Digital Circuits - Multiplexers
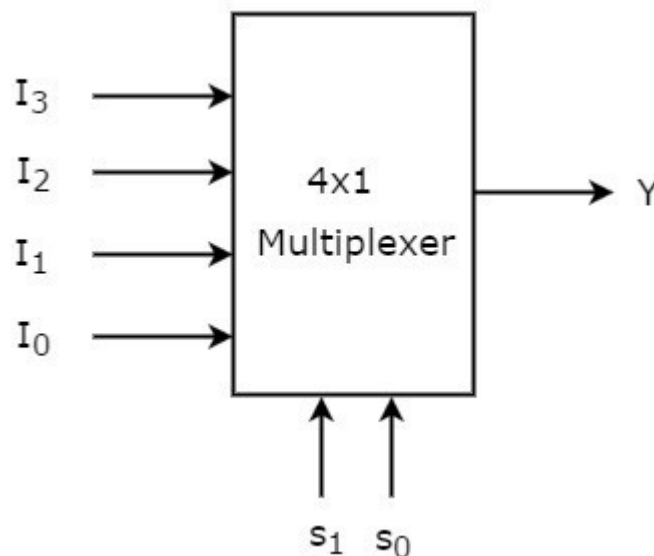
Multiplexer

is a combinational circuit that has maximum of 2^n data inputs, 'n' selection lines and single output line. One of these data inputs will be connected to the output based on the values of selection lines.

Since there are 'n' selection lines, there will be 2^n possible combinations of zeros and ones. So, each combination will select only one data input. Multiplexer is also called as **Mux**.

4x1 Multiplexer

4x1 Multiplexer has four data inputs I_3, I_2, I_1 & I_0, two selection lines s_1 & s_0 and one output Y. The **block diagram** of 4x1 Multiplexer is shown in the following figure.
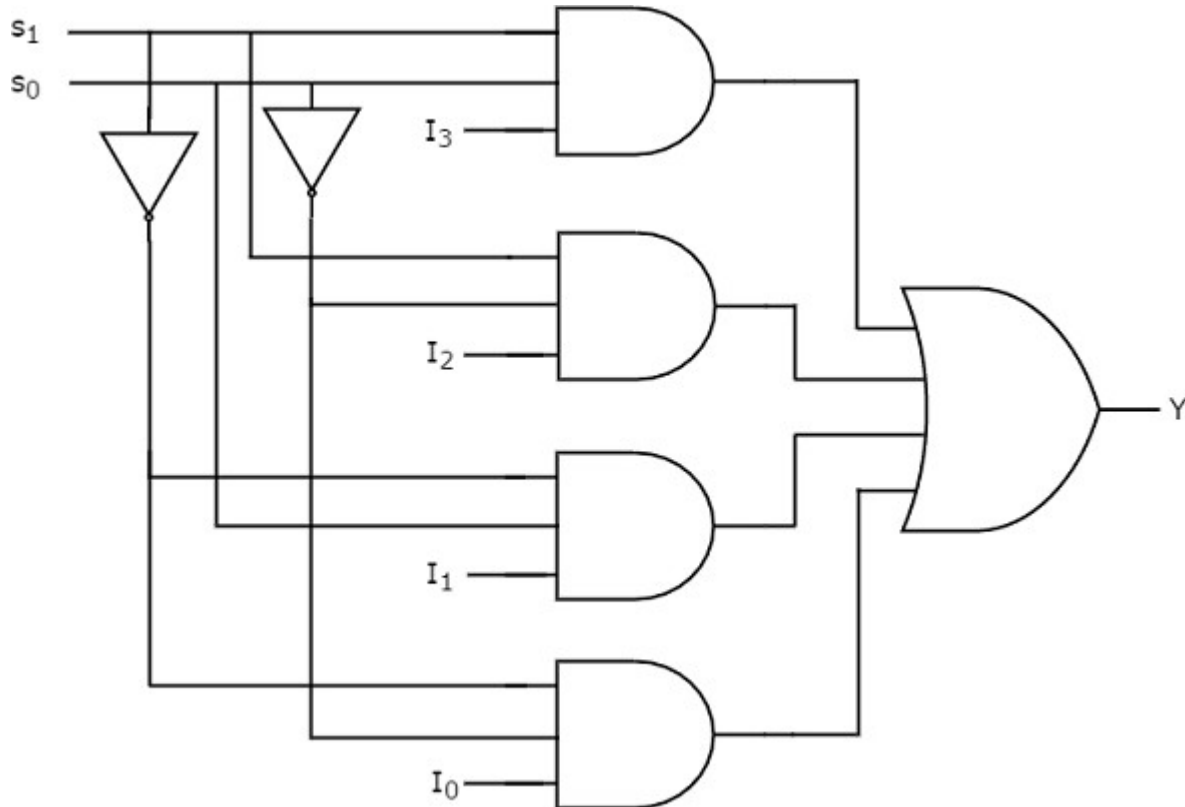

One of these 4 inputs will be connected to the output based on the combination of inputs present at these two selection lines. **Truth table** of 4x1 Multiplexer is shown below.

