

## Antiques from the Innovations Attic

Rousing nostalgia for the IC yesteryear, panel organizers Trudy Stetzler, Bram Nauta, and Anantha Chandrakasan said in their Conference Digest overview "When you clean up your attic you may find things that you have totally forgotten about: old toys you used to play with, old books with lost stories. And then you think back to those past days and view them in the context of today's busy life, and sometimes find new uses for forgotten items. This panel does a similar thing."

The six experts they invited from academia and industry "to dig into their memories and find lost treasures in circuit design" were asked specifically "to reveal circuits and concepts that they feel are the most

interesting, intriguing, and under-appreciated innovations from the past" and to "explain why the concept is significant today and should be pulled from the innovation attic."

Their confab, which drew an estimated 2,000 people on Monday evening, offered many notable remembrances:

Eric Vittoz highlighted "current-mode analog circuits in weak conversion" as those seldom used in the past because of their poor precision due to threshold mismatch. But these circuits, he said, may regain

**Organizer:** Trudy Stetzler, Houston, Texas

**Moderators:** Anantha Chandrakasan, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, and Bram Nauta, University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands

interest in deep submicron processes where larger-than-minimum devices could be used to reduce threshold mismatch.

Coincidentally, Rinaldo Castello also highlighted current-based



From left: Thomas Lee, Nicky Lu, Rinaldo Castello, Yoshiaki Hagihara, Eric Vittoz, Robert Brodersen, and panel moderators Anantha Chandrakasan and Bram Nauta.

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Nicky Lu, flanked by intently listening Tom Lee and Rinaldo Castello.



Yoshi Hagihara, Eric Vittoz and Bob Brodersen.

processing as the antique from the past with renewed appearance as what he termed "pipe" processing and "pipe" filters.

Robert Brodersen offered time-domain processing as his "basic attic idea" and how this could be

used to attack the most important problems of radio design. He pointed to impulse radio and active cancellation as "two time-domain projects from the attic."

Nicky Lu picked core memory as an antique that is now resurfacing

as spin-torque transfer magneto-resistive random-access memory (STT-MRAM).

Yoshiaki Hagihara shared his memories of Richard Feynman, his mentor and educator at Caltech, and how he learned from him that control of electrons is at the heart of all electronic devices. As an example from his attic, he pointed to the old p-n-p-n junctions that are now incorporated in modern-day image sensors.

The last speaker of the session, Thomas Lee, focused on the mysteries and misunderstandings surrounding the linear time-varying (LTV) circuits where the Laplace transform in its simple form cannot be used for analysis. Examples from his attic were super-regenerative amplifiers and parametric systems.

A full-length accounting will appear in this magazine in the Summer 2013 issue.

—Ali Sheikholeslami  
ISSCC Educational Events Chair

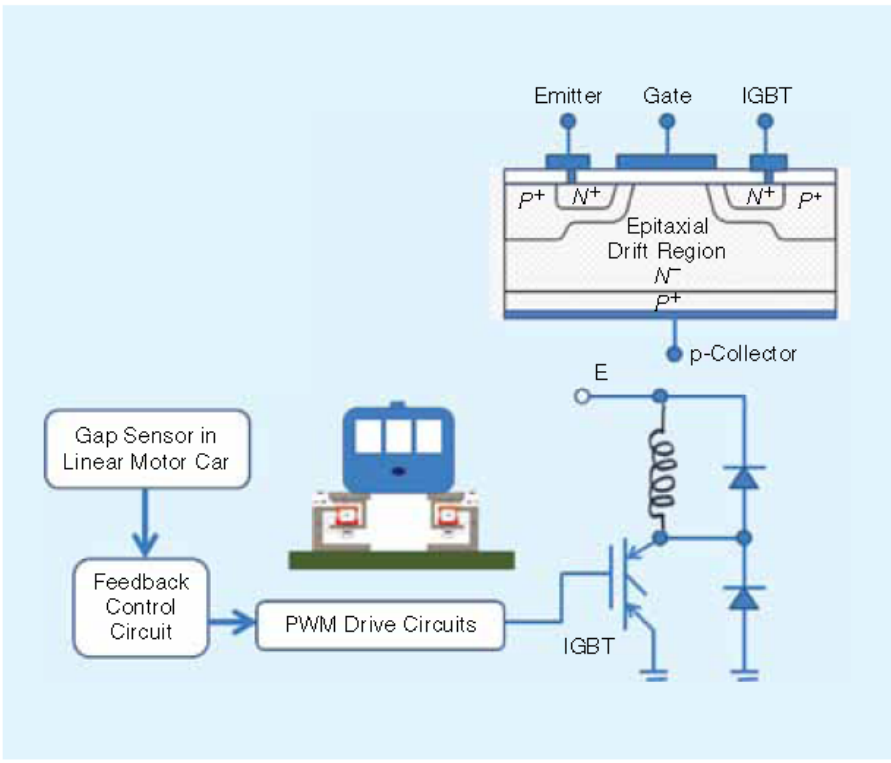


FIGURE 9: The p-n-p-n switch diode for a modern linear motor car.

never stops. It is very hard to catch an electron because we do not know exactly where it is. Our civilization today is based on a technology that controls electrons, down to a single one.

Imagine a photon incident to a bipolar transistor base region. The photon energy creates an electron-hole pair. And the photo-electron can be stored in the base region as one single majority carrier. That is, a bipolar transistor can also function as a photon detector and/or a storage container. I thought that a room in a hotel must be empty and clean before the first hotel guest arrives. So must be this transistor base region empty and clean with no guest electrons at the beginning. This transistor in a dynamic p-n-p capacitor mode is useful since it can capture, confine, and control one single electron. But as a

student, I did not know yet how to move that single photoelectron sitting in the base region to the outside world so that we can make use of it as a signal. I had no way yet to know whether the hotel guest has arrived and is resting in the hotel

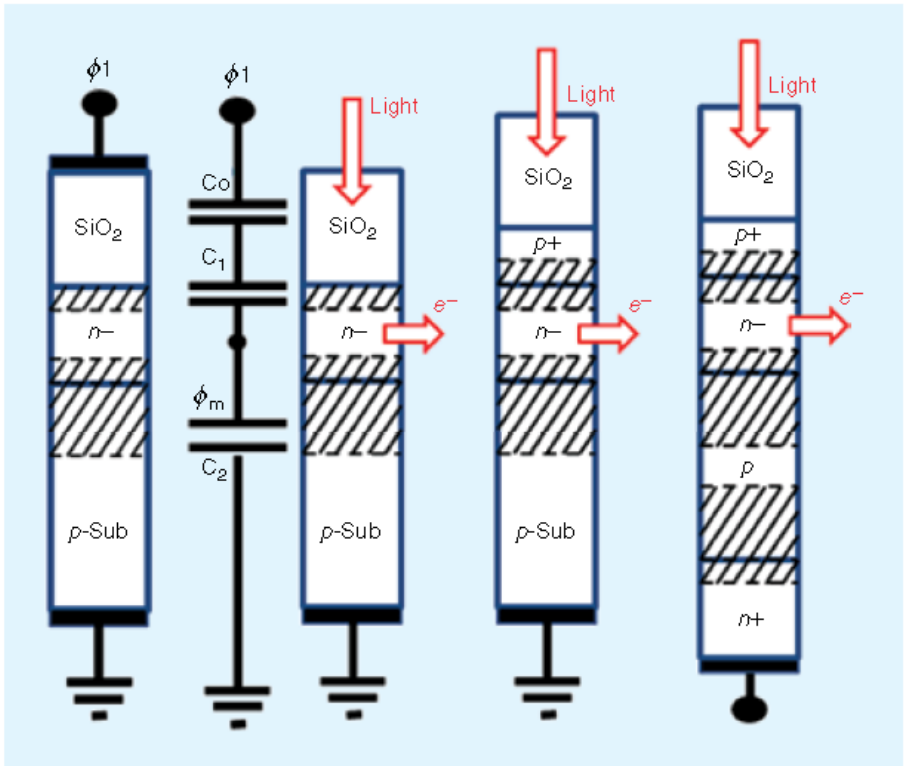


FIGURE 10: From CCD to the dynamic p-n-p-n diode capacitors.

room or not. We had no way yet to ask the hotel guest to come up to the hotel lobby to meet me. I had to wait a few more years (until 1970 in my senior year in college) to find the answer. We all know now it is the CCD structure that can store

**Yoshiaki Higihara: The p-n-p-n Diode in Future Linear Motor Cars and in Modern Imagers**

John Louis Moll (1921–2011) was studying a p-n-p-n diode switch in his Ph.D. dissertation work when the first ISSCC was held in 1954. In a normal operation mode, this device works as a thyristor, which can drive a large current and is the key device structure of an IGBT applied for a linear motor car of the future (see Figure 9). In a dynamic operation mode, this device may work as a simple p-n-p-n dynamic capacitance that can detect and store one single electron, which is a key device structure of the modern image sensor (see Figure 10).

I recall, when I was taking his physics course at Caltech, that Feynman once said that an electron is always free, moving around rapidly in free space, even in solid, and it

and transfer one single electron. With a precharge reset set gate and a source-follower circuit, a scheme invented by Walter Kosonocky. We could finally meet our hotel guest at the hotel lobby.



ISSCC2013 - San Francisco, Feb 18 2013

<http://isscc.org/>



International Solid State Circuits Conference

1954-2013

TPC Chair

2008

Yoshiaki Hagihara

Sony

Far East Committee Chair

2003-2004

Yoshiaki Hagiwara

Sony



## ISSCC2013 San Francisco , Feb 18 2013

### TPC chairs

Year	Technical Program Chair	Affiliation	Year	Technical Program Chair	Affiliation	Year	Technical Program Chair	Affiliation
1954	J. Linvill	Bell Labs	1955	H. Tompkins	Burroughs Corp	1956	H. Woll	RCA Labs
1957	G. Royer	IBM	1958	R. Baker	MIT Lincoln Labs	1959	A. Stern	General Electric
1960	T. Finch	Bell Labs	1961	J. Suran	General Electric	1962	R. Adler	MIT
1963	S. Ghandhi	Philco Scientific Lab	1964	P. Myers	Marietta Corp	1965	G. Herzog	RCA Labs
1966	G. Herzog	RCA Labs	1967	R. Baker	MIT	1968	R. Petritz	Texas Instruments
1969	R. Engelbrecht	Bell Labs	1970	T. Bray	General Electric	1971	R. Webster	Texas Instruments
1972	S. Triebwasser	IBM Research	1973	V. Johannes	Bell Labs	1974	H. Sobol	Collins Radio
1975	W. Pricer	IBM	1976	J. Wuorinen	Bell Labs	1977	D. Hodges	Univ. of California
1978	J. Heightley	Sandia Labs	1979	W. Kosonocky	RCA Labs	1980	J. Plummer	Stanford Univ.
1981	B. Wooley	Bell Labs	1982	P. Gray	Univ. of California	1983	L. Terman	IBM Research
1984	P. Verhofstadt	Fairchild uProc. Div.	1985	H. Boll	Bell Labs	1986	A. Grebene	Micro Linear Corp
1987	R. Baertsch	General Electric	1988	W. Herndon	Fairchild Research Ctr.	1989	H. Mussman	AT&T Bell Labs
1990	C. Gwyn	Sandia Labs	1991	J. Trnka	IBM	1992	A. Shah	Texas Instruments
1993	R. Jaeger	Auburn Univ.	1994	D. Monticelli	National Semiconductor	1995	T. Tredwell	Eastman Kodak
1996	F. Hewlett	Sandia Labs	1997	R. Hester	Texas Instruments	1998	J. Cressler	Auburn Univ.
1999	S. Taylor	Triquent Semiconductor	2000	R. Crisp	Rambus, Inc.	2001	G. Gulak	Univ. of Toronto
2002	W. Sansen	Katholieke Univ.	2003	A. Chandrakasan	MIT	2004	A. Kanuma	Toshiba
2005	I. Young	Intel	2006	J. Sevenhans	Consultant	2007	J. Van der Spiegel	Univ of Pennsylvania
2008	Y. Hagihara	Sony	2009	W. Bowhill	Intel	2010	A. Theuwissen	Harvest Imaging/ Delft Univ
2011	W. Gass	Texas Instruments	2012	H. Hidaka	Renesas Electronics	2013	B. Nauta	Univ of Twente

