

**6.002**

**CIRCUITS AND  
ELECTRONICS**

# The Digital Abstraction

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6.002 Fall 2000 Lecture 4

# Review

- Discretize matter by agreeing to observe the lumped matter discipline



Lumped Circuit Abstraction

- Analysis tool kit: KVL/KCL, node method, superposition, Thévenin, Norton (remember superposition, Thévenin, Norton apply only for linear circuits)

# Today

Discretize value  $\longrightarrow$  Digital abstraction

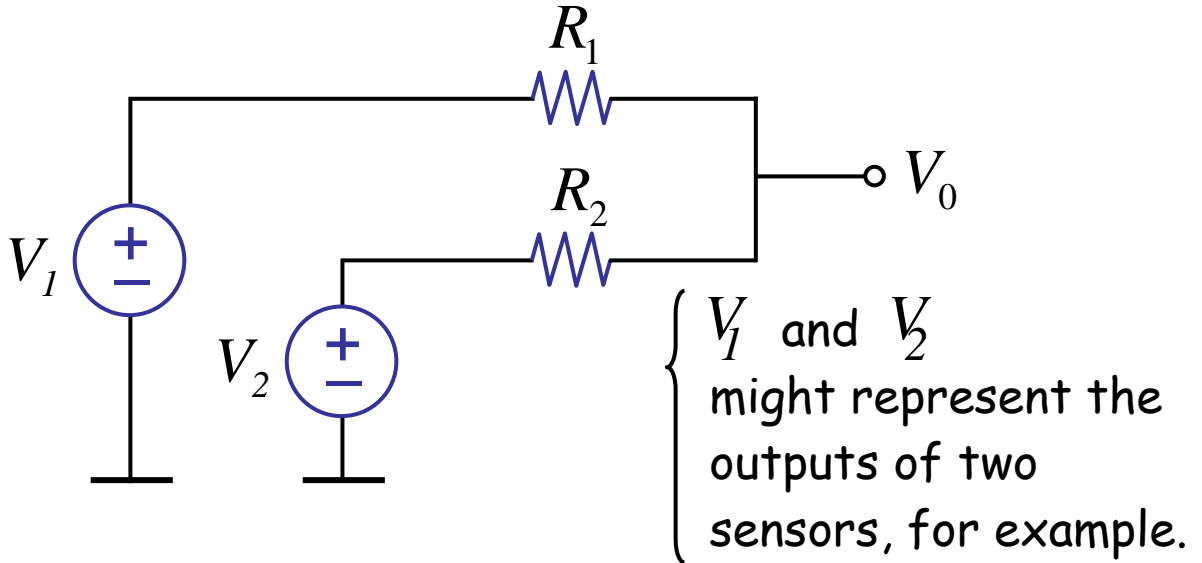
Interestingly, we will see shortly that the tools learned in the previous three lectures are sufficient to analyze simple digital circuits

Reading: Chapter 5 of Agarwal & Lang

# But first, why digital?

In the past ...

## Analog signal processing



By superposition,

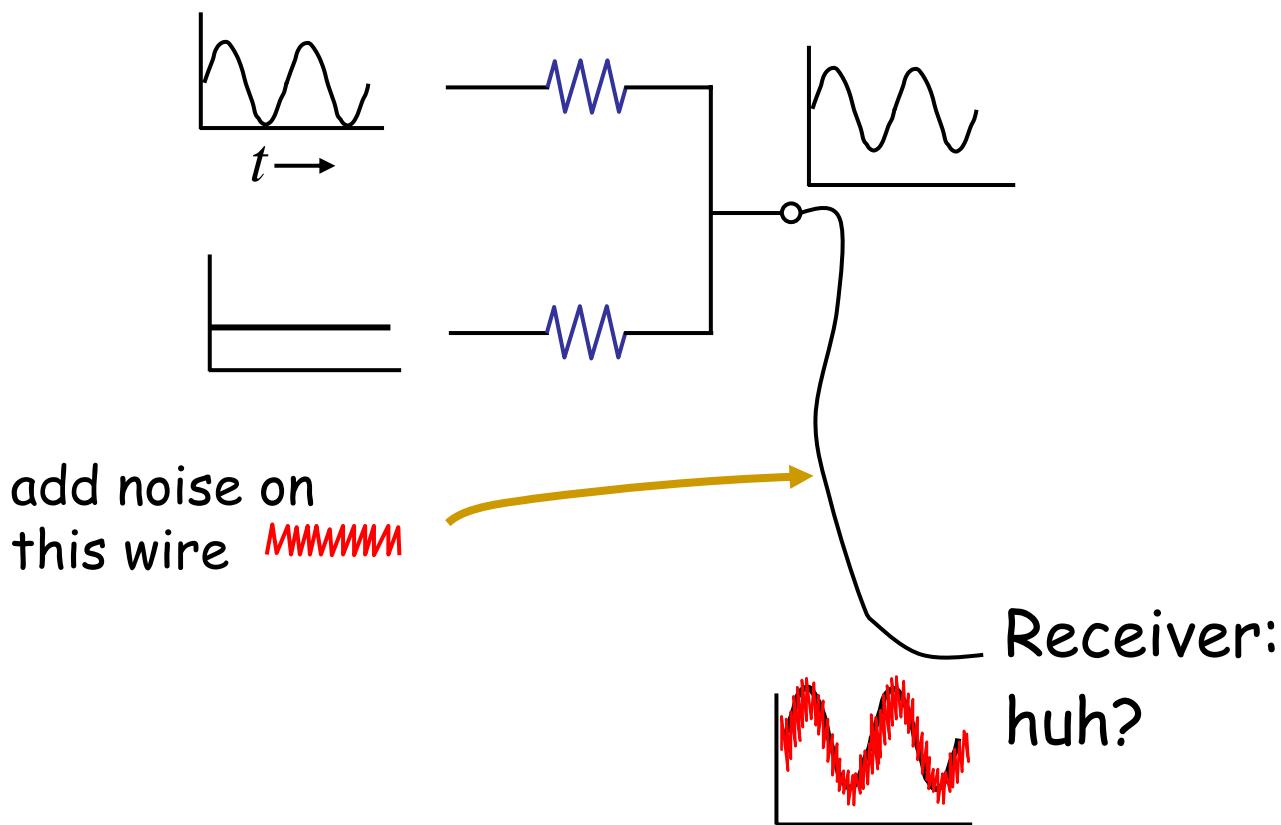
$$V_0 = \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} V_1 + \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} V_2$$