Sellectiion Liines		Outp ut
S_1	S_0	Y
0	0	II_0
0	1	II_1
1	0	II_2
1	1	II_3

From Truth table, we can directly write the **Boolean function** for output, Y as

$$Y = S_1'S_0'I_0 + S_1'S_0I_1 + S_1S_0'I_2 + S_1S_0I_3$$

We can implement this Boolean function using Inverters, AND gates & OR gate. The **circuit diagram** of 4x1 multiplexer is shown in the following figure.

We can easily understand the operation of the above circuit. Similarly, you can implement 8x1 Multiplexer and 16x1 multiplexer by following the same procedure.

Implementation of Higher-order Multiplexers.

Now, let us implement the following two higher-order Multiplexers using lower-order Multiplexers.

- 8x1 Multiplexer
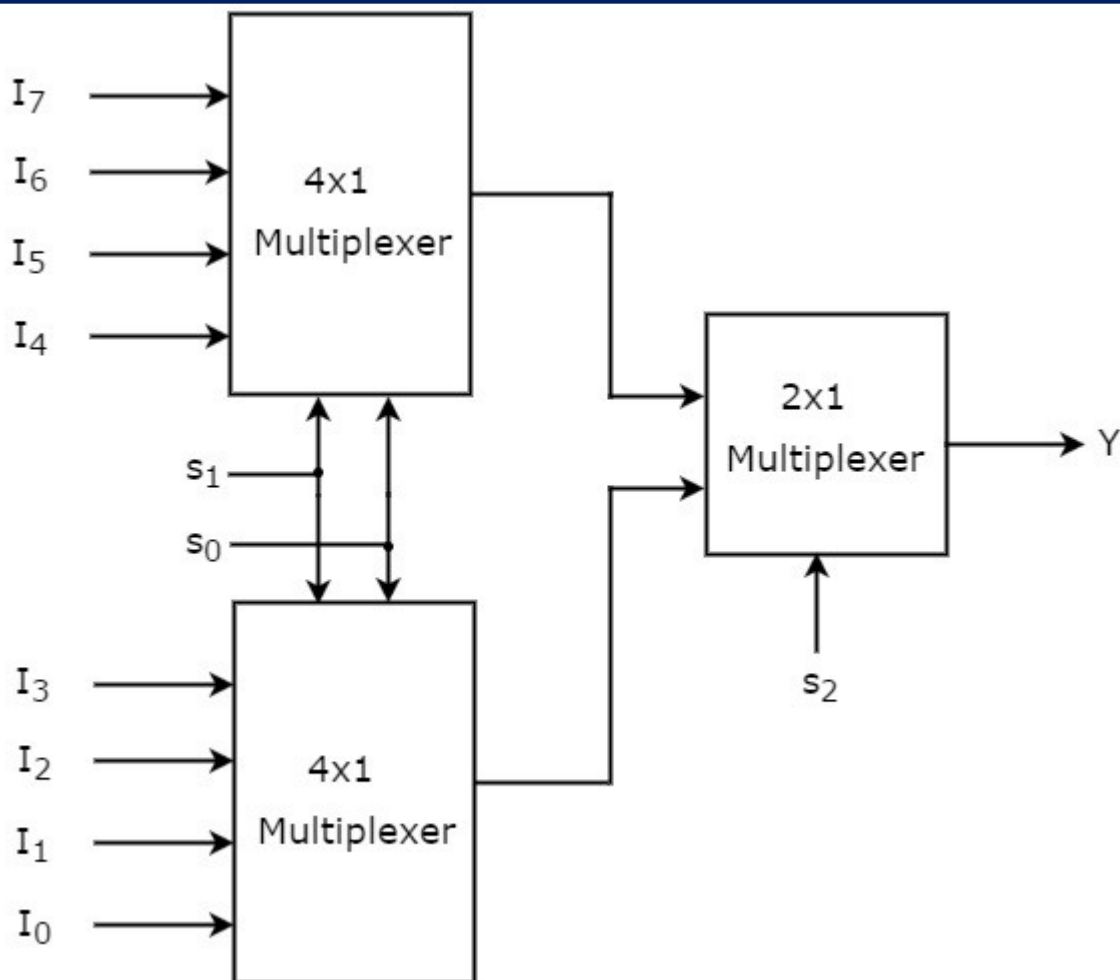- 16x1 Multiplexer

8x1 Multiplexer

In this section, let us implement 8x1 Multiplexer using 4x1 Multiplexers and 2x1 Multiplexer. We know that 4x1 Multiplexer has 4 data inputs, 2 selection lines and one output. Whereas, 8x1 Multiplexer has 8 data inputs, 3 selection lines and one output.