### Far East Committee Chairs

Year	Far East Chair	Affiliation	Year	Far East Chair	Affiliation	Year	Far East Chair	Affiliation
1971-1972	T Sugano	Univ. of Tokyo	1973-1974	S Hamada	NTT	1975-1976	Y. Tarui	Electrotechnical Lab
1977-1978	M. Uenohara	Nippon Elect Co	1979-80	M. Watanabe	NTT	1981-1982	K. Kurokawa	Fujitsu
1983-1984	M. Nagata	Hitachi CRL	1985-1986	Y. Takeishi	Toshiba	1987-1988	H. Sasaki	NEC
1989-1990	T. Sudo	NTT	1991-1992	T. Nakano	Mitsubishi	1993-1994	H. Ishikawa	Fujitsu
1995-1996	G. Kano	Matsushita	1997-1998	M. Kubo	Hitachi	1999-2000	Y. Unno	Toshiba
2001-2002	H. Watanabe	NEC	2003-2004	Y. Hagiwara	Sony	2005-2006	K. Iizuka	Sharp
2007-2008	J. Chung	Pohang Univ of Science & Tech	2009-2010	T. Kawahara	Hitachi	2011-2012	H-J Yoo	Kaist
2013	M. Ikeda	Univ of Tokyo						

### The Executive Committee

# ISSCC2013 San Francisco , Feb 18 2013

ISSCC® 2013 | February 17-21

## 60 Years of (Em)Powering the Future



### Plenary Talks (Monday, February 18)



**Lisa Su**  
Senior Vice President and General Manager, AMD  
*Heterogeneous Computing - Driving Growth and Innovation in the Semiconductor Market*



**Martin van den Brink**  
Executive Vice President and Chief Product & Technology Officer, ASML  
*Next Generation Lithography: Progress and Outlook*



**Yoshiyuki Miyabe**  
Managing Director and CTO, Panasonic  
*Smart Life Solutions from Home to Cities*



**Carver Mead**  
Professor Emeritus, Caltech  
*The Evolution of Technology*

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Distinguished Evening Panel (Monday, February 18) "Antiques from the Innovations Attic"



**Robert Brodersen**  
Professor Emeritus, University of California Berkeley



**Rinaldo Castello**  
Professor, University of Pavia



**Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara**  
Professor, Sojo-university



**Thomas Lee**  
Director, Microsystems Technology Office, DARPA



**Nicky Lu**  
Chairman, Etron Technology



**Eric Vittor**  
Independent Consultant

### Forums

Sunday, February 17

**Advanced RF Transceiver Design Techniques**  
**VLSI Power Management Techniques: Principles and Applications**

Thursday, February 21

**Emerging Technologies for Wireline Communication**  
**Scientific Imaging**  
**Frequency Generation and Clock Distribution**  
**Mixed-signal/RF Design and Modeling in Next-Generation CMOS**

### Special Evening Topics

Sunday, February 17

**"Batteries Not Included" — How Little is Enough for Real Energy Autonomy?**  
Much has been said about energy scavenging, and much has also been said about low-power circuitry. Both are essential parts of the energy equation. The goal of the panel is to present theoretical and practical issues as seen from both sides, mix in some system level techniques, and then debate the issues of real energy autonomy. How much must we generate? How much can we consume? Can we agree?

Tuesday, February 19

**High-speed Communications on 4 Wheels — What's in your Next Car?**  
Communication within vehicles is increasing to support emerging applications, such as: Infotainment, Driver Assistance, Safety Systems, and Diagnostics; but, these all require per-channel data rates beyond those now offered. Correspondingly, the number of networked nodes per car continues to increase. In 2010, 650 million automotive communication parts were shipped. In view of the fact that cabling is the third-largest cost factor, and the third-heaviest component in the car, there is a clear need to replace current low-data-rate solutions by high-rate backbone networks. Currently, car makers and silicon manufacturers are advancing electrical and optical solutions. This session will provide an overview of the status and future trends for electronics inside the car, with emphasis on present and future challenges for wireline communications.

### Student Initiatives

Sunday, February 17

**Student Research Preview: Poster Session w/ Short Presentations**  
Research with Innovation is Power for Promising Career Growth  
Speaker Nicky Lu, Chairman, Etron Technology

**Silkroad Award** Scholarships awarded for Far East full-time students!

### Evening Panels

Tuesday, February 19

**You're Hired — The Top 25 Interview Questions for Circuit Designers**  
Rightly or wrongly, circuit designers must undergo several technical interviews before landing their dream job. While many students and practitioners feel confident that they have a strong and intuitive understanding of circuits, even the best can be stumped by exotic circuits or even by a basic misunderstanding of fundamental concepts. This panel will challenge and entertain the audience and each other with questions that often arise during job interviews. The audience can judge which interview questions are fair game in the pursuit of the highly-coveted mixed-signal integrated circuit job.

### SoCs Empowering 2020 killer applications

What are the SoCs driving killer applications in 2020? Can we forecast these killer applications? We have experienced the evolution of computers, communications, and now sensing. Are sensors driving the next killer applications? What circuits and system innovations can the solid-state industry create to motivate new killer applications? What technology elements, device structures, and memory architectures are required? Should we continue with silicon, and seek breakthroughs in system architectures, algorithms, SoC integration, and packaging? Or, should we prepare "beyond-silicon" technologies? Are "beyond silicon" technologies realistic in the foreseeable future?

### Short Course

Thursday, February 21

**RF Blocks for Wireless Transceivers**  
Nooman Darabi, Broadcom, IC's for Communications  
Johu Long, Delft University of Technology, VCO's, Design of Building Blocks for the RF Transceiver Front-End  
Ali Hajimiri, Caltech, High frequency CMOS Power Generation and Phased-array Transmitters  
Ali Niknejad, UC Berkeley, Millimeter-wave Phased-array Receivers

### Tutorials

Sunday, February 17

**Basics of 60GHz LNA and PA Design in CMOS**  
Piet Wambacq, imec  
**High-Bandwidth Memory Interface Design**  
Chulwoo Kim, Korea University  
**Circuit Design using FinFETs**  
Bing Shen, TSMC  
**Simulation Techniques for Data Converter Design**  
Shanthi Pavan, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras  
**On-Chip Voltage and Timing Diagnostic Circuits**  
Frank O'Mahony, Intel  
**SoC Design Methodology for Improved Robustness**  
Anthony M. Hill, Texas Instruments  
**Wireless Transceiver System Design for Modern Communication Standards**  
Iason Vassiliou, Broadcom  
**Energy Harvesters and Energy Processing Circuits**  
Yogesh Ramadass, Texas Instruments  
**Data and Power Telemetry for Implants**  
Maerits Ortman, University of Ulm  
**Design of Voltage References**  
Wing-Hung Ki, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

### Demonstration Sessions

February 18-19

**\*Don't forget to submit your demonstration proposal by Sept 10 with your regular paper!**

### 25+ Technical Sessions



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**Mead co-authored a seminal text on VLSI design.**

The professor emeritus of Caltech noted his own work and that of Intel's Gordon Moore in 1967 predicting advances of more than an order of magnitude in semiconductor physics. "Most people thought we were crazy... [but] after a few years it became the industry road map," he said.

Mead's keynote followed a talk describing heroic efforts to create extreme ultraviolet lithography systems that aim to continue progress in chip technology.



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## News & Analysis



### ISSCC 2013: Combining old with new

Nicolas Mokhoff

11/19/2012 9:00 AM EST

MANHASSET, N.Y. – The venerable International Solid-State Circuits Conference this February will make the most of commemorating its three-score history by digging for past innovations in its “innovations attic” which are still pertinent today.

At the same time, ISSCC organizers also want to look ahead by offering its young ones tips on getting a circuit designer’s job.

Trudy Stetzler, distinguished member of the technical staff at Texas Instruments and ISSCC 2013 program vice-chair, has organized a panel of six experts from academia and industry to dig into their memories and find lost treasures in circuit design.

The panel promises surprises from the past sixty years as panelists explain why the concepts are significant today and should be pulled from the “innovation attic”. As the preliminary program states: “When you clean up your attic you may find things that you have totally forgotten about: old toys you used to play with, old books with lost stories. And then you think back to those past days and view them in the context of today’s busy life.”

The six panelists include Robert Brodersen, University of California, Berkeley, CA; Rinaldo Castello, University of Pavia, Pavia, Italy; Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara, Sojo University, Kumamoto, Japan; Thomas Lee, Microsystems Technology Office, DARPA, Arlington, VA; Nicky Lu, Etron Technology, Hsinchu, Taiwan; and Eric Vittoz, Independent Consultant, Cernier, Switzerland.





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**60 Years of (Em)Powering the Future**



**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Distinguished Evening Panel**  
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**Nicky Lu**  
*Chairman*  
 Etron Technology



**Eric Vittoz**  
*Independent Consultant*



**Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara**  
*Professor*  
 Sojo University

The next generation Super High Vision (SHV) Television System around 2020 needs a very low-light sensitive and high-definition image sensor of 33 Mega pixels with 120 picture frames per second. How can we make it? John Louis Moll (1921-2011) obtained the B.Sc. in Physics and the Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering in 1943 and 1952 respectively. His well-established Ebers-Moll transistor model, and the theory of the p-n-p-n switch (Proc.IRE, vol,44, pp.1174-1182, 1956) came from this effort. Extended concepts of photo-diode and photo-transistor models became essential to realize image sensors. Now, incorporated with compact column ADCs and smart real-time comparator shift-registers, possibly in 3D circuit integration, this classical p-n-p-n switch may help us to obtain a design solution for the high-performance and highly intelligent camera system that can serve us at home in each family as a human-friendly Artificial Intelligent Partner System (AIPS).