If  $R_1 = R_2$ ,

$$V_0 = \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2}$$

The above is an "adder" circuit.

# Noise Problem



... noise hampers our ability to distinguish between small differences in value — e.g. between 3.1V and 3.2V.

# Value Discretization

Restrict values to be one of two

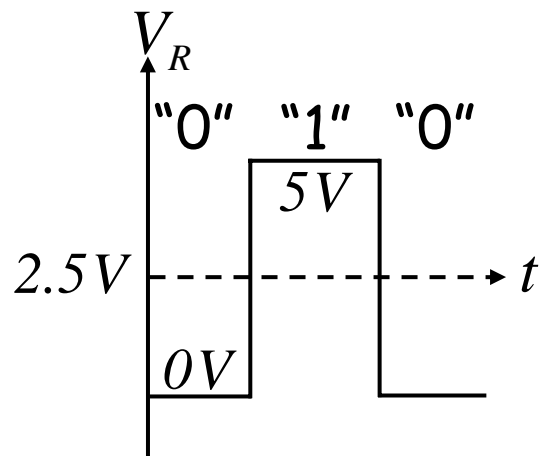
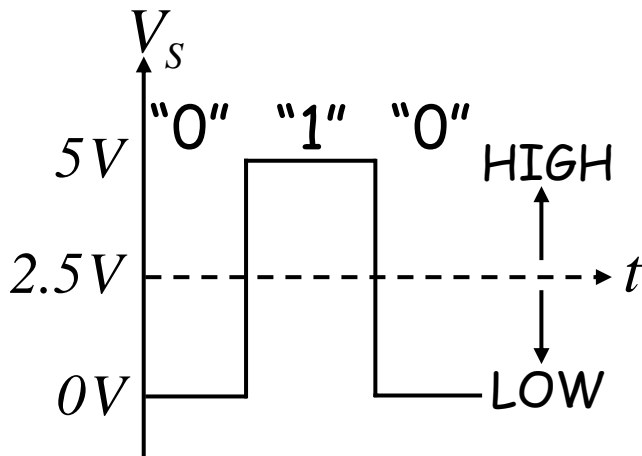
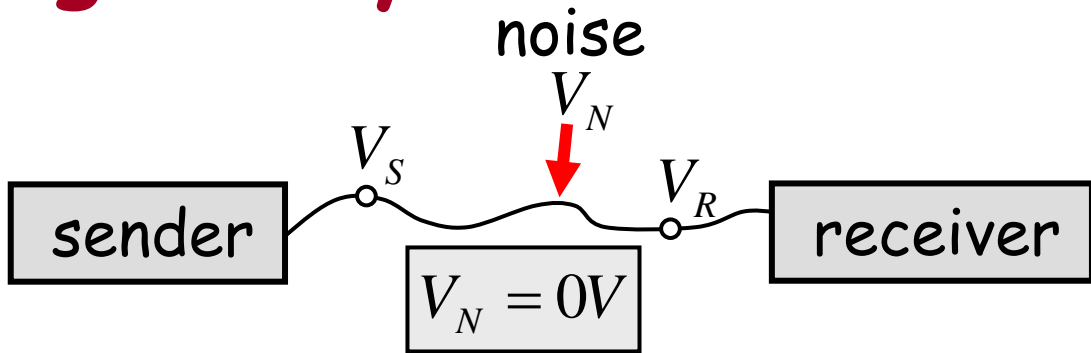
HIGH	LOW
5V	0V
TRUE	FALSE
1	0