So, we require two **4x1 Multiplexers** in first stage in order to get the 8 data inputs. Since, each 4x1 Multiplexer produces one output, we require a **2x1 Multiplexer** in second stage by considering the outputs of first stage as inputs and to produce the final output.

Let the 8x1 Multiplexer has eight data inputs I_7 to I_0, three selection lines s_2, s_1 & s0 and one output Y. The **Truth table** of 8x1 Multiplexer is shown below.

Sellectiion IInputs			Output
S_2	S_1	S_0	Y
0	0	0	II_0
0	0	1	II_1
0	1	0	II_2
0	1	1	II_3
1	0	0	II_4
1	0	1	II_5
1	1	0	II_6
1	1	1	II_7

We can implement 8x1 Multiplexer using lower order Multiplexers easily by considering the above Truth table. The **block diagram** of 8x1 Multiplexer is shown in the following figure.

The same **selection lines, s_1 & s_0** are applied to both 4x1 Multiplexers. The data inputs of upper 4x1 Multiplexer are I_7 to I_4 and the data inputs of lower 4x1 Multiplexer are I_3 to I_0. Therefore, each 4x1 Multiplexer produces an output based on the values of selection lines, s_1 & s_0.

The outputs of first stage 4x1 Multiplexers are applied as inputs of 2x1 Multiplexer that is present in second stage. The other **selection line, s_2** is applied to 2x1 Multiplexer.

- If s_2 is zero, then the output of 2x1 Multiplexer will be one of the 4 inputs I_3 to I_0 based on the values of selection lines s_1 & s_0.

- If s_2 is one, then the output of 2x1 Multiplexer will be one of the 4 inputs I_7 to I_4 based on the values of selection lines s_1 & s_0.

Therefore, the overall combination of two 4x1 Multiplexers and one 2x1 Multiplexer performs as one 8x1 Multiplexer.
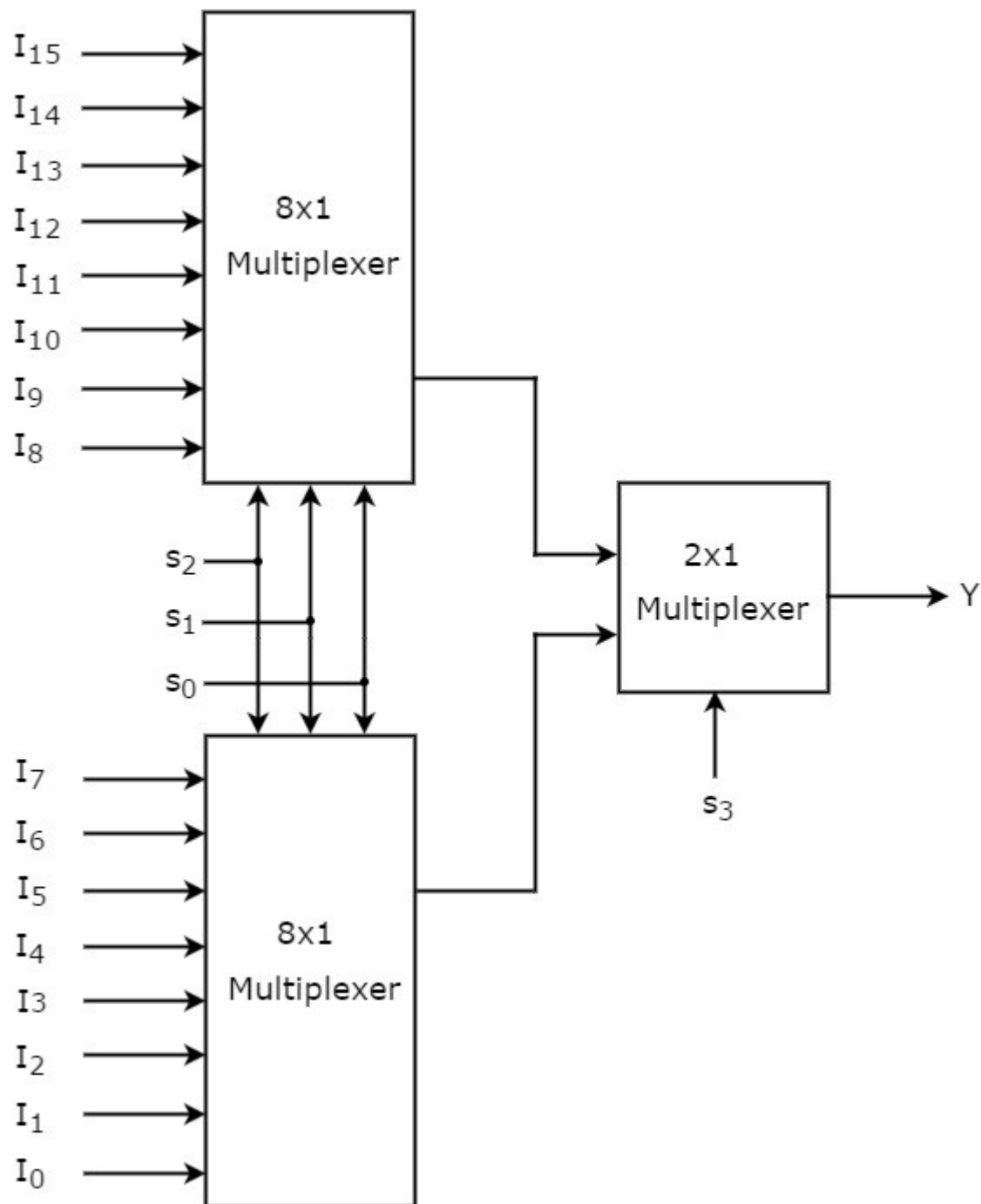
16x1 Multiplexer