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**Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara**

**(1) Thank you, Anantha-san.**

**Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.  
And a happy 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary to ISSCC2013.**

**I thought I was invited as an old boy for this special occasion since I had been involved and served for many years in this ISSCC community . But I received a homework and was asked to prepare for a short talk on this panel. It was a very difficult subject. So, the first thing I did was, look around for my old books and notebooks in my house and office.**



*Digging lost treasures in circuit design  
out of my old books....*

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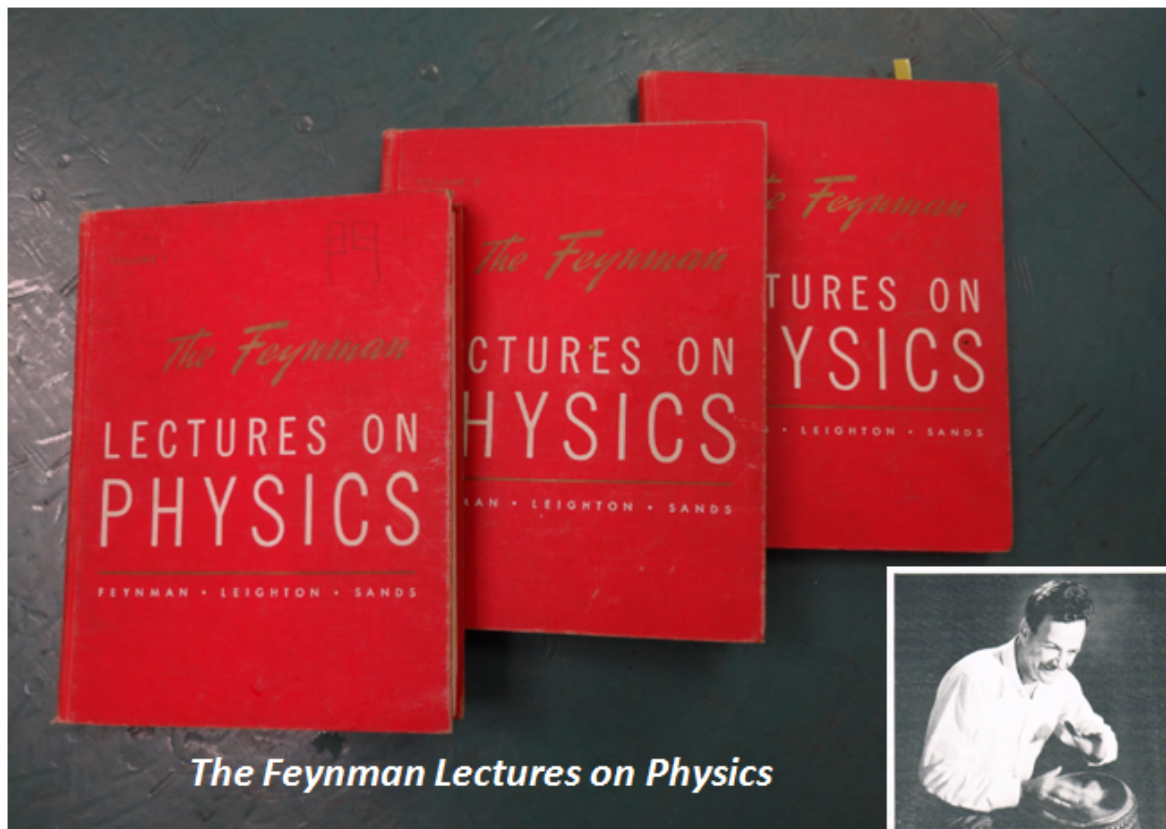
Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

(2) I found some , I sorted them out, and put them together on my bookshelf. Here they are.

This evening, if I am allowed to introduce you only one unique circuit application , it would be a circuit application of a p-n-p-n diode structure.

In a normal operation mode, this device works as a Thyristor , which can drive a large current and can make even a big linear motor car float and move very swiftly. On the other hand, when this is in off-state, it has very, very small leakage current, which is very important for our modern society seeking for low-power Energy-saving systems.

And in a dynamic operation mode, this device may work as a simple p-n-p-n capacitance , that can detect and store one single electron. I think this is a key device of an image sensor.



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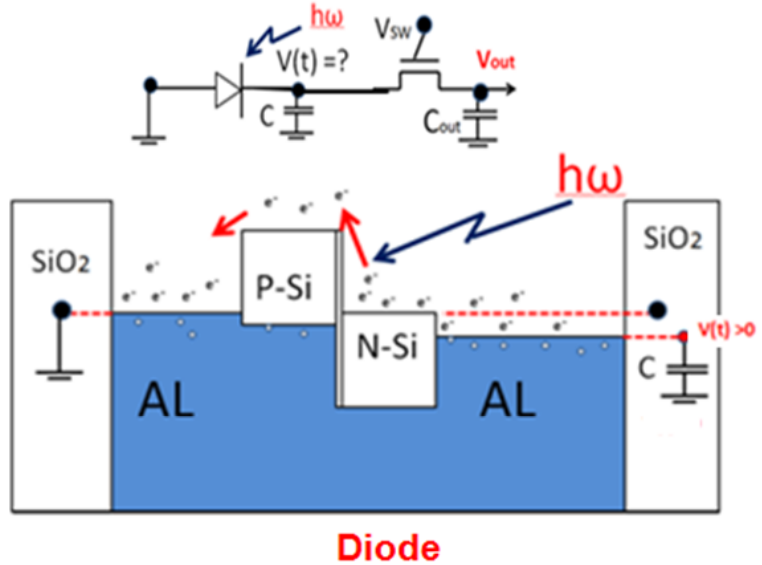
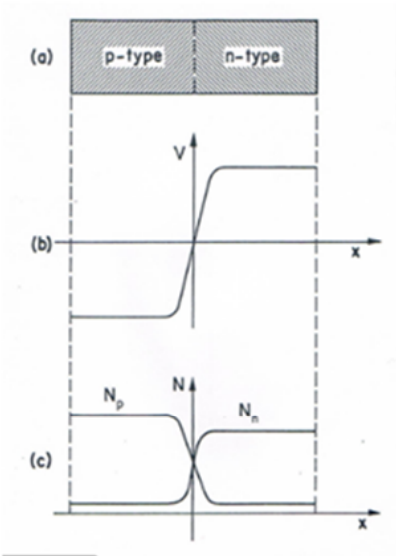
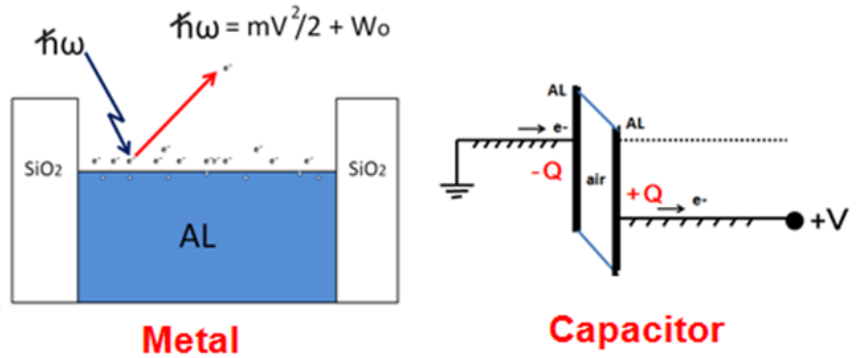
Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

- (3) There are many physics involved to understand this p-n-p-n diode structure and its related circuit behaviors.

So I tried to recall my freshman year in college, when I was taking a physics course.

Prof. Leighton, and sometimes Prof. Feynman himself, gave us lectures. Their lectures were always fascinating to us. They always tried to appeal intuitively to our young minds.

Feynman once said that an electron is always free, moving around rapidly in free space, even in a solid, and it never stops. It is very hard to catch. We don't know exactly where it is. Our civilization is based on the technology of controlling a single electron.

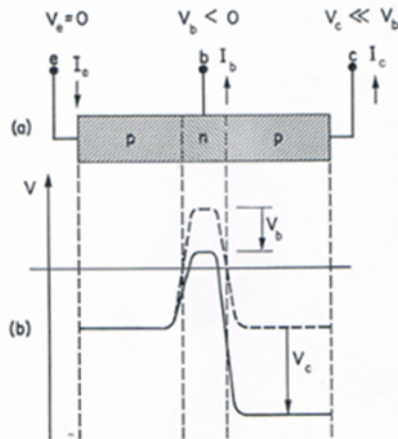


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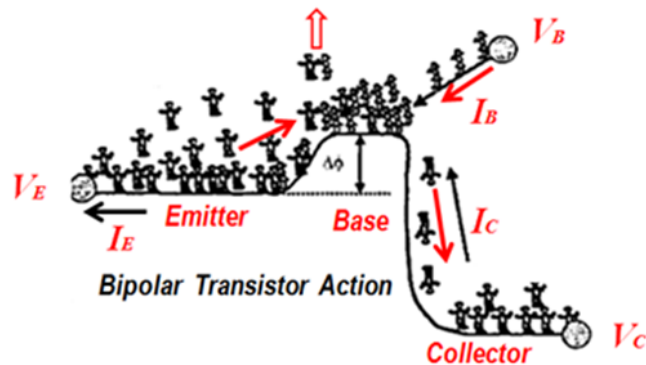
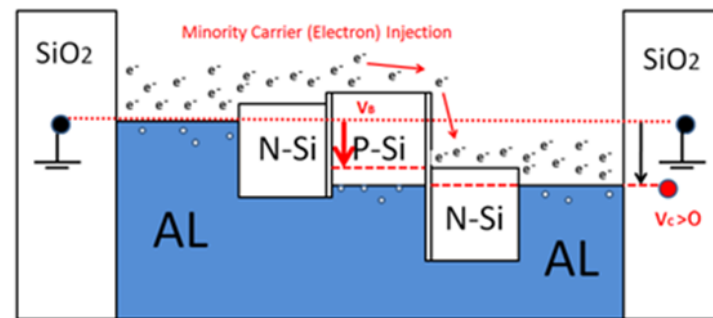
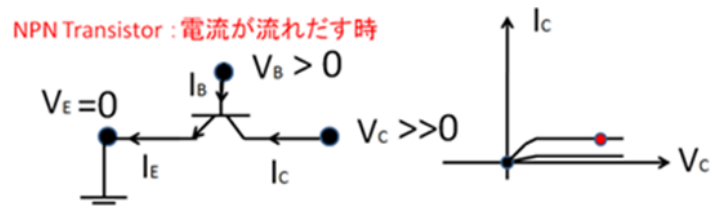
Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

(4) So I was always being guided to try to understand physics by paying a special attention to the behavior of one single electron interacting with a photon in a solid, in a metal, in an insulator, in a capacitor, in a p-n junction and in a transistor.

A p-n junction is also called a diode, a rectifier, a LED, a solar cell or simply a p-n junction capacitor depending on how we want to use it. If we don't want to use, but if it is still there, I learned later that it is also called a parasitic p-n junction capacitance, which is a very important circuit element for predicting a very complicated VLSI circuit performance in some cases.



**Bipolar Transistor**



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Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

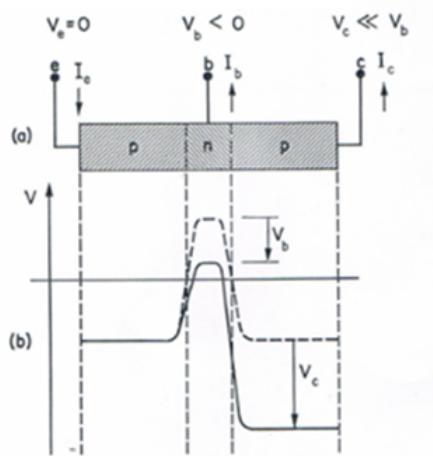
(5) I thought I had a very good background in Feynman physics. Feynman physics always talked about the behavior of one single electron in free space and in a solid. The situation gets more complex when an electron interact with a photon.

Well, a picture is worth one thousand words.

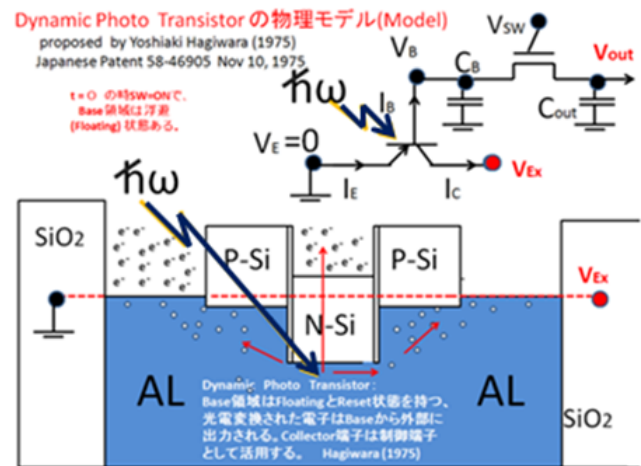
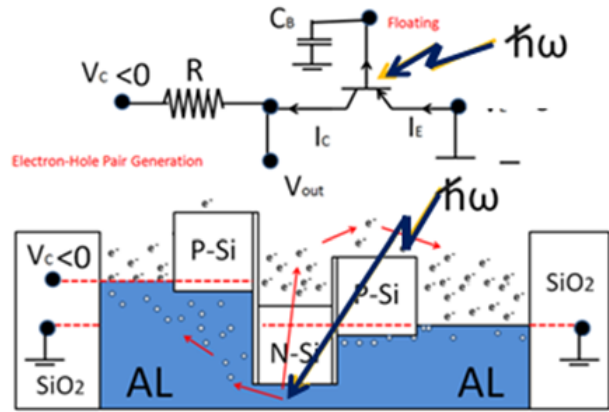
This is a picture of boys trying to catch a girl on the hill top but most of the boys are guided to the collector junction cliff and fall down to be collected at the collector terminal.

