

Implementation of GDI Logic for Power Efficient SRAM Cell with Dynamic Threshold Voltage Levels

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of this article is to implement the 4-bit SRAM array model to work with low voltage power. We used the GDI (Gate Diffusion Input) methodology in this application, it allows to minimize power usage and often reduces the number of transistors. The ambiguity of the model is eliminated by using this technique. To successfully nullify delays in static energy absorption and propagation, GDI logic and dynamic threshold logic will be used to model SRAM structures. Marginal components like preload circuit, row decoder, column decoder and sensor amplifier were also formed and acquired for the build SRAM array with the support of the Mentor Graphics Stimulation Tool. For both logic-1 and logic-0 read and write operations with transient response is evaluated, 25MHz operating frequency and access time is 10ns for both 90uW consumption of power is determined for entire SRAM array, read and write procedure, and V_s (supply voltage) is 0.4V. Higher performance compared to CMOS logic and different strategies for the development of transistor logic. Different methods compared to the area of design, number of machines, delay and energy dissipation. Technology compatibility, top-down layout, and pre-computing synthesis concerns are explored by illustrating advantages and disadvantages over other techniques in GDI Technique.

Key words : SRAM, dynamic threshold, read operation, Mentor Graphics

1. INTRODUCTION

First suggested GDI technique by Arkasiy Morgenshtein, Ida n Schwartz and Alexander. Using this approach, only two transistors are used in various complex logic functions.

The design of 6 T SRAM becomes a new challenge in the Nano meter engineering processing requirement of the SOC (System on Chip) due to the variations in voltage of threshold. Threshold voltage fluctuations can have an effect on the stability of the SRAM and reading / writing process. This paper expands the previous designs such as CMOS logic and resistive load based on inverters.

The output voltage swing relies on the VDD while using CMOS logic, which produces more power consumption and increasing power consumption by using more PMOS transistors and moving up and down networks. The effective method is the scaling of transistor to reduce leakage currents. The scaling of the voltage supply is a generally recognized method to increase the consumption of power of the circuit. Due to slight differences in voltage between the body of a transistor, source and the drain of the transistor, the leakage is reduced so that the whole digital blocks in the architecture of memory with the logic of GDI (Gate Diffusion Input).

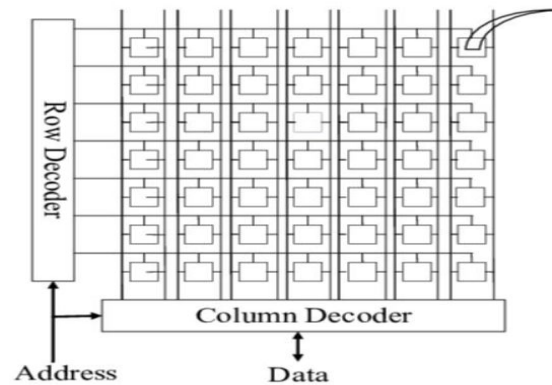


Figure 1: Architecture of SRAM Memory

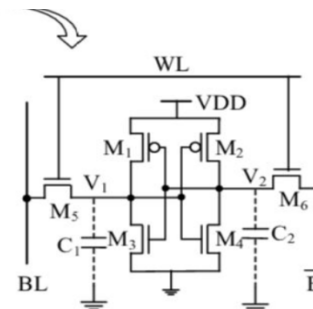


Figure 2: Structure of GDI Cell

The GDI cell is made up of three inputs, namely:
 1. G (common entry gate for NMOS and PMOS)
 2. P (Entry of PMOS / Drain)
 3. N (source of input drain / source of NMOS)

Here low power consumption while retaining low logic complexity is maintained. Another relevant issue is the low voltage power supply, in this paper we use Dynamic Threshold logic to run the full circuit at 0.4V power supply. The idea at the rear of MOS dynamic threshold is, the Vbs voltage at input for NMOS is higher than Zero and is negative for PMOS, thereby reducing the threshold voltage.

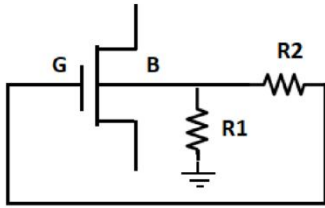


Figure 3: Dynamic threshold logic.