In this section, let us implement 16x1 Multiplexer using 8x1 Multiplexers and 2x1 Multiplexer. We know that 8x1 Multiplexer has 8 data inputs, 3 selection lines and one output. Whereas, 16x1 Multiplexer has 16 data inputs, 4 selection lines and one output.

So, we require two **8x1 Multiplexers** in first stage in order to get the 16 data inputs. Since, each 8x1 Multiplexer produces one output, we require a 2x1 Multiplexer in second stage by considering the outputs of first stage as inputs and to produce the final output.

Let the 16x1 Multiplexer has sixteen data inputs I_{15} to I_0, four selection lines s_3 to s_0 and one output Y. The **Truth table** of 16x1 Multiplexer is shown below.

Sellectiion IInputs				Output
S_3	S_2	S_1	S_0	Y
0	0	0	0	II_0
0	0	0	1	II_1
0	0	1	0	II_2
0	0	1	1	II_3
0	1	0	0	II_4
0	1	0	1	II_5
0	1	1	0	II_6
0	1	1	1	II_7
1	0	0	0	II_8
1	0	0	1	II_9
1	0	1	0	II_{10}
1	0	1	1	II_{11}
1	1	0	0	II_{12}
1	1	0	1	II_{13}
1	1	1	0	II_{14}
1	1	1	1	II_{15}

We can implement 16x1 Multiplexer using lower order Multiplexers easily by considering the above Truth table. The **block diagram** of 16x1 Multiplexer is shown in the following figure.

The **same selection lines, s_2, s_1 & s_0** are applied to both 8x1 Multiplexers. The data inputs of upper 8x1 Multiplexer are I_{15} to I_8 and the data inputs of lower 8x1 Multiplexer are I_7 to I_0. Therefore, each 8x1 Multiplexer produces an output based on the values of selection lines, s_2, s_1 & s_0.

The outputs of first stage 8x1 Multiplexers are applied as inputs of 2x1 Multiplexer that is present in second stage. The other **selection line, s_3** is applied to 2x1 Multiplexer.

- If s_3 is zero, then the output of 2x1 Multiplexer will be one of the 8 inputs Is$_7$ to I_0 based on the values of selection lines s_2, s_1 & s_0.

- If s_3 is one, then the output of 2x1 Multiplexer will be one of the 8 inputs I_{15} to I_8 based on the values of selection lines s_2, s_1 & s_0.