...like two digits 0 and 1

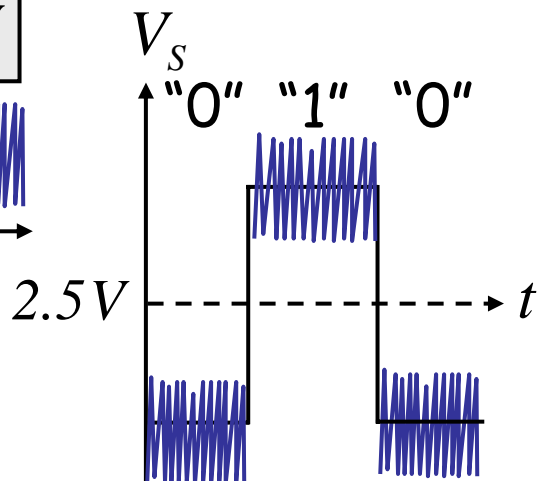
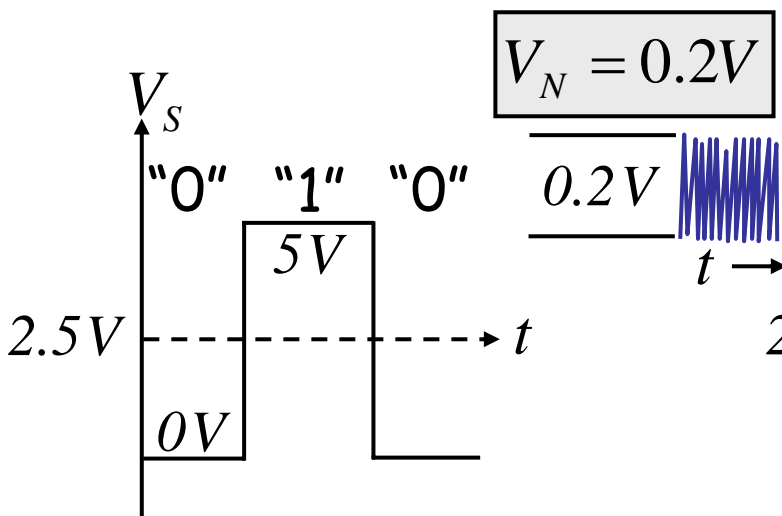
## Why is this discretization useful?

(Remember, numbers larger than 1 can be represented using multiple binary digits and coding, much like using multiple decimal digits to represent numbers greater than 9. E.g., the binary number 101 has decimal value 5.)

# Digital System



With noise



# Digital System

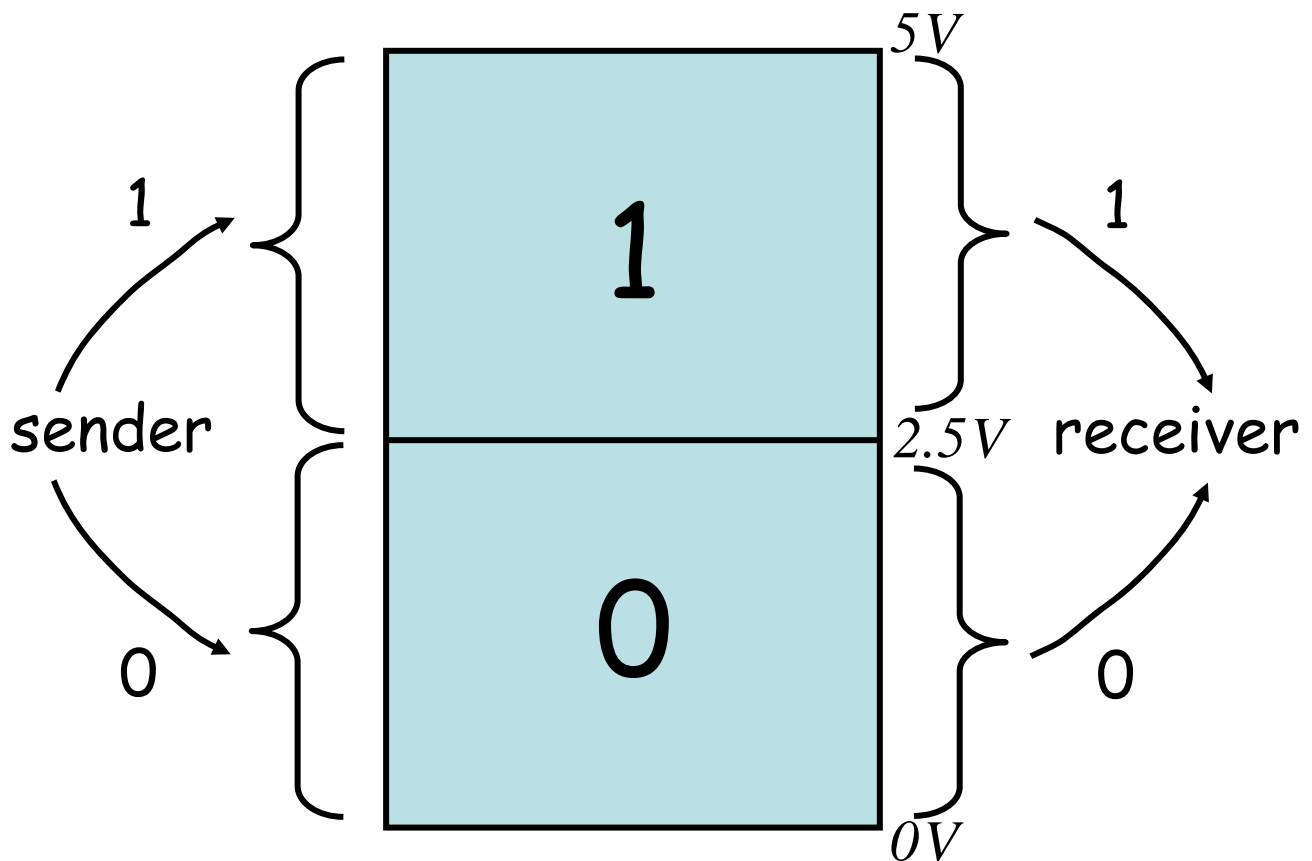
Better noise immunity  
Lots of "noise margin"