The DTMOS design will be utilizing the terminal of the body and the gate to provide the signal input and both are shortened by a resistive network serves as a voltage divider.

$$V_{bs} = V_g (R_1 // R_2) \text{ ----- (1)}$$

In terms of gate input, both reverse body bias and forward body bias occurred at the terminal of the body, as R1 and R2 are poly-resistant.

The formula shows the relationship between the input signal and Vt.

$$V_t = V_{to} + (\sqrt{\phi_s} + V_{bs} - \sqrt{\phi_s}) \text{ ----- (2)}$$

Where the threshold voltage of the body effect parameter and Vt is proportional to the body effect. With respect to variable body bias, variations in threshold voltage from equation 1 may be possible without affecting the SRAM's stability at low power supply.

2. SRAM CELL

The elementary SRAM cell is designed to form a latch with connected CMOS inverters to store one bit of information storage (either 0 or 1). Here GDI inverters with arbitrary threshold (Vt) variance replace CMOS inverters. The benefit of Gate Diffusion Input is a stronger logic swing, and a good advantage is information storage. Two (2) pass gates are designed to access the information that links the latch to (2) two complementary bit stripe columns (BL and BLB) and the two (2) pass gates are triggered when word line (WL=1) is asserted.

When WL=0 isolates the (2) two pass gates to the lock and unchanges the preceding latch information. The threshold voltage of the pass gates progressively decreases from the initial high to the WL=1 during the write / read process. The pass gate W / L ratios are adjusted accordingly and the GDI cell's Pull up and pull-down network is set at a ratio of 2 to 1 for non-destruction of information during writing operation and information adjustment.

$$I_d = K \frac{W}{L} (V_{gs} - V_t)^2 \text{ ----- (3)}$$

This equation is due to the technique of the dynamic threshold $I_d = K \frac{W}{L} (V_{gs} - (\gamma(\sqrt{\phi_s} + V_{bs}) - \sqrt{\phi_s}) + V_{to})^2 \text{ ----- (4)}$

from equation (2)

$$I_d = \frac{W}{L} K (V_{gs} - (\gamma(\sqrt{\phi_s} + V_G (R_1 // R_2) + V_{to}) - \sqrt{\phi_s}))^2 \text{ ----- (5)}$$

If Vgs is more positive then if Vgs is negative, the current calculation (5) becomes reverse bias for the dynamic threshold technique.

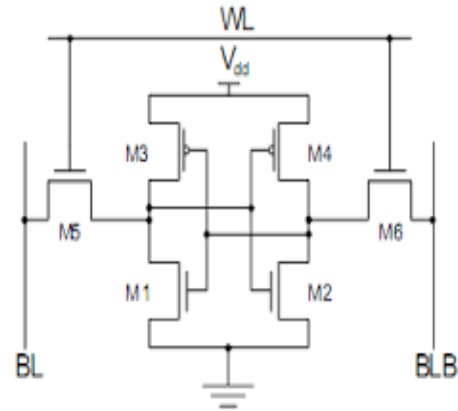


Figure 4: CMOS design of SRAM Cell

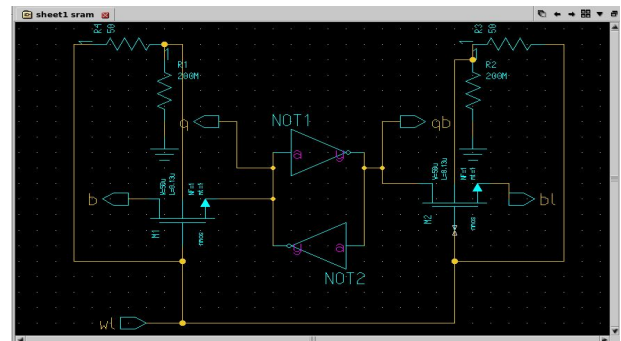


Figure 5: Dynamic Threshold SRAM Cell

2.1 Write Operation:

When WL=1 activates the two control transistors, the information to be compiled. The cell data needed the difference in the bit lines.

2.2 Read Operation:

Based on the data stored in the cell during the reading cycle, the write logic, WL=1 and the bit lines are charged and discharged. To evaluate the processing value, the sense amplifier tests the voltages on the bit lines.

The parameters (dimensional) of PMOS and NMOS transistors in the control transistors and GDI cell.