Therefore, the overall combination of two 8x1 Multiplexers and one 2x1 Multiplexer performs as one 16x1 Multiplexer.
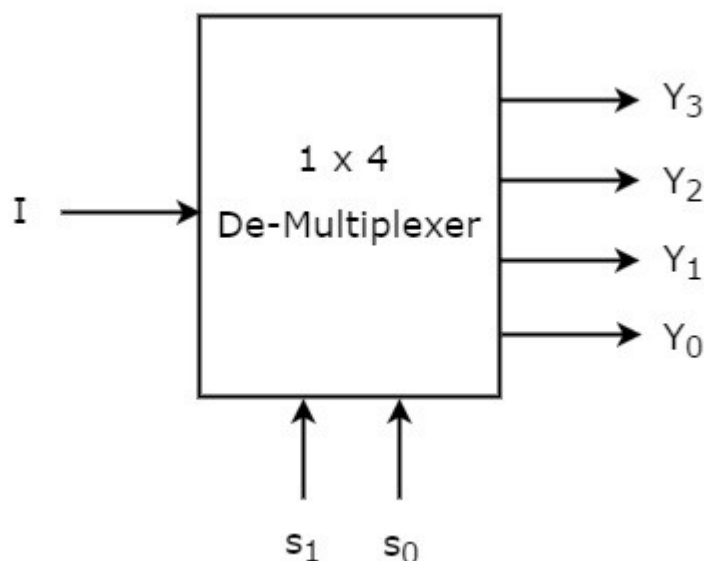
De-Multiplexer

is a combinational circuit that performs the reverse operation of Multiplexer. It has single input, 'n' selection lines and maximum of 2^n outputs. The input will be connected to one of these outputs based on the values of selection lines.

Since there are 'n' selection lines, there will be 2^n possible combinations of zeros and ones. So, each combination can select only one output. De-Multiplexer is also called as **De-Mux**.

1x4 De-Multiplexer

1x4 De-Multiplexer has one input I, two selection lines, s_1 & s_0 and four outputs Y_3, Y_2, Y_1 & Y_0. The **block diagram** of 1x4 De-Multiplexer is shown in the following figure.

The single input 'I' will be connected to one of the four outputs, Y_3 to Y_0 based on the values of selection lines s_1 & s0. The **Truth table** of 1x4 De-Multiplexer is shown below.

Sellectiion IInputs		Outputs			
S_1	S_0	Y_3	Y_2	Y_1	Y_0
0	0	0	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	0	0	0

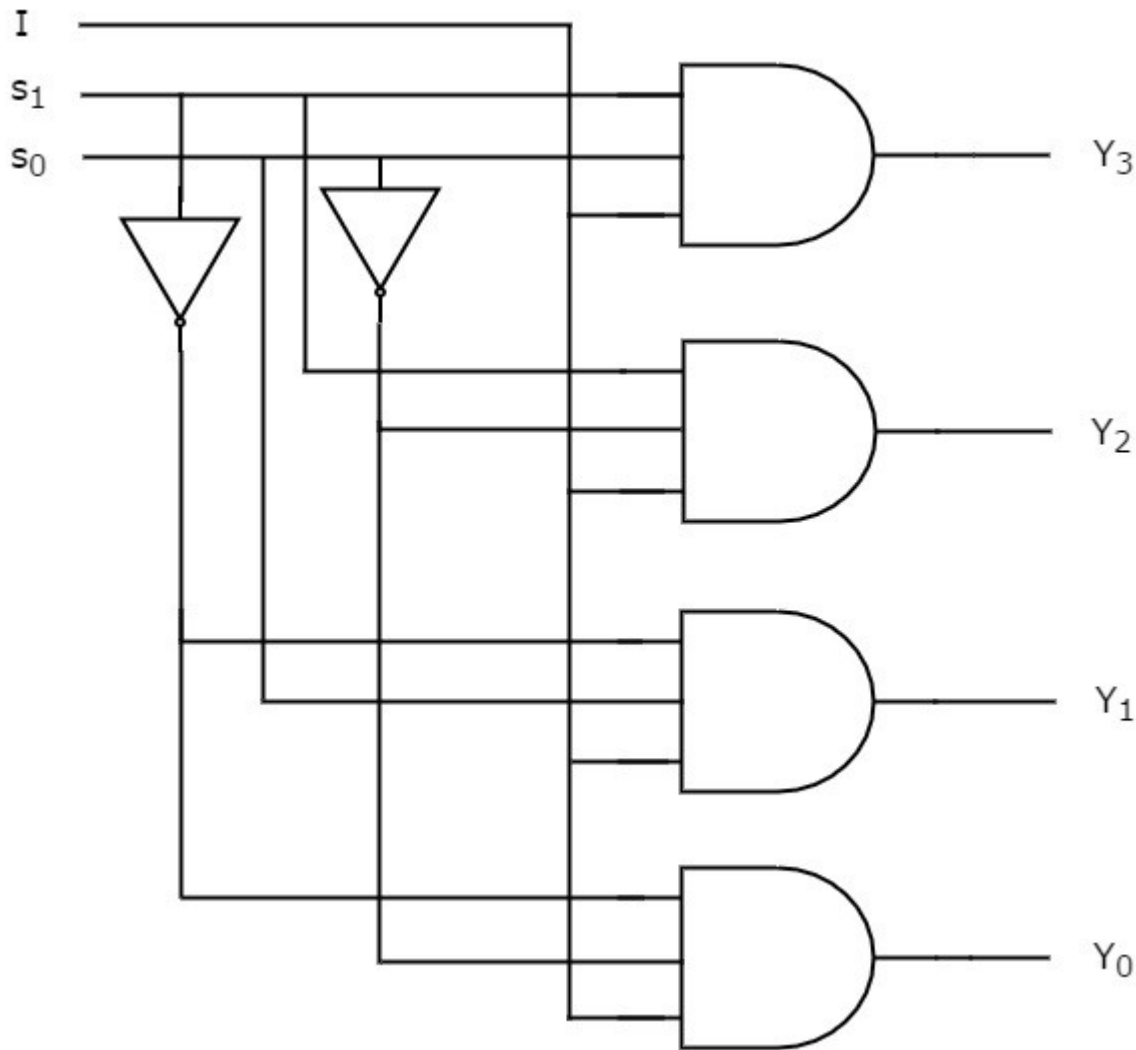From the above Truth table, we can directly write the **Boolean functions** for each output as

