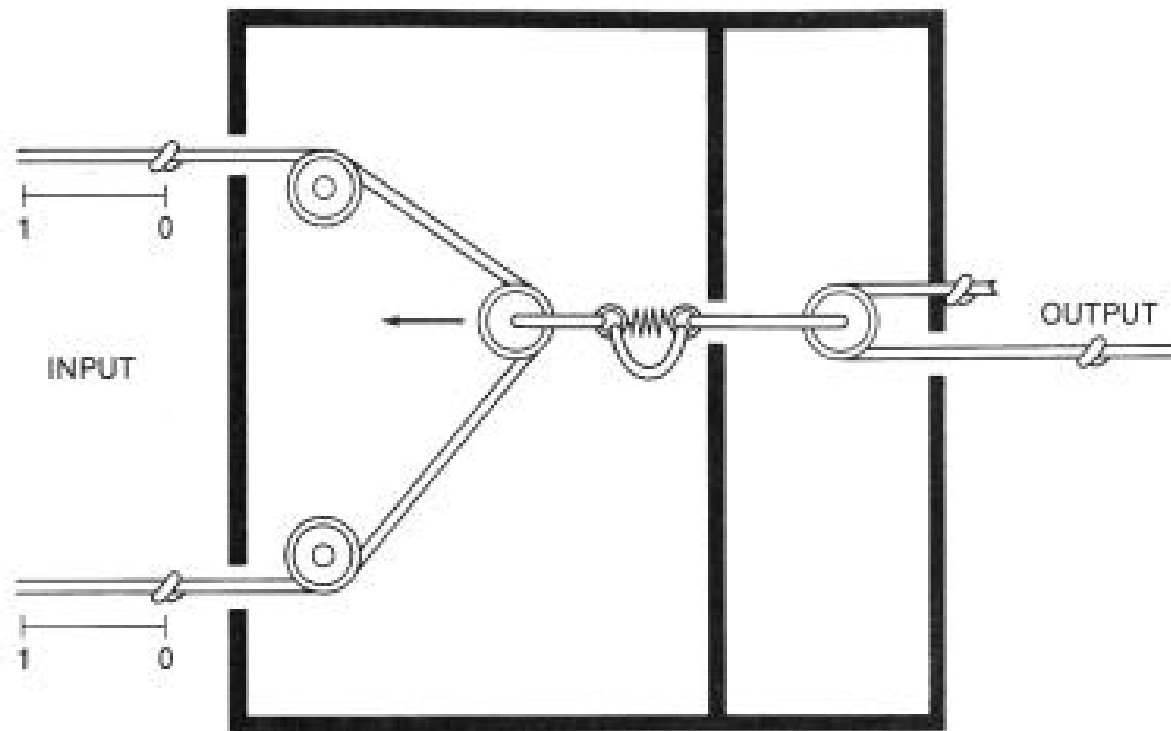
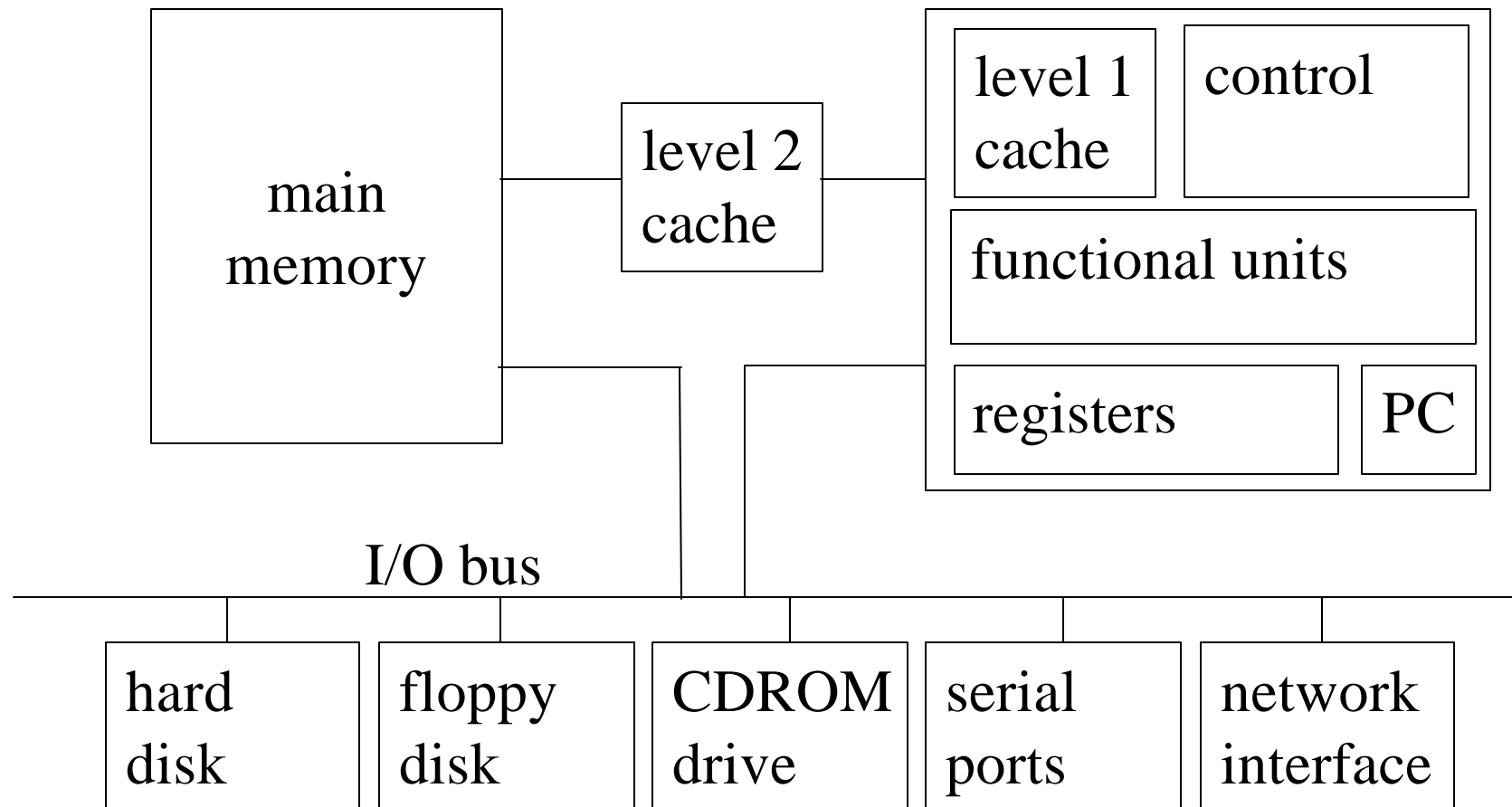


Figure 2.4 The Apraphulian AND gate.

# A typical organization



# Change Organization or Architecture?

- Theory
  - Organization changes provide incremental changes in speed and cost for same software
  - Architecture changes enable breakthrough changes in speed and cost for new software
- Real life
  - incremental changes are very rapid
  - breakthrough changes are very costly

# A quick hardware tour

- System board
  - CPU, memory, I/O bus
- Hard disk
  - 3600+ RPM, 8ms latency, 3-15 ms seek
- Monitor
  - CRT, LCD
- Mouse, keyboard
  - embedded processors

# Reading and References

- Reading
  - Chapter 1, Patterson and Hennessy, Computer Organization & Design
- Other References
  - A. K. Dewdney, The Rope and Pulley Wonder, in *The Tinkertoy Computer*, W. H. Freeman, New York, 1993