And only a few boys out of say 100 energetic boys can catch a girl on the hill top and they can recombine and become happy. And the pair can produce a baby-photon.

This is in a sense a light emitting photo-transistor with a very poor efficiency of a few percents...



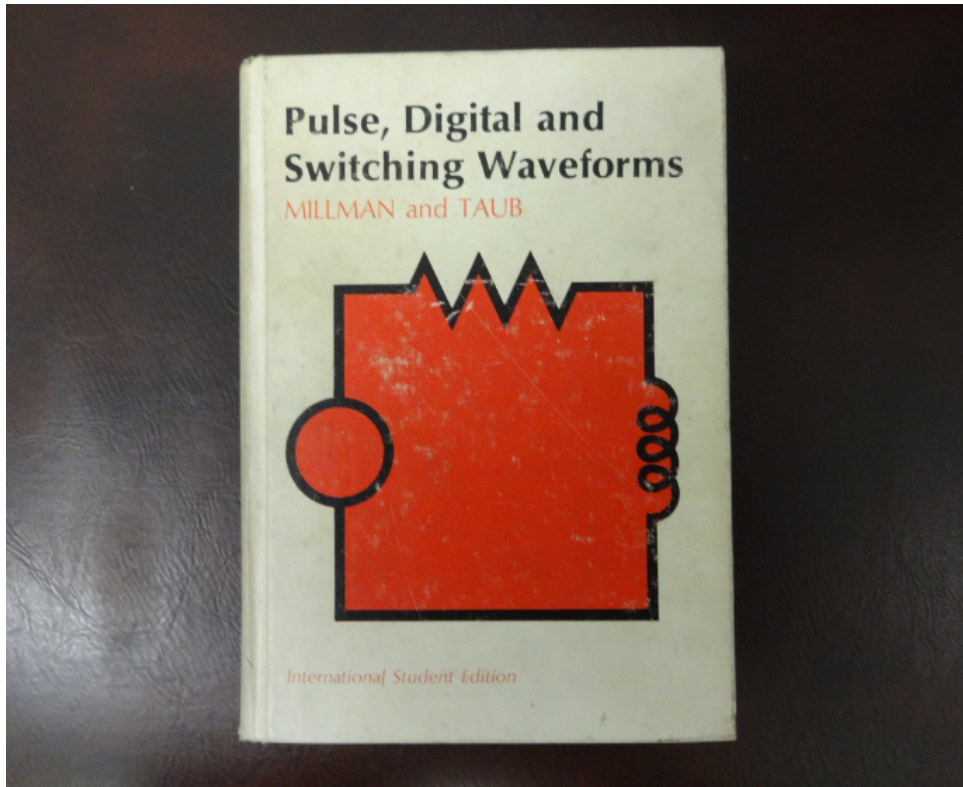
**Bipolar Transistor**



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Yoshiaki Daimon Hagiwara

(6) And this is a picture of an incoming photon incident to the bipolar transistor base region. The photon energy creates an electron-hole pair and the photo-electron can be stored in the base as the majority carrier. So I see that a bipolar transistor can also function as a photon detector and/or a storage container. As you know, a room in a hotel must be empty and clean before the first hotel guest arrives. So must be this transistor base region empty and clean with no guest electrons at the beginning. In this way, I thought a transistor is useful since it can capture, confine and control one single electron. But I did not know yet how to move that single photo-electron in the base container to the outside terminal so that we can use it as a signal. That is, I had no way yet to know whether the guest has checked in the hotel and resting in the hotel room. I had no way yet to ask the hotel guest to come up to the hotel lobby to meet me. I had to wait a few more years to find the answer. We all know now it is CCD, a charge coupled device that is a series of capacitance that can store and transfer one single electron. With an output circuit of a pre-charge reset set gate and a source-follower circuit we can finally meet our hotel guest at the hotel lobby!



*Digging lost treasures in circuit design  
out of my old books....*

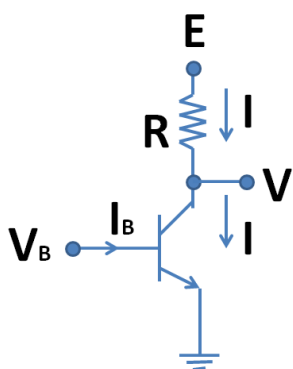
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Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

(7) Now, the second book I studied was "Pulse, Digital and Switching Waveforms" by Millman and Taub.

This book introduced me many basic bipolar transistor circuits.

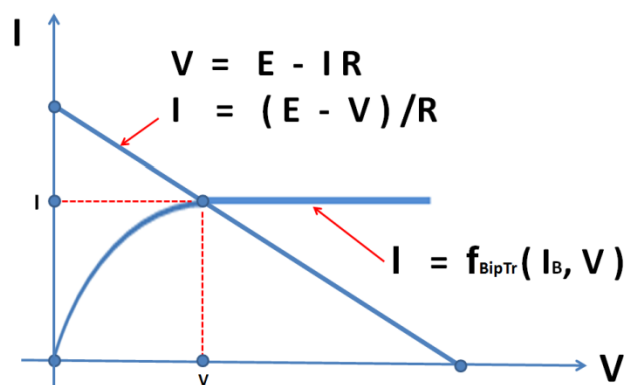
I learned many circuits such as a simple inverter or a linear amplifier with a simple resistor-load, the concept of load-line.



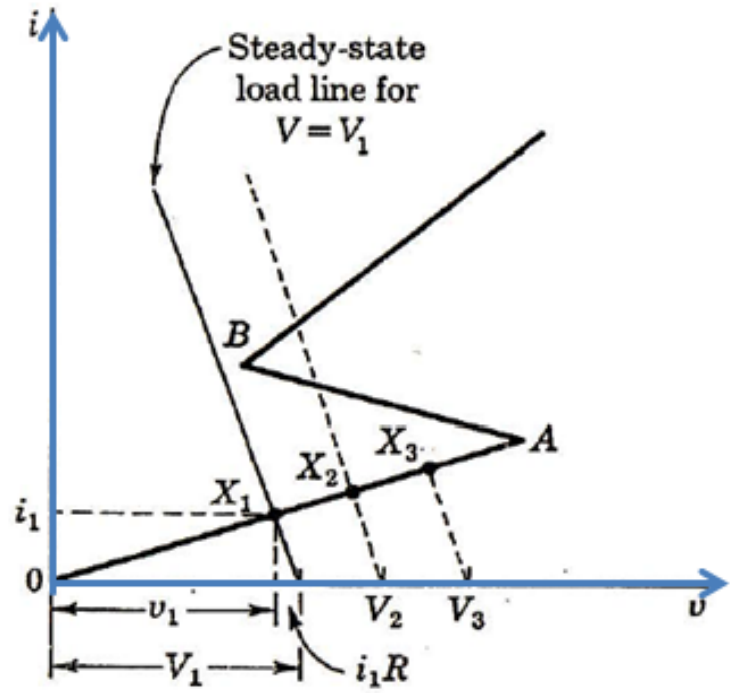
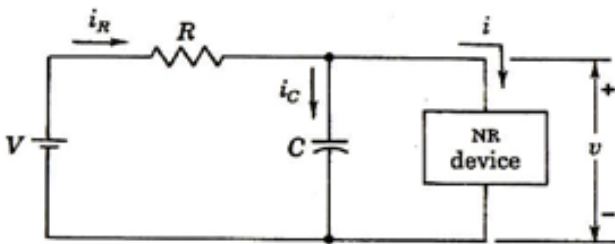
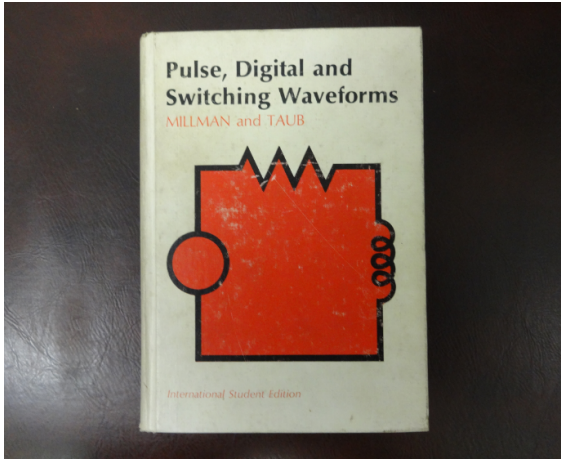
$$V = E - IR$$

$$I = (E - V) / R$$

$$I = f_{\text{BipTr}}(I_B, V)$$





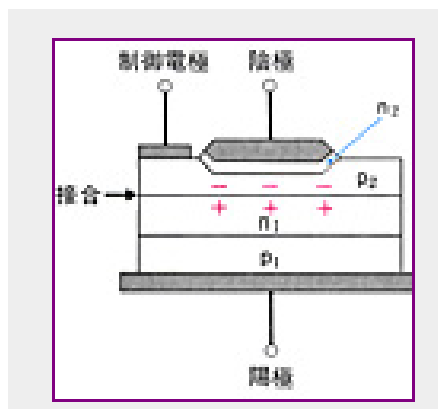
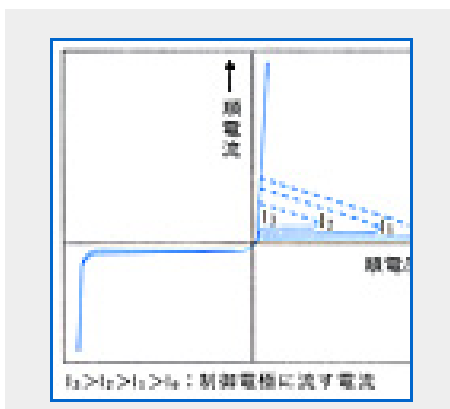


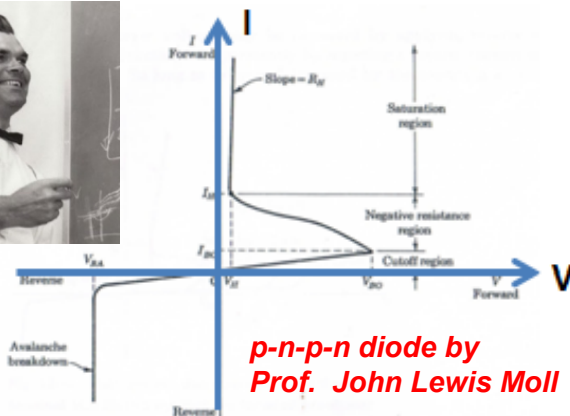
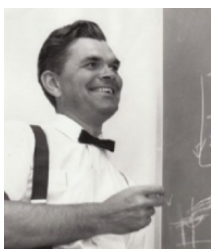
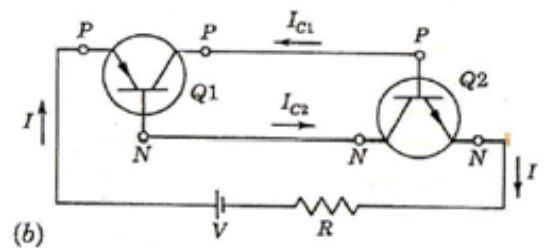
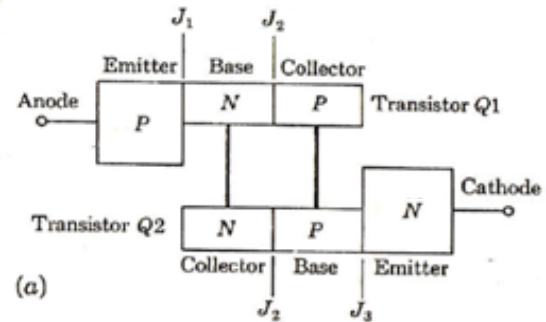
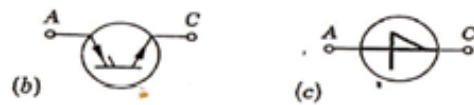
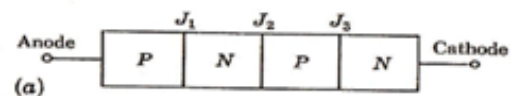
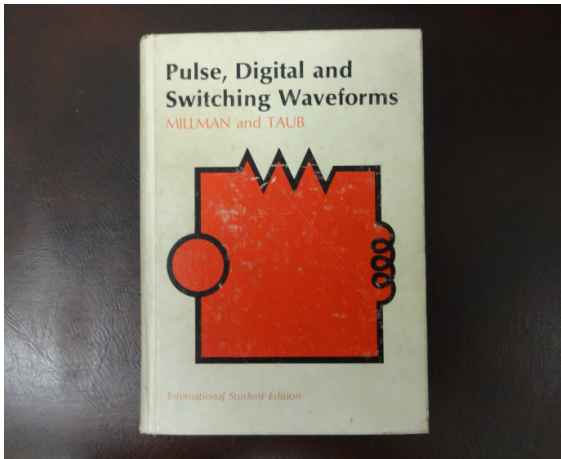
**Negative Resistance I-V**

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Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

(8) This book also introduced me many important electronic devices and their related circuits such as a negative-resistance circuits utilizing a device which is called a thyristor, or SCR ( Silicon Controlled Rectifier ), or simply a p-n-p-n diode, depending how you want to use the device.