$$Y_3 = s_1 s_0 I \quad Y3=s1s0I$$

$$Y_2 = s_1 s_0{}' I \quad Y2=s1s0'I$$

$$Y_1 = s_1{}' s_0 I \quad Y1=s1's0I$$

$$Y_0 = s_1{}' s_0{}' I \quad Y0=s1's0'I$$

We can implement these Boolean functions using Inverters & 3-input AND gates. The **circuit diagram** of 1x4 De-Multiplexer is shown in the following figure.

We can easily understand the operation of the above circuit. Similarly, you can implement 1x8 De-Multiplexer and 1x16 De-Multiplexer by following the same procedure.

Implementation of Higher-order De-Multiplexers

Now, let us implement the following two higher-order De-Multiplexers using lower-order De-Multiplexers.

- 1x8 De-Multiplexer
- 1x16 De-Multiplexer

1x8 De-Multiplexer

In this section, let us implement 1x8 De-Multiplexer using 1x4 De-Multiplexers and 1x2 De-Multiplexer. We know that 1x4 De-Multiplexer has single input, two selection lines and four outputs. Whereas, 1x8 De-Multiplexer has single input, three selection lines and eight outputs.

So, we require two **1x4 De-Multiplexers** in second stage in order to get the final eight outputs. Since, the number of inputs in second stage is two, we require **1x2 DeMultiplexer** in first stage so

that the outputs of first stage will be the inputs of second stage. Input of this 1x2 De-Multiplexer will be the overall input of 1x8 De-Multiplexer.

Let the 1x8 De-Multiplexer has one input I, three selection lines s_2, s_1 & s_0 and outputs Y_7 to Y_0. The **Truth table** of 1x8 De-Multiplexer is shown below.

Sellectiion IInputs			Outputs							
S_2	S_1	S_0	Y_7	Y_6	Y_5	Y_4	Y_3	Y_2	Y_1	Y_0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	I
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	I	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	I	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	I	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	I	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	0	I	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	I	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