For "1": noise margin  $5V$  to  $2.5V = 2.5V$

For "0": noise margin  $0V$  to  $2.5V = 2.5V$



# Voltage Thresholds and Logic Values

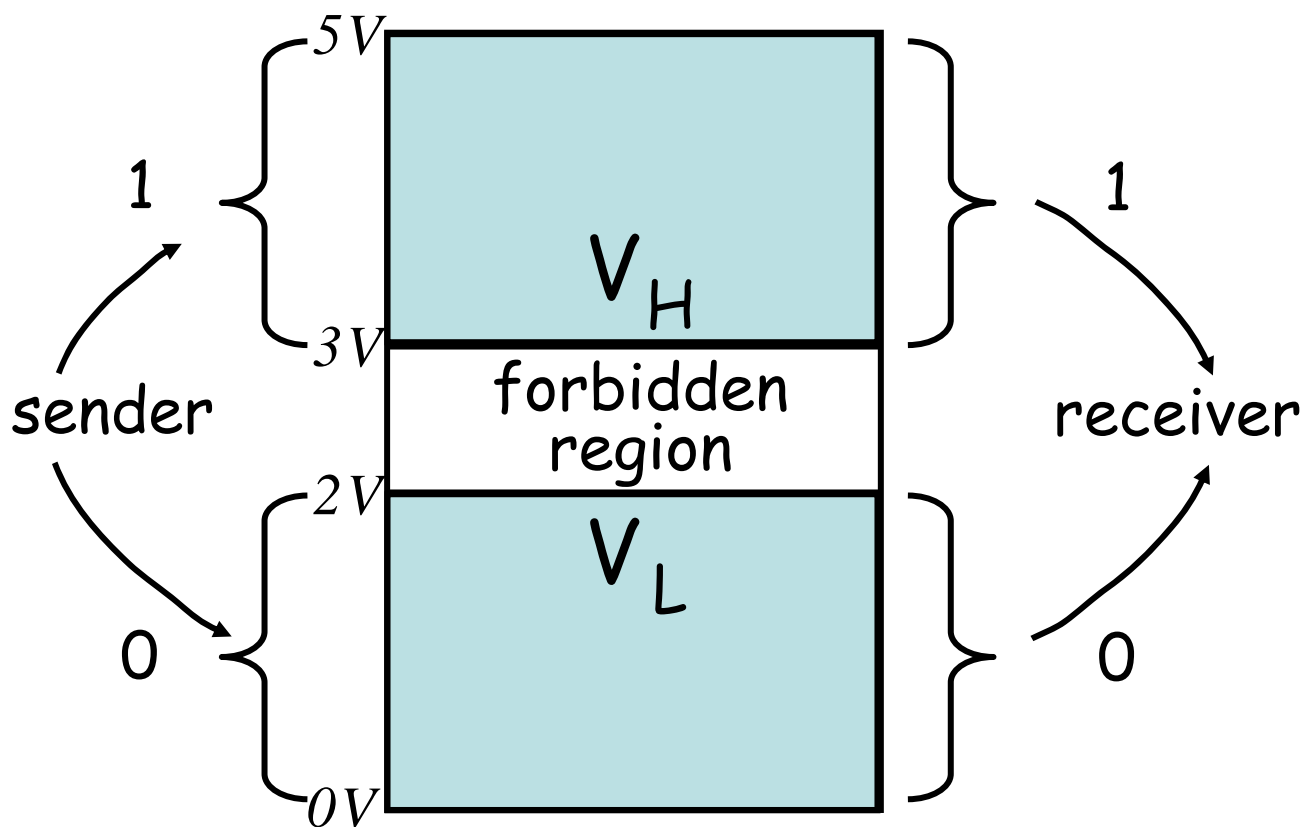


But, but, but ...

What about 2.5V?

