# Electronics Logic Gates: Tri-State Output

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Terry Sturtevant Electronics Logic Gates: Tri-State Output

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Three types of outputs Tri-state output Tri-state output equivalent circuit Tri-state output (inverting)

## Types of logic gate outputs

• Totem pole

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Output is HIGH or LOW.

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## Types of logic gate outputs

- Totem pole
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- Open collector

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## Types of logic gate outputs

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- Open collector
  - Output is floating or LOW.

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#### Tri-state outputs



• input is to make output LOW or HIGH,

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 Types of logic gate outputs Microprocessor buses
 Three types of outputs

 Determining whether a pin is floating
 Tri-state output

#### Tri-state outputs



- input is to make output LOW or HIGH,
- select is to make output float or follow input

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### Tri-state output equivalent circuit



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### Tri-state output equivalent circuit



• The select determines whether the output is floating or not.

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Tri-state output Tri-state output equivalent circuit Tri-state output (inverting)
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# Tri-state output (inverting)



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Three types of outputs Tri-state output Tri-state output equivalent circuit **Tri-state output (inverting)** 

# Tri-state output (inverting)



• Gates can be inverting, like other gates.

Bidirectional (I/O) pins

### Microprocessor buses



- A **bus** is created if several tristate devices are connected together.
- As long as only one is selected at a time, there is no problem.

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# Tri-state (I/O) pins



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• Tri-state pins allow input and output on the same pin.

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Bidirectional (I/O) pins

# Tri-state (I/O) pins



- Tri-state pins allow input and output on the same pin.
- The direction input indicates output or input (i.e. floating).

Bidirectional (I/O) pins

### Tri-state buses



- Tri-state buses allow several devices to input and output on the same lines.
- Uses I/O signal and address decoding

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# Internal view (CMOS)



Here's what a CMOS tri-state output looks like inside.

(Note the top transistor is turned on by a low, but the bottom transistor is turned on by a high.)

Bidirectional (I/O) pins

## Internal view (CMOS)



the output will be low. (Only bottom transistor on.)

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Bidirectional (I/O) pins

## Internal view (CMOS)



the output will be high.(Only top transistor on.)

Bidirectional (I/O) pins

# Internal view (CMOS)



When output is not enabled,

the output will float (to become an input). (Both transistors off.)

## Determining whether a pin is floating

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## Determining whether a pin is floating

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- If a pin is supposed to be HIGH, you can measure the voltage and see if it is above  $V_{OH_{min}}$ .
- If a pin is supposed to be LOW, you can measure the voltage and see if it is below V<sub>OLmax</sub>.

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## Determining whether a pin is floating

- If a pin is supposed to be HIGH, you can measure the voltage and see if it is above  $V_{OH_{min}}$ .
- If a pin is supposed to be LOW, you can measure the voltage and see if it is below *V*<sub>OL<sub>max</sub>.</sub>

How can you tell if it is *floating*?

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What should  $V_{out}$  be if it is tied to the output of a gate?

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What should  $V_{out}$  be if the gate output is HIGH?



What should  $V_{out}$  be if the gate output is LOW?