*p-n-p-n diode by Prof. John Lewis Moll*

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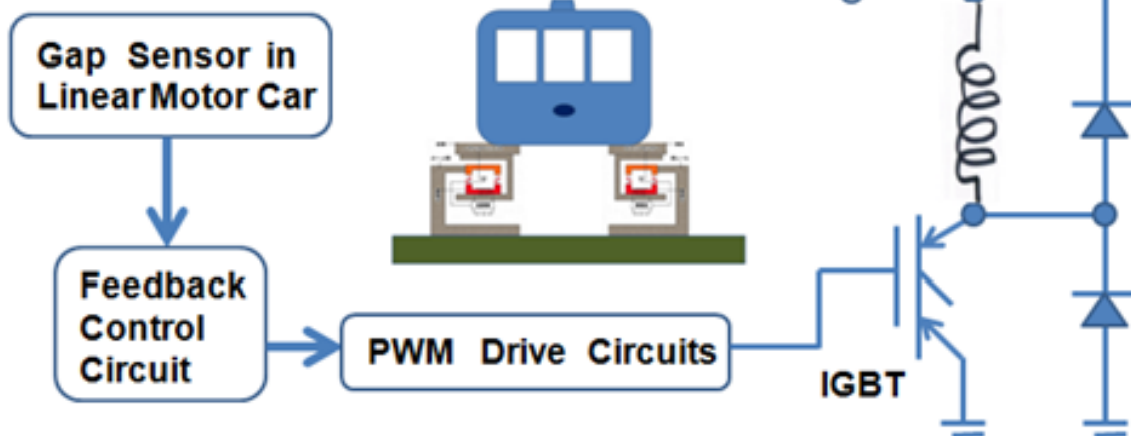
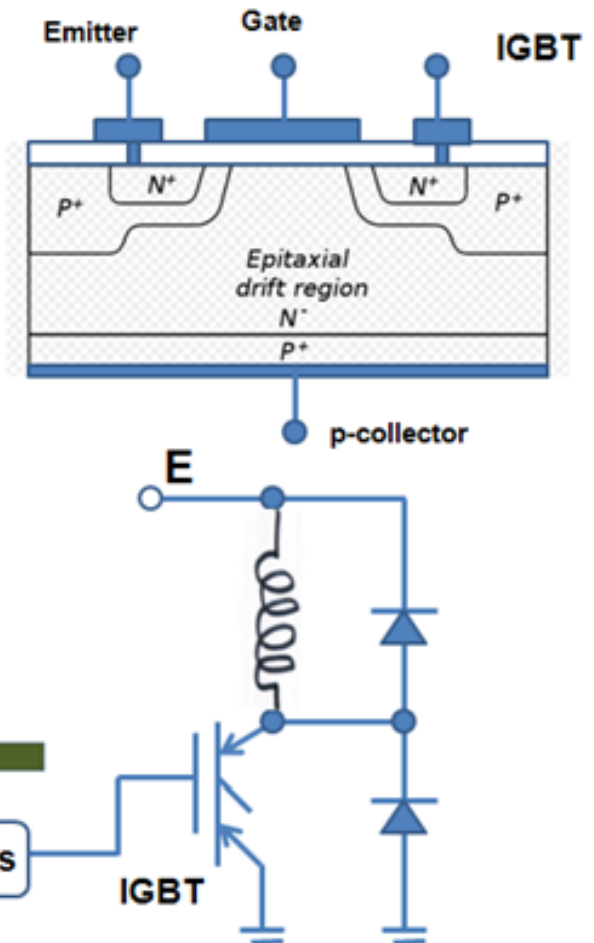
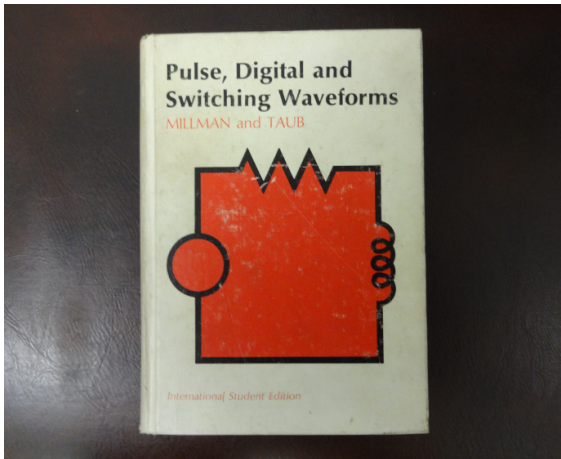
Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

(9) The p-n-p-n diode consists of one p-n-p transistor and one n-p-n transistor, working together as a team. As you know, when two people work together hands in hands as a team, we should expect a good work from them, an entirely new creative, wonderful performance from the collaboration of the two people.

This p-n-p-n diode can also be called a p-n-p-n thyristor, a SCR switch, a p-n-p-n double-transistor structure, or simply a p-n-p-n diode capacitor, depending on the operation modes.

I learned this p-n-p-n diode switch, too. During its OFF-state, it has a very low leakage current. This device was originally studied and reported in details by Prof. John Lewis Moll in his PhD thesis work and in subsequent papers, which I studied and learned.

During its ON-state, a very, very large electrical current, and can drive a big heavy train or automobile.



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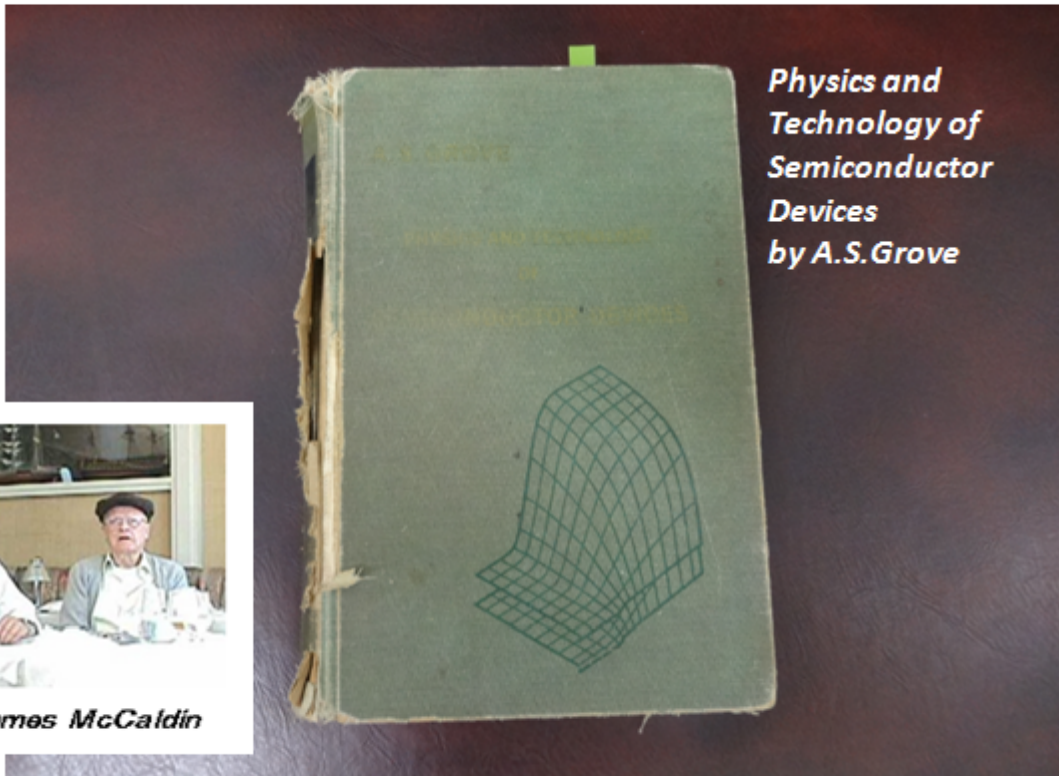
(10) A slight modification of this p-n-p-n diode gives us another very useful device, which we call Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor. This is a key device for a linear motor car of the future ! This is a simple inverter circuit with an inductance coil as the load element and the driving device is an Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor with the PWM control input.

The PWM, Pulse Width Modulation, techniques is a very powerful and useful digital circuit system technique now universally applied for driving servo motors for many mechanical system applications including Robotics. This PWM circuit technique is useful to control the On-AND-OFF Digital current flow in the magnetic coil used to make a linear motor car to float and move in the air.

In a special dynamic operation mode, this device also works as a simple p-n-p-n capacitance that can detect one single electron . And it works as a key device element in modern imagers.