Hmmm... create "no man's land"  
or forbidden region

For example,



"1"  $\Rightarrow V_H \rightarrow 5V$

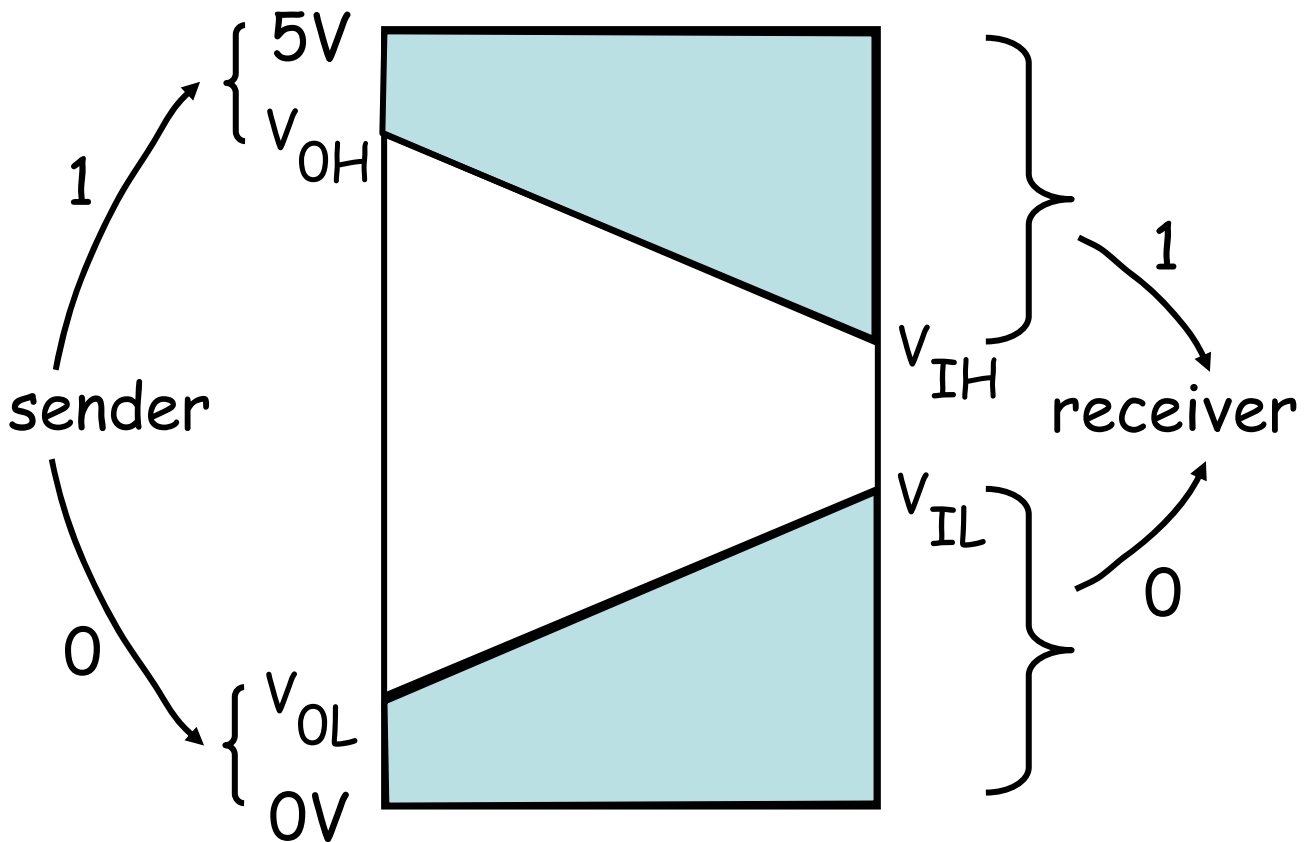
"0"  $\Rightarrow 0V \rightarrow V_L$

But, but, but ...

Where's the noise margin?

What if the sender sent 1:  $V_H$  ?

Hold the sender to tougher standards!

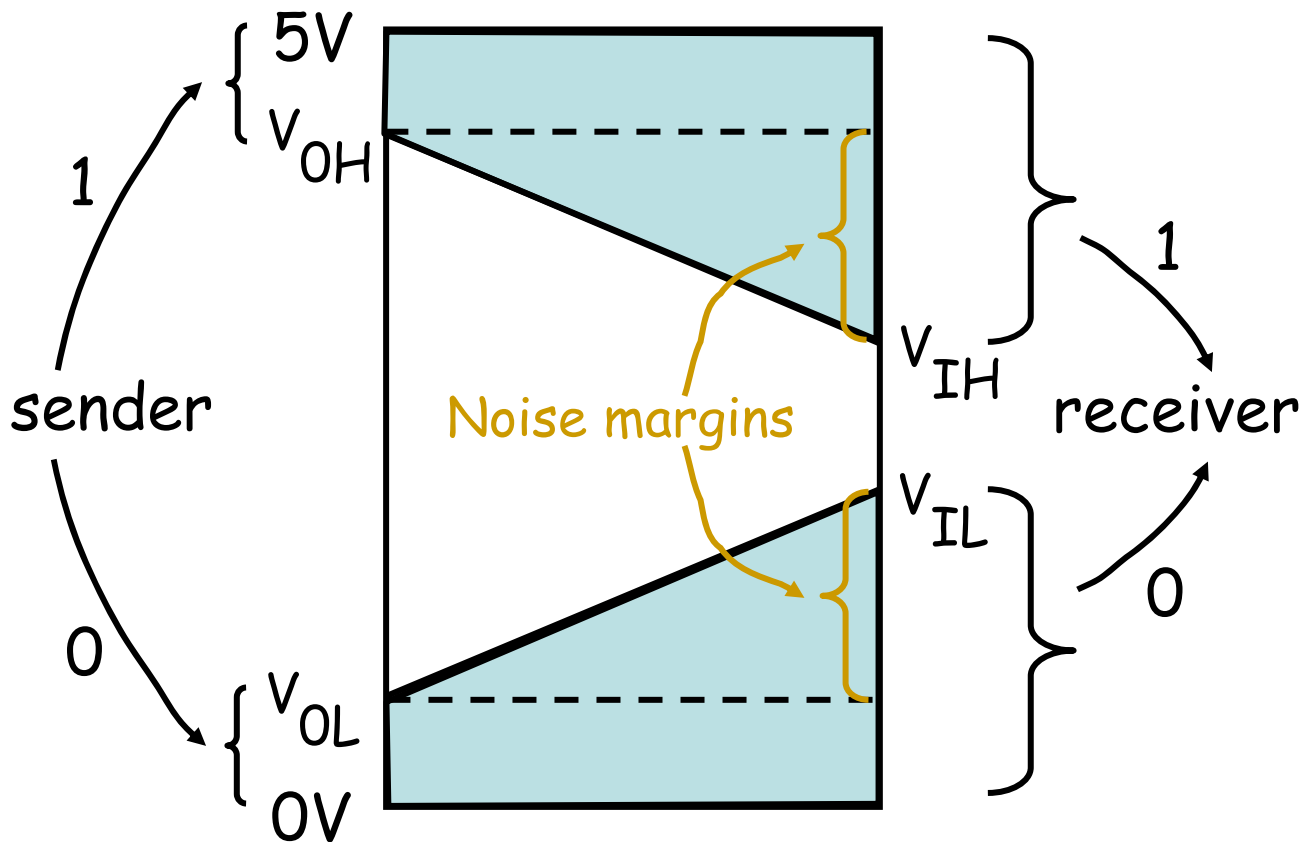


But, but, but ...