Table 1: Parameters of GDI with dimensions.

Parameters	GDI-PMOS	GDI-NMOS
Length of the Channel(L)	130nm	130nm
Width of Channel(W)	50nm	20nm

3. COLUMN DECODER

In the 4X4 SRAM array model, decoder is one of the major peripherals. The 4X4 SRAM set requires a 2:4 decoder. The decoder's output is used to deselect or select the word line WL for each row/ column SRAM array. Schematics of the 2:4 decoder.

AND Gate is a key decoder development cell. The conservative Complementary MOS AND gate require four transistors, but here GDI uses AND gate in the 2:4 decoder design, which requires only two inverter-like transistors. The VDD is linked to the P-diffusion. One of the N-diffusion outputs is connected to the gate output and another to the source.

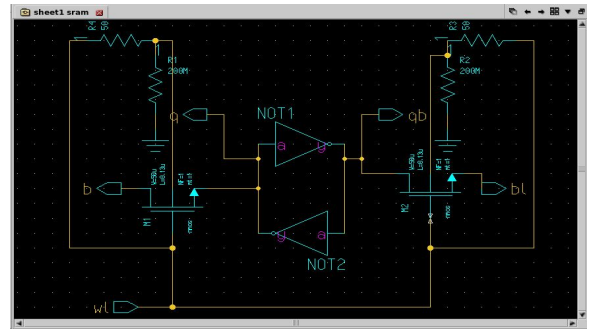


Figure 8: 4X4 SRAM array.

5. RESULTS

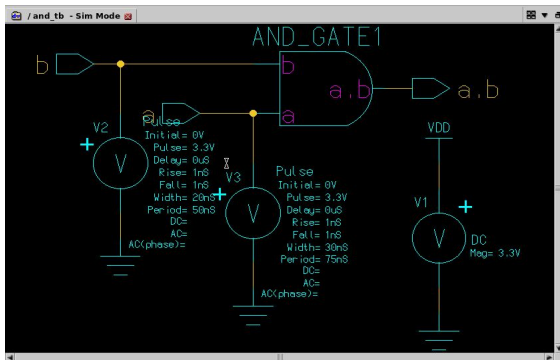


Figure 6: AND Gate using GDI Logic

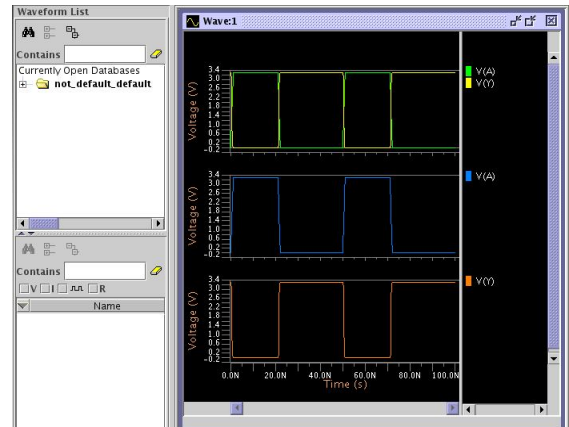


Figure 9: Waveform of NOT gate.

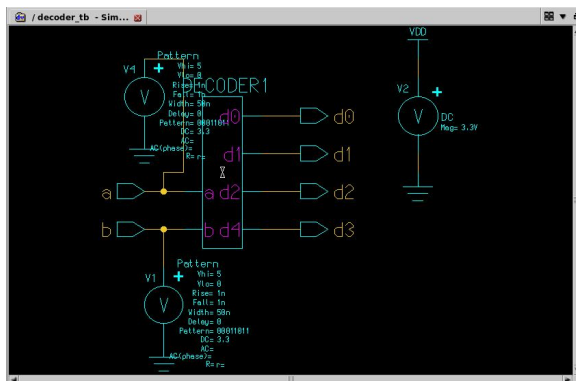


Figure 7: Decoder

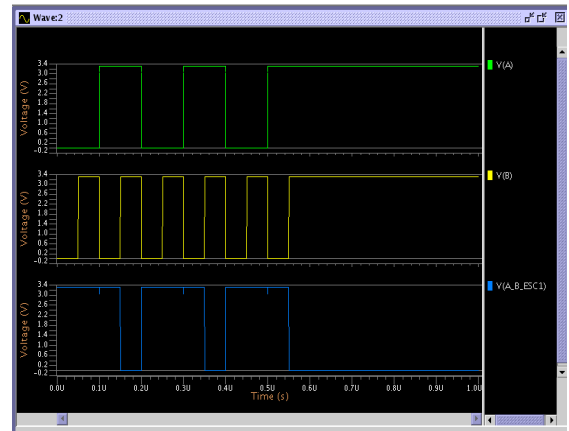


Figure 10: Waveform of AND operation.