*Prof. James McCaldin*

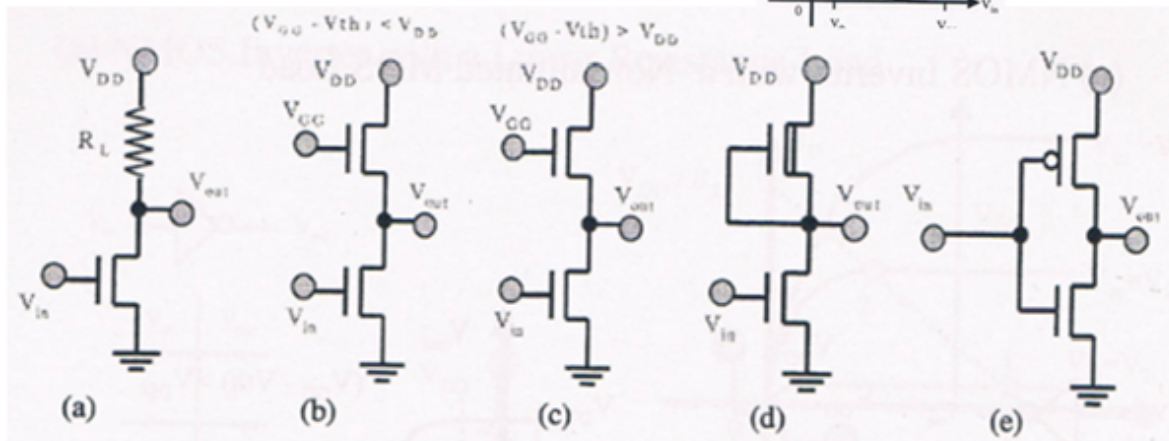
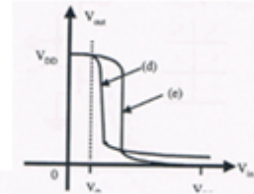
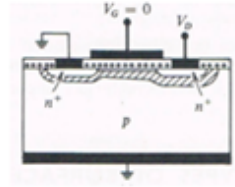
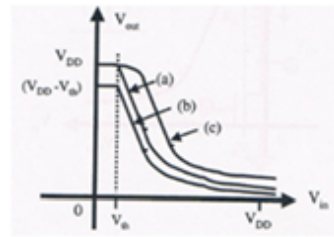
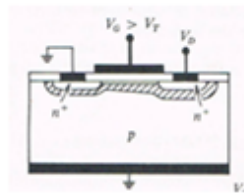
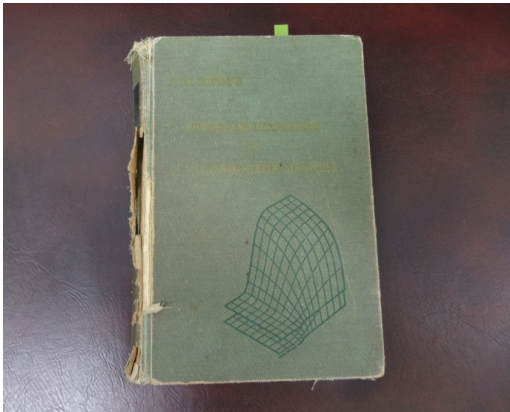


*Physics and  
Technology of  
Semiconductor  
Devices  
by A.S. Grove*

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**Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara**

(11) Then the third book I studied, with the guidance of Prof. John McCaldin, was “Physics and Technology of Semiconductor Devices” by Andy S. Grove.

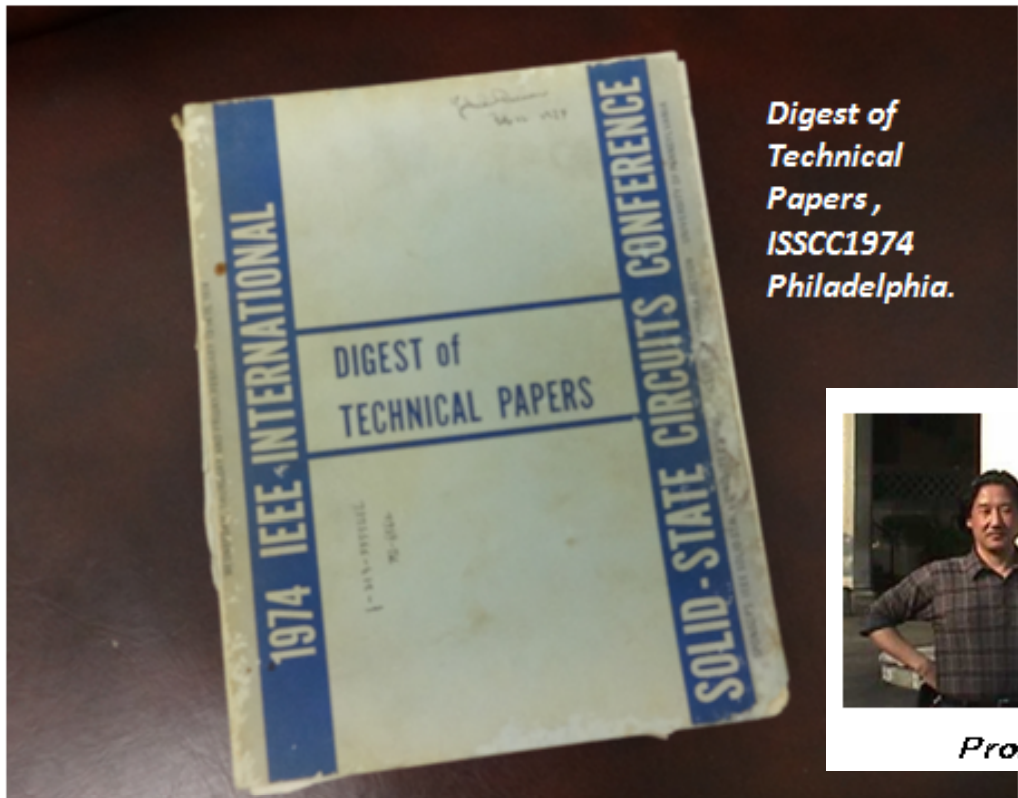


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(12) I learned MOSFETs and many types of inverters.

Among them, only a CMOS inverter seems surviving now....



*Digest of  
Technical  
Papers,  
ISSCC1974  
Philadelphia.*



*Prof. T. C. McGill*

***Digging lost treasures in circuit design  
out of my old books....***

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**Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara**

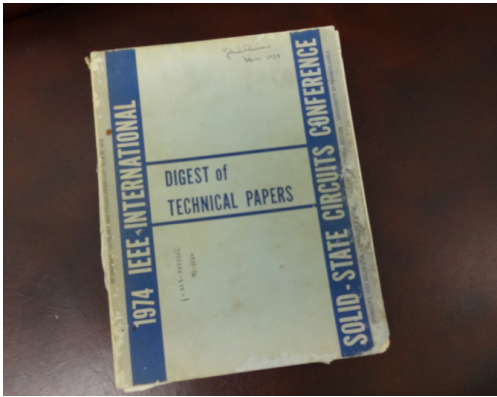
**(13) When I was about to start my graduate work, I learned about a new device called CCD. I thought we now have a device to detect the arrival of the first guest electron in our empty hotel room !**

**With this device I thought I could ask the guest electron to come up to the hotel lobby to meet us !**

**I was excited . I thought this is the device we were looking for, that can transfer one single electron in solid from one place to another and to the final output circuit stage.**

**I was excited, and many people were also excited ! Many researchers worked on this device with great expectations.**

**I was excited and worked on this device with the guidance of Prof. T.C. McGill .**

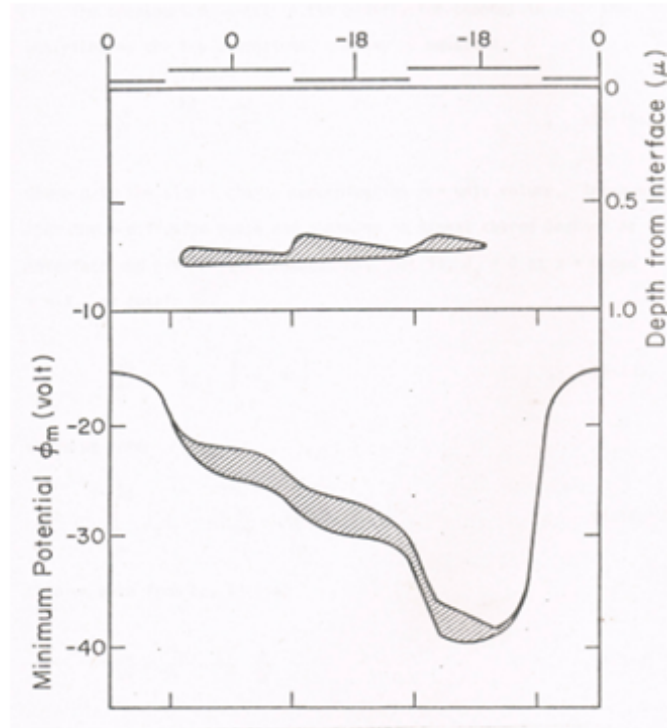


## Charge-Coupled Devices and Applications

Chairman  
**Lewis M. Terman**

Testimonial to the importance of the charge-transfer phenomenon is attested to by the Morris N. Liebmann and the David A. Sarnoff awards this year to the originators of the charge-coupled and bucket-brigade devices, respectively. The papers in this session concentrate on the former.

Charge-coupled devices are unique among semiconductor elements. In all other device embodiments into circuits, charge is manipulated and extracted and then used to charge a capacitor or passed through a resistor in each case to develop a signal voltage. In



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(14) I was specially interested in a buried channel CCD structure since this device protects a single electron, our important hotel guest from being trapped by the Si-SiO<sub>2</sub> interface states.

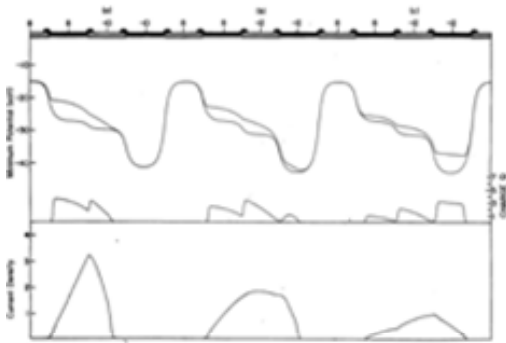
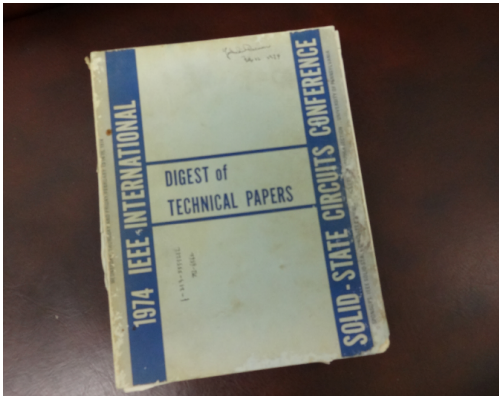
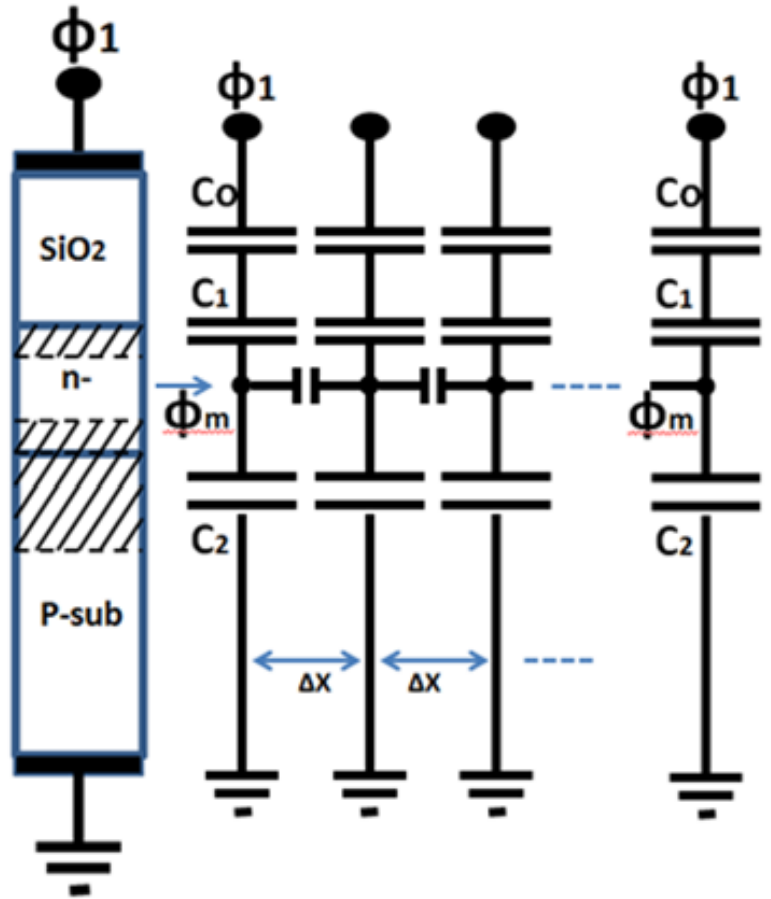


FIGURE 1—Plots of the minimum potential, charge profile and current density at different stages of the charge transfer.