Where's the noise margin?

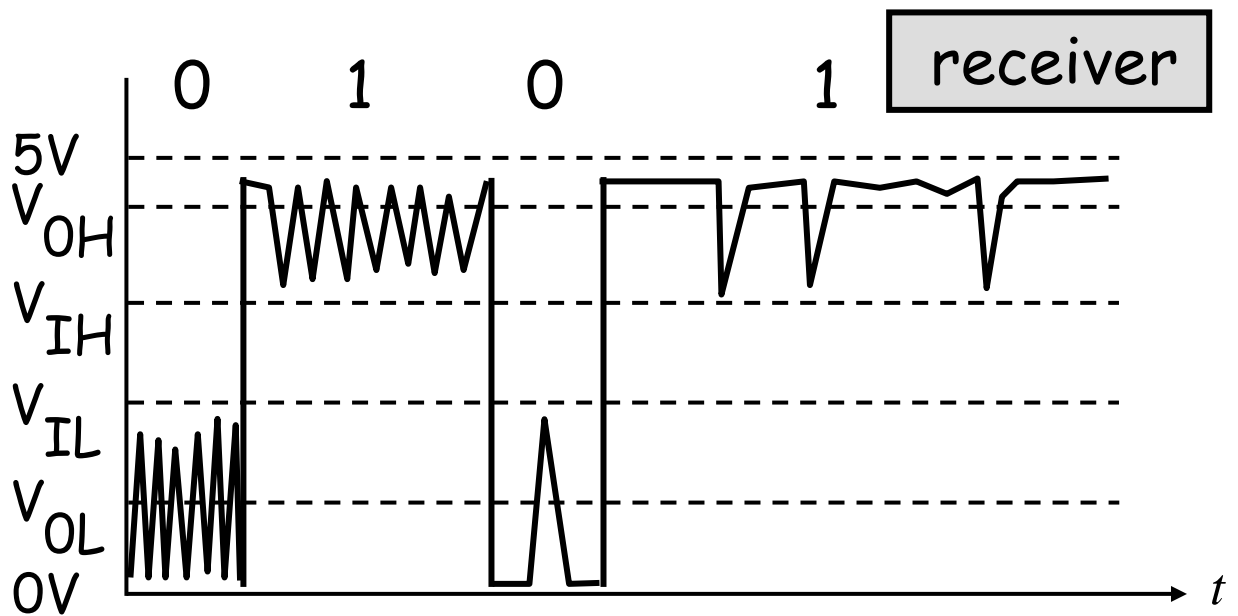
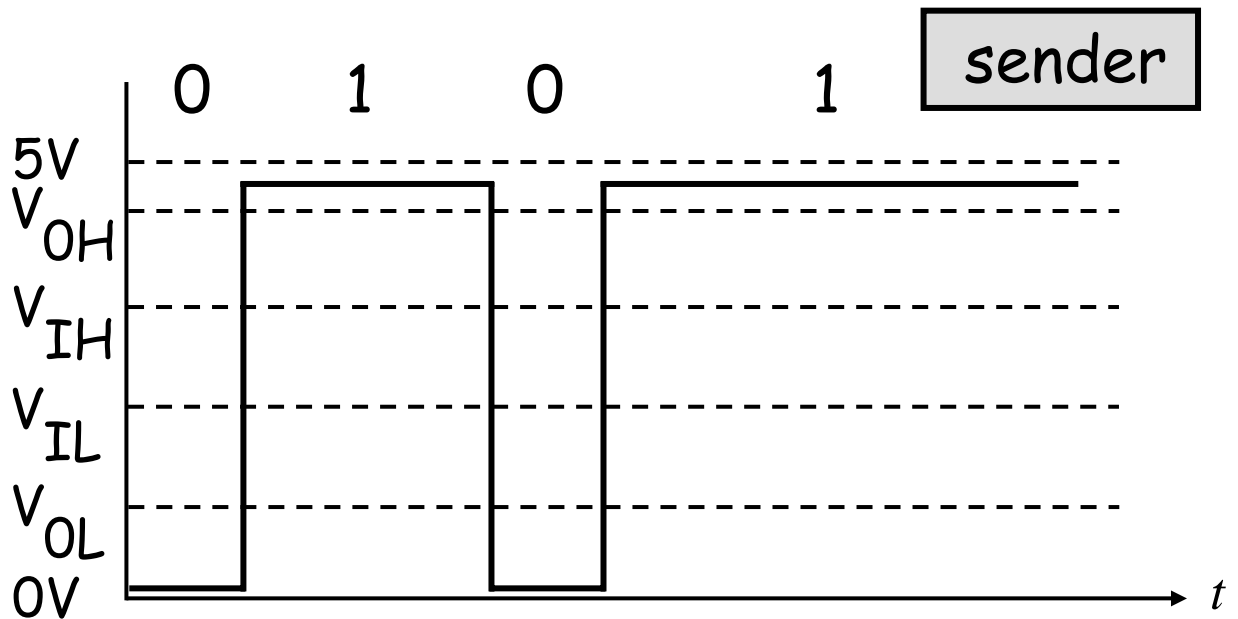
What if the sender sent 1:  $V_H$  ?

Hold the sender to tougher standards!