We can implement 1x8 De-Multiplexer using lower order Multiplexers easily by considering the above Truth table. The **block diagram** of 1x8 De-Multiplexer is shown in the following figure.
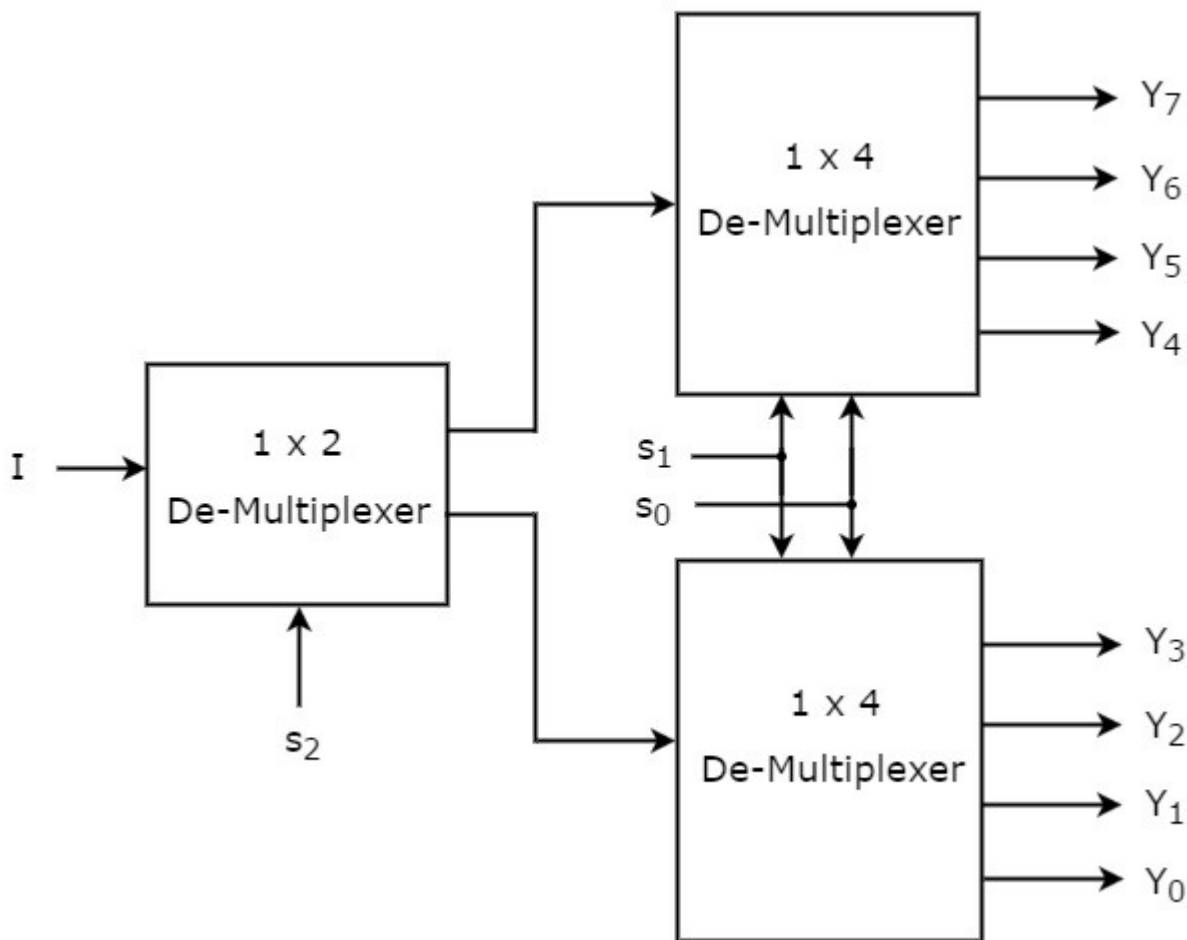
The common **selection lines, s_1 & s_0** are applied to both 1x4 De-Multiplexers. The outputs of upper 1x4 De-Multiplexer are Y_7 to Y_4 and the outputs of lower 1x4 De-Multiplexer are Y_3 to Y_0.
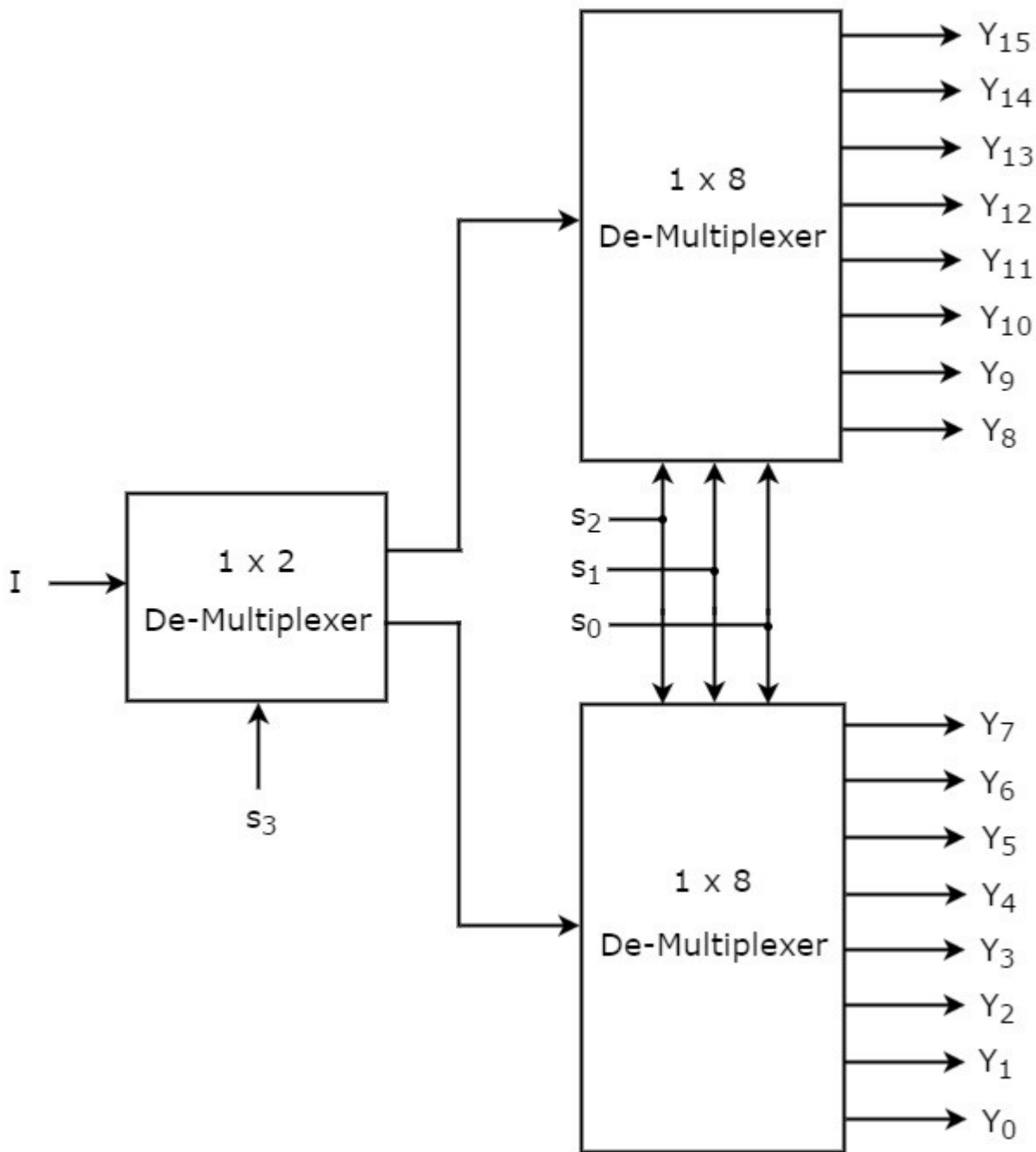
The other **selection line, s_2** is applied to 1x2 De-Multiplexer. If s_2 is zero, then one of the four outputs of lower 1x4 De-Multiplexer will be equal to input, I based on the values of selection lines s_1 & s_0. Similarly, if s_2 is one, then one of the four outputs of upper 1x4 DeMultiplexer will be equal to input, I based on the values of selection lines s_1 & s_0.