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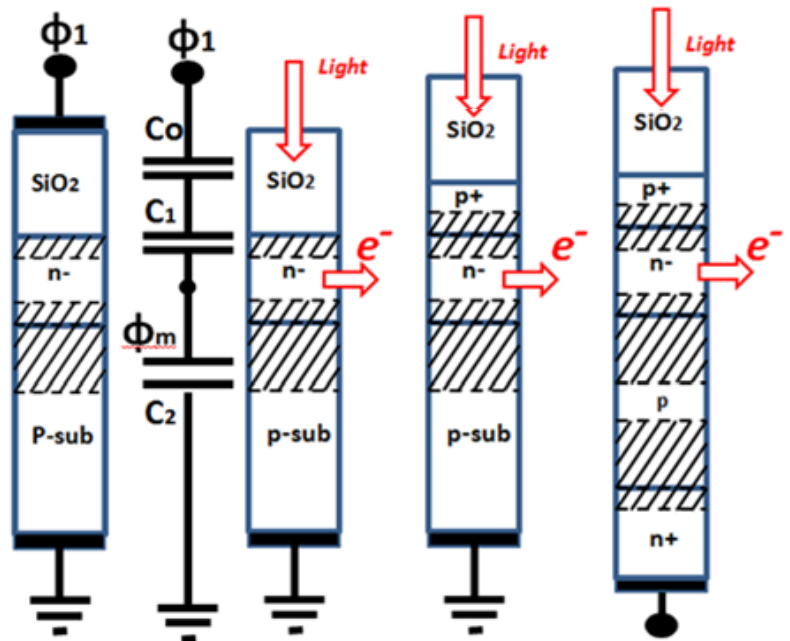
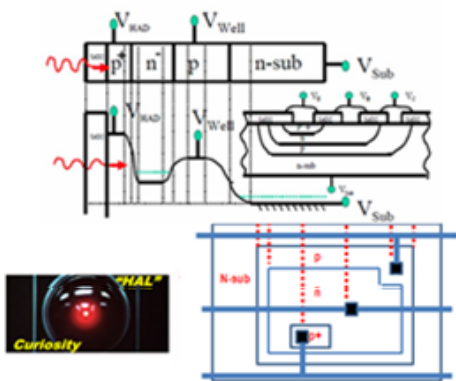
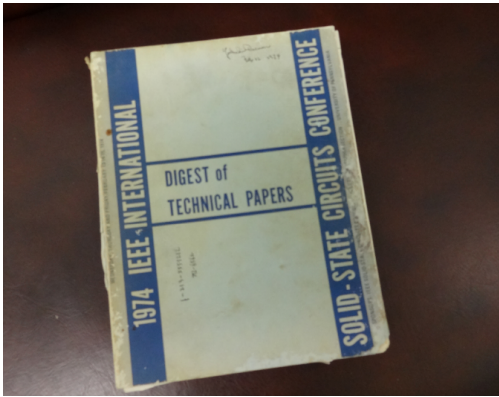
Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara

(15) This is a capacitance network that one single electron, our hotel guest, would see inside a buried channel CCD structure.

The single electron is well protected, and can be transferred safely along the buried channel by controlling gate voltages.

Originally I expected this device to become a highly sensitive imaging device, a low-light imaging device with very low noise.





Hagiwara, 1975

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(16) But soon I found out this is no good for imaging.  
 It has a metal layer on the top!  
 The metal layer does not allow light to pass through.

So we still needed the original photo-diode, the photo-transistor, and the p-n-p-n photo-diode that I had studied when I was an undergraduate student.

At least they can pass the light through the device and catch a single electron in the dynamic capacitance mode of their operations.

# 128-Bit Multicomparator

CARVER A. MEAD, RICHARD D. PASHLEY, MEMBER, IEEE, LEE D. BRITTON, YOSHIAKI T. DAIMON,  
AND STEWART F. SANDO, JR., MEMBER, IEEE

*Abstract*—A 128-bit multicomparator was designed to perform the search-sort function on arbitrary length data strings. Devices can be cascaded for longer block lengths or paralleled for bit-parallel, word-serial applications. The circuit utilizes a 3-phase static-dynamic shift register cell for data handling and a unique gated EXCLUSIVE-NOR circuit



operation is performed by a 128-bit shift register with 128 comparators. The device is fabricated on a 107 × 150 mil silicon chip using 1.5 μm transistor logic. The device is available in 300-pin DIP and 300-pin PLCC packages. The device is a significant step toward the realization of larger and faster semiconductor memories and conventional central processing units (CPU's) in chip form. In the process, many other applications of large-scale integration (LSI) to computer architecture have been neglected [1]. LSI has re-

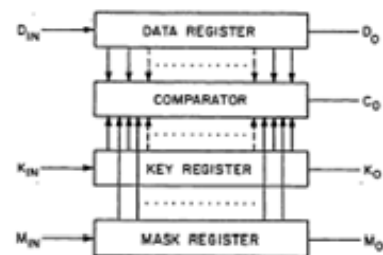
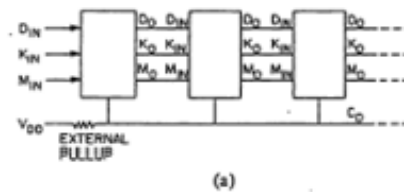


Fig. 1. Block diagram of multicomparator.



Journal of Solid State Circuits;VOL.SC-11,NO.5, OCTOBER 1976

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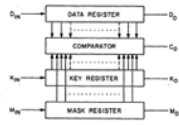
(17) Now going back to 1971 again, right after I finished my undergraduate work. I was one of the students in the first year of the VLSI circuit design course taught by Prof. Carver A. Mead at Caltech in 1971.

Meanwhile, during my graduate work, we had a design project of a 128-bit multi-comparator silicon chip, that has three shift registers in parallel. They are called the Data, the Key and the Mask registers. The data in the registers is compared and matched by the comparator logic circuits, consisting of many EXNOR circuits.

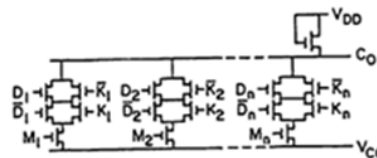
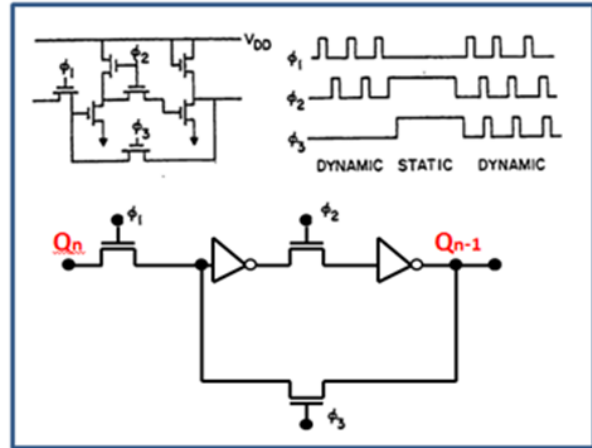
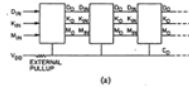
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**INTRODUCTION**  
 OVER the past several years, there have been significant amounts of energy devoted to the fabrication of larger and faster semiconductor memories and conventional central processing units (CPU's) in chip form. In the process, many other applications of large-scale integration (LSI) to computer architecture have been neglected [1]. LSI has re-



M <sub>i</sub>	D <sub>i</sub>	R <sub>i</sub>	C <sub>i</sub>
1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	1	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	-	-	1

Gated EXCLUSIVE-NOR gate. (a) Schematic. (b) Truth table.

CalTech LSI Design Class, September 1971

● Exnor gate is important to detect the edge-effect:

$$ExNor(A,B) = A B + \bar{A} \bar{B}$$

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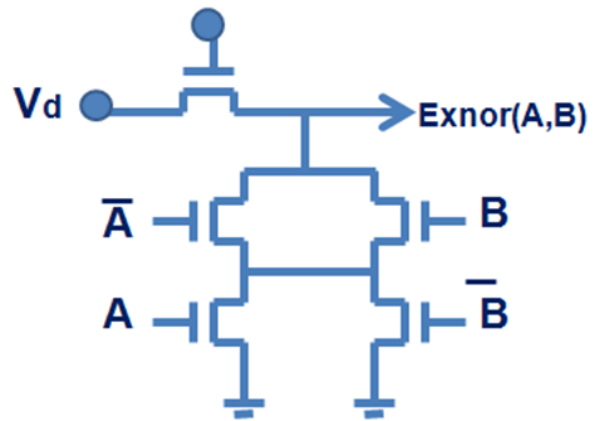
(18) The three shift registers are conventional ones.

A pair of inverters and three switching pass transistors as a group are functioning as a one-bit static memory cell or in other time as a one-bit shift-register element.

Exnor gate is important to detect the edge-effect. We can obtain a edge-enhanced picture by imposing on the original picture.

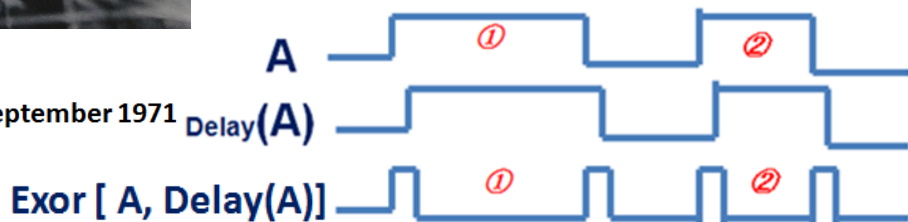


CalTech LSI Design Class, September 1971



● Exnor gate is important to detect the edge-effect:

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(19) The data in the register is compared and matched by the comparator logic circuits, consisting of many EXNOR gate logic circuits.

The EXNOR circuits are very useful for matching data and detecting the edge information.

### 128-Bit Multicomparator

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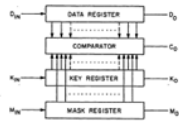
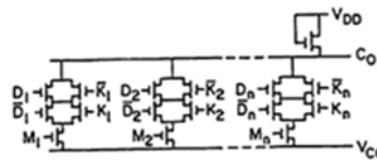
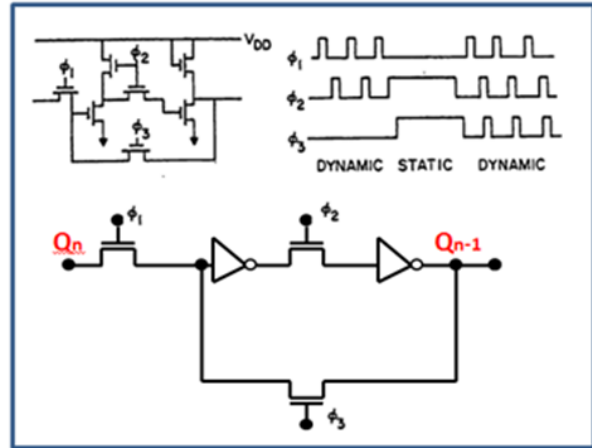
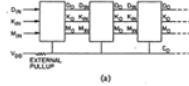


Fig. 1. Block diagram of multicomparator.

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M <sub>i</sub>	D <sub>i</sub>	R <sub>i</sub>	C <sub>i</sub>
1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	1	0	1
1	0	1	0
0	-	-	1

Gated EXCLUSIVE-NOR gate. (a) Schematic. (b) Truth table.