"1" noise margin:  $V_{IH} - V_{OH}$

"0" noise margin:  $V_{IL} - V_{OL}$



Digital systems follow **static discipline**: if inputs to the digital system meet valid input thresholds, then the system guarantees its outputs will meet valid output thresholds.

# Processing digital signals

Recall, we have only two values —

**1,0**  $\Rightarrow$  Map naturally to logic: T, F  
 $\Rightarrow$  Can also represent numbers

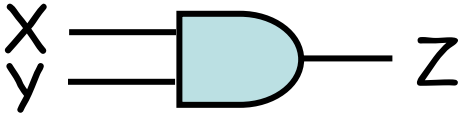
# Processing digital signals

## Boolean Logic

⇒ If  $X$  is true and  $Y$  is true  
Then  $Z$  is true else  $Z$  is false.

⇒  $Z = X \text{ AND } Y$   
 $Z = X \cdot Y$   
Boolean equation

$X, Y, Z$   
are digital signals  
"0", "1"

⇒  AND gate

⇒ Truth table representation:

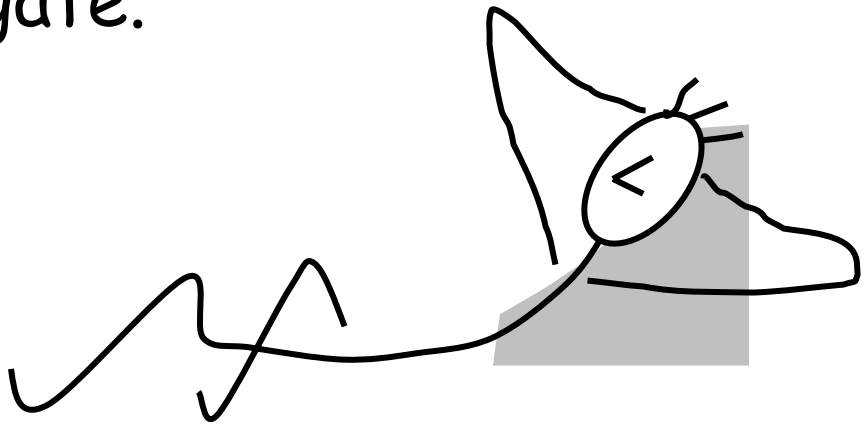
X	Y	Z
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

Enumerate all input combinations

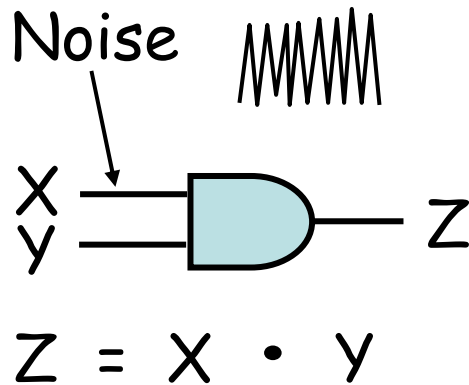
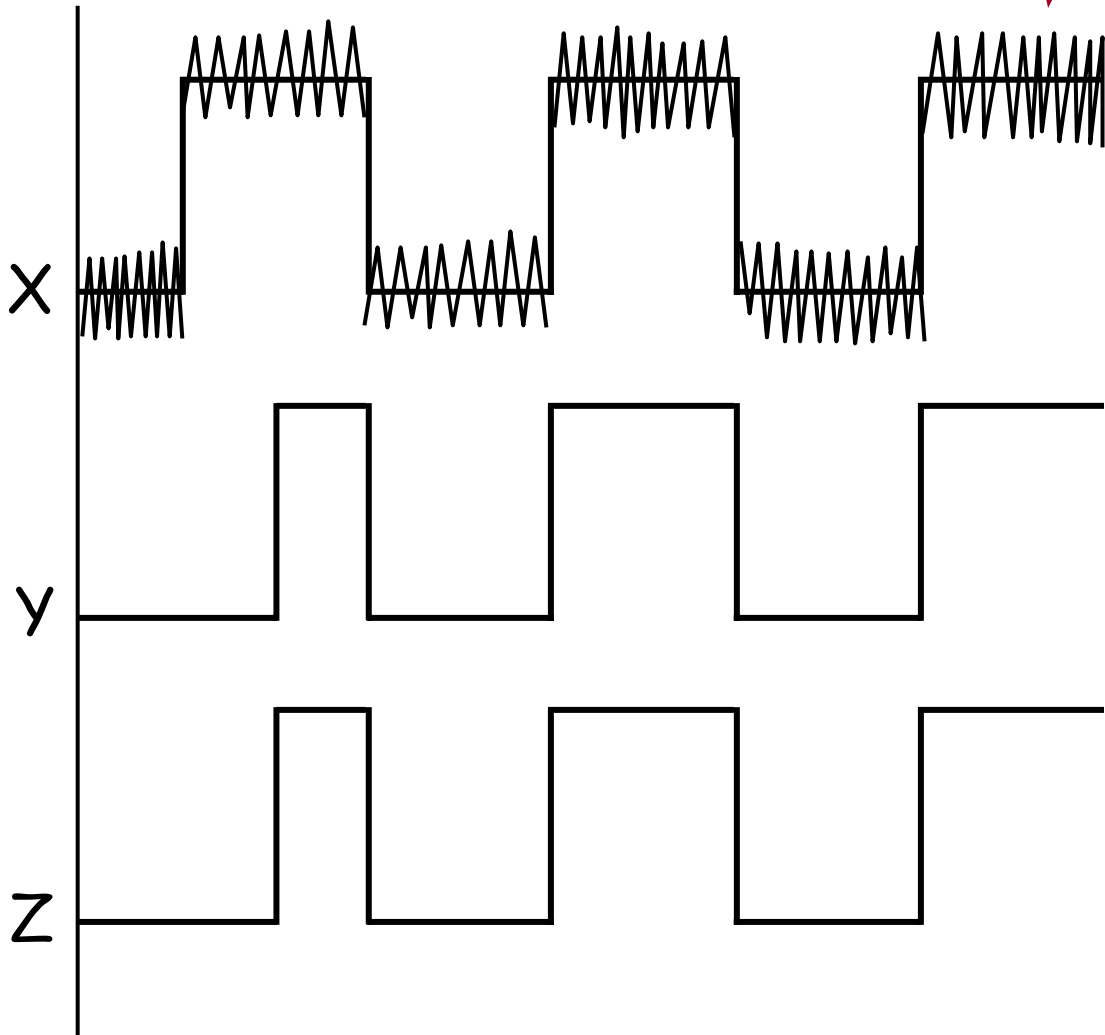
# Combinational gate abstraction