4. SRAM ARRAY

Here 4X4 SRAM array is equipped with 2 KB (2nX m) storage capacity where m is the no of the memory cell and n is the number of the address outlines, measuring the equal for 16 bits. This comprises 4 difference sense amplifiers, 4 preload circuits, and 2:4 Read/Write decoder for specific word selection.

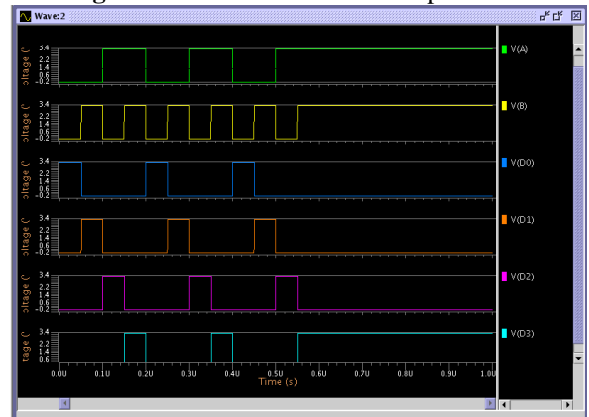


Figure 11: Waveform of Decoder

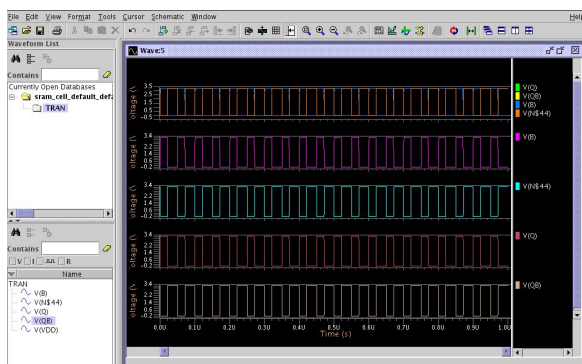


Figure 12: Waveform of SRAM cell

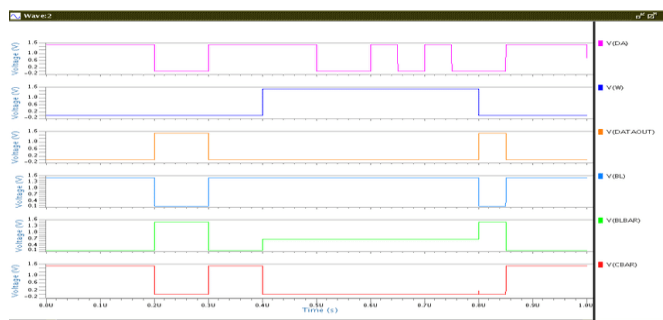


Figure 13: Waveform of SRAM array

Table 2: Performance Results

CONSTRAINTS	RESULTS
Supplied Voltage	0.4V rail to rail
Max-Operating Frequency	20 MHz
Current (total)	200 uA
Power Consumption (Avg)	90 uW

6. CONCLUSION

A 4X4 low-power SRAM array is implemented to store 16 bits. In order to form the SRAM array, peripheral components such as sensor amplifier, row decoder, including column decoder and preload circuit were created and assembled. To reduce noise, the differential shape sense-amplifier is used. Logic SRAM with GDI processing cell is used to prevent dissipation of static heat. The voltage of 0.4V peak-to-peak (rail-rail) and the pulse input signal of 0.4V supply voltage is known to be Temporary responses for write and read operations of both-0 and 1. For the full range of SRAM, the power consumption is estimated at 90 uW. The SRAM set is built using the Mentor Graphics software Virtuoso Schematic Editor (version 6.1.5). For growth, the UMC130 standard library (i.e. 130 nm Node in technology) has been utilized. The 20MHz operational frequency is achieved.

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