CalTech LSI Design Class, September 1971

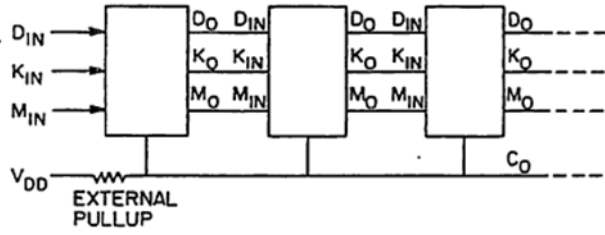
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$$\text{ExNor}(A,B) = A B + \bar{A} \bar{B}$$

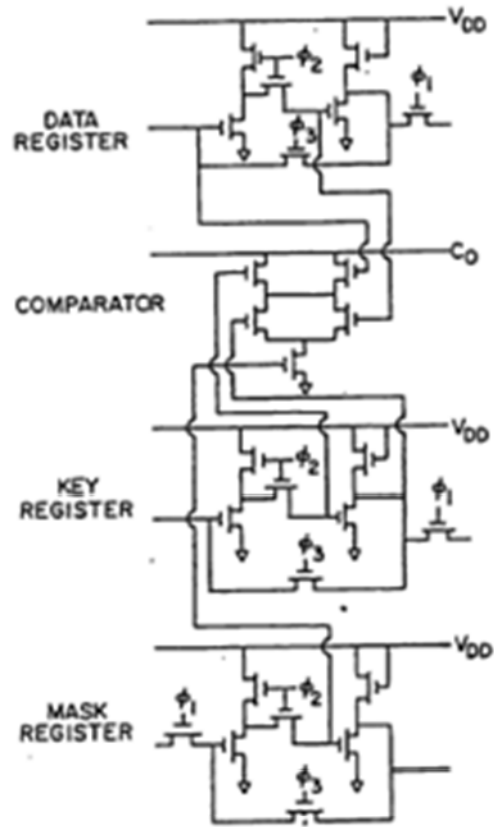
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(20) This elementary EXNOR logic gate is frequently applied to compress image-data information.



CalTech LSI Design Class, September 1971

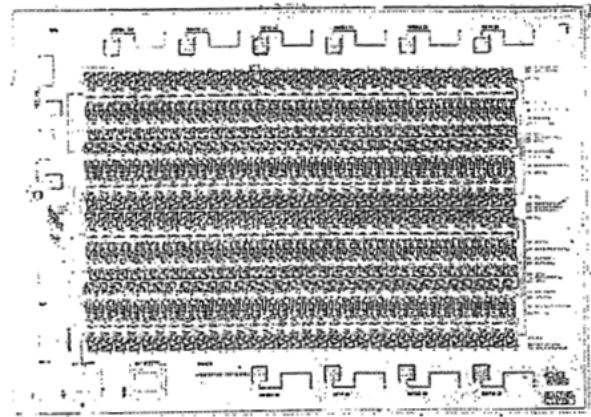
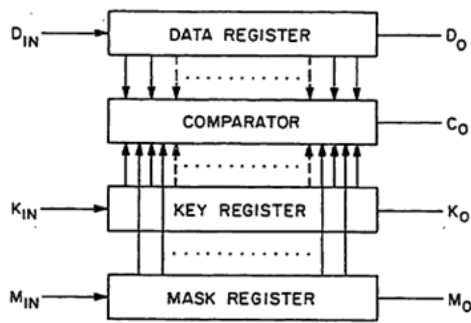


Full schematic of one bit slice of the multicomparator

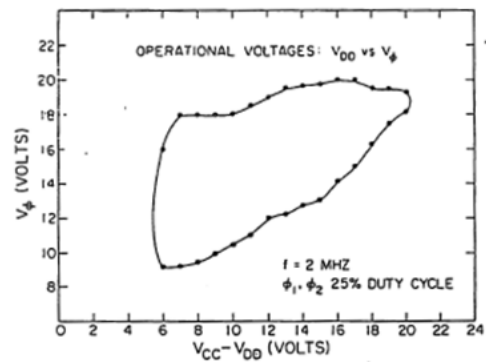
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(21) This was a project, a challenge to design and build a real chip by Caltech students, and it was fabricated in Intel.



CalTech LSI Design Class, September 1971

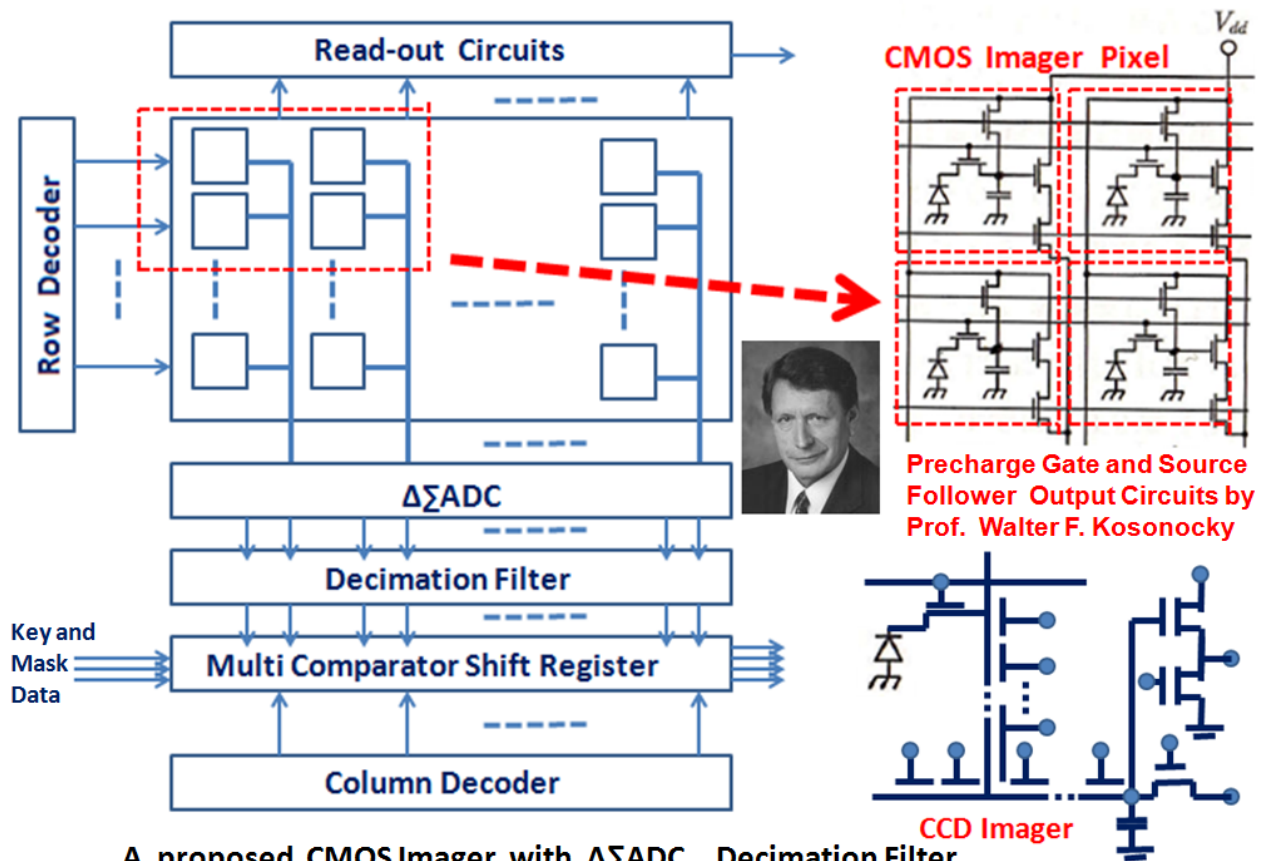


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(22) It is the VLSI chip built and reported for the first time in the world by university students with helps of industry.

I think this 128 multi-comparator chip may be still useful .



A proposed CMOS Imager with  $\Delta\Sigma$ ADC, Decimation Filter, Key and Mask Data input and Multi Comparator Shift Register

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(23) I am just curious to find out if we can include this multi-comparator shift registers in the output circuit block of a CMOS Imager.

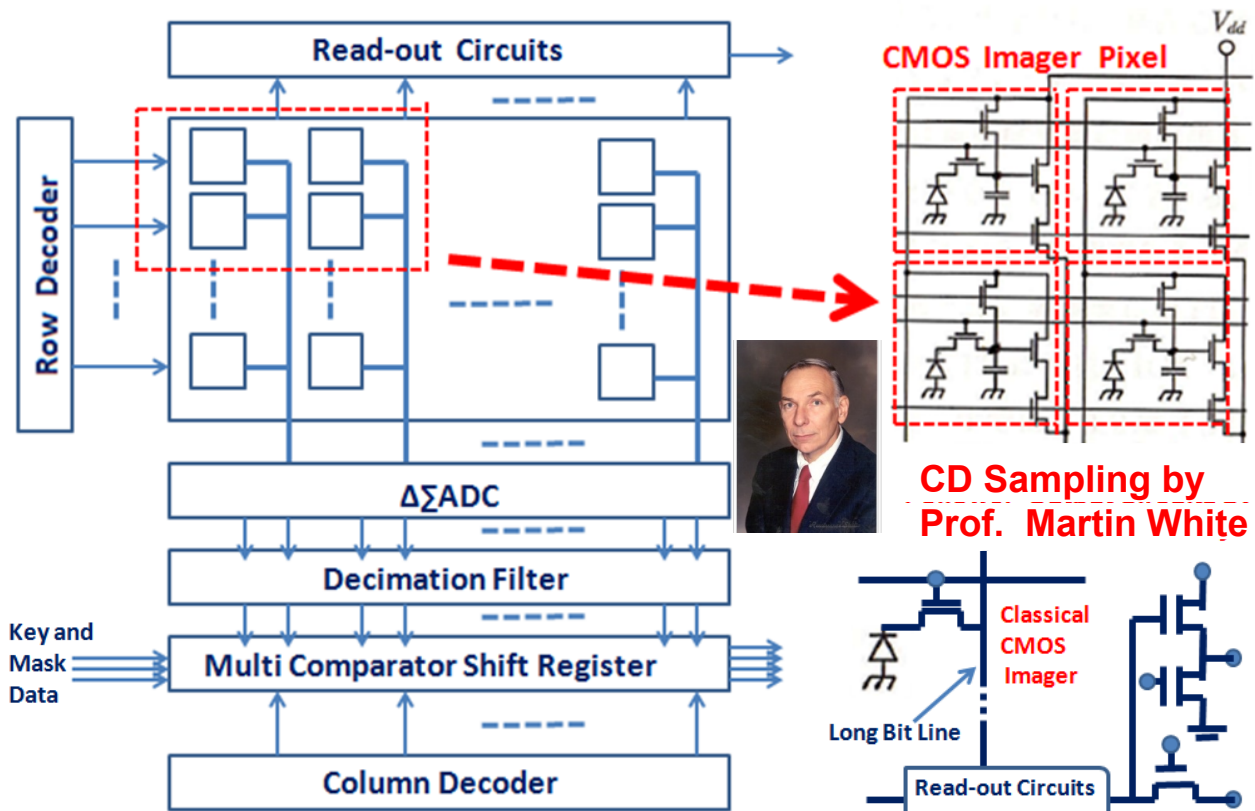
The output circuit block is very, very important.

The original output circuit is a simple combination of a pre-charge reset gate and a source follower.

I believe this output circuit was first proposed and reported by Dr. Walter F. Kosonocky.

I studied many of his papers when I was working on my PhD thesis in Caltech. I met him many times. He guided me a lot. He was famous and great. He was also my mentor.





A proposed CMOS Imager with  $\Delta\Sigma$ ADC, Decimation Filter, Key and Mask Data input and Multi Comparator Shift Register

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(24) Later a very useful and powerful operation mode, called Double Sampling, was proposed by Prof. Marvin White.

This technique accelerated drastically CMOS imager developments and revolutionized our imaging device industry.



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**Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara**

**(25) I believe these people who worked on MOS Transistors, Memory Devices and Imaging devices are the ones worth recognition not only from our solid state circuit society but from the entire world .**

**I was surprised and amazed that in this way so many people, through many yeas of their diligence, contributed so much for the entire world we live in. Thank you !**

**Yoshiaki Daimon Hagihara**

**@ ISSCC2013 Plenary Panel , in San Francisco, California USA**

**Monday Evening February 18, 2013**