- Adheres to static discipline
- Outputs are a function of inputs alone.

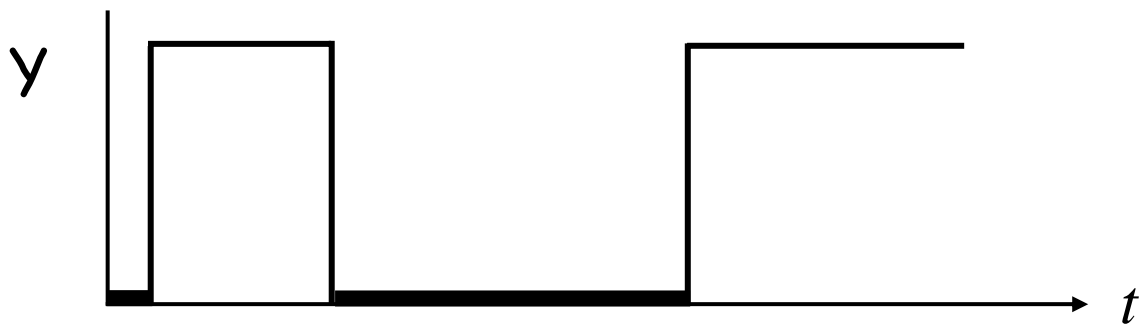
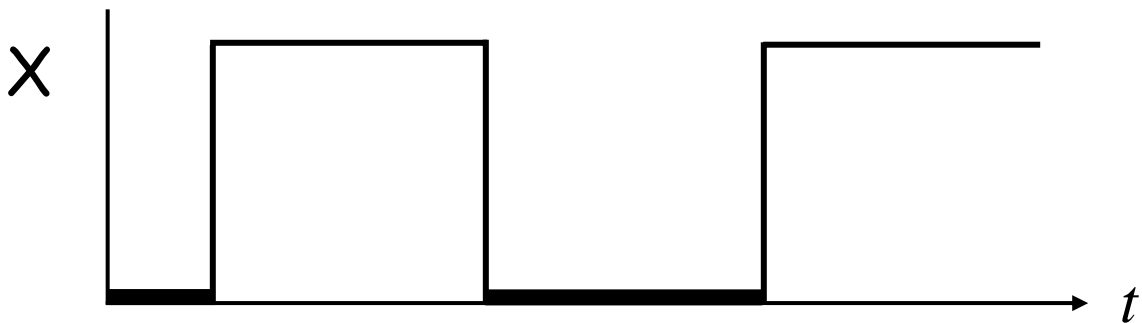
Digital logic designers do not have to care about what is inside a gate.







# Examples for recitation



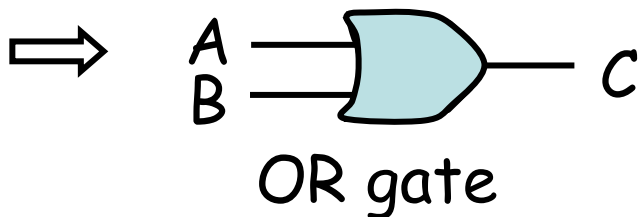
$$Z = X \cdot y$$

# In recitation...

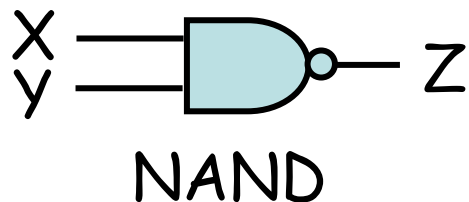
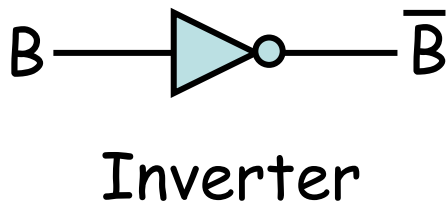
Another example of a gate

If (A is true) OR (B is true)  
then C is true  
else C is false

$\Rightarrow C = A + B$  Boolean equation  
OR



More gates



$$Z = \overline{X \cdot Y}$$

# Boolean Identities

$$X \cdot 1 = X$$

$$X \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$X + 1 = 1$$

$$X + 0 = X$$

$$\overline{\overline{1}} = 1$$

$$\overline{\overline{0}} = 0$$

$$AB + AC = A \cdot (B + C)$$

# Digital Circuits

Implement:  $\text{output} = A + \overline{B \cdot C}$