1x16 De-Multiplexer

In this section, let us implement 1x16 De-Multiplexer using 1x8 De-Multiplexers and 1x2 De-Multiplexer. We know that 1x8 De-Multiplexer has single input, three selection lines and eight outputs. Whereas, 1x16 De-Multiplexer has single input, four selection lines and sixteen outputs.

So, we require two **1x8 De-Multiplexers** in second stage in order to get the final sixteen outputs. Since, the number of inputs in second stage is two, we require **1x2 DeMultiplexer** in first stage so that the outputs of first stage will be the inputs of second stage. Input of this 1x2 De-Multiplexer will be the overall input of 1x16 De-Multiplexer.

Let the 1x16 De-Multiplexer has one input I, four selection lines s_3, s_2, s_1 & s_0 and outputs Y_{15} to Y_0. The **block diagram** of 1x16 De-Multiplexer using lower order Multiplexers is shown in the following figure.

The common **selection lines s_2, s_1 & s_0** are applied to both 1x8 De-Multiplexers. The outputs of upper 1x8 De-Multiplexer are Y_{15} to Y_8 and the outputs of lower 1x8 DeMultiplexer are Y_7 to Y_0.

The other **selection line, s_3** is applied to 1x2 De-Multiplexer. If s_3 is zero, then one of the eight outputs of lower 1x8 De-Multiplexer will be equal to input, I based on the values of selection lines s_2, s_1 & s_0. Similarly, if s3 is one, then one of the 8 outputs of upper 1x8 De-Multiplexer will be equal to input, I based on the values of selection lines s_2, s_1 & s_0.