COMBINATIONAL GATE SPECIFICATION

A cell is specified in the following format:

```
GATE <cell-name> <cell-area> <cell-logic-function>
<pin-info>
.
<pin-info>
```

<cell-name> is the name of the cell in the cell library. The resulting net-list will be in terms of these names.

<cell-area> defines the relative area cost of the cell. It is a floating point number, and may be in any unit system convenient for the user.

<cell-logic-function> is an equation written in conventional algebraic notation using the operators '+' for OR, '*' or nothing (space) for AND, '!' or ''' (post-fixed) for NOT, and parentheses for grouping. The names of the literals in the equation define the input pin names for the cell; the name on the left hand side of the equation defines the output of the cell. The equation terminates with a semicolon.

Only single-output cells may be specified. The '!' operator may only be used on the input literals, or on the final output; it is not allowed internal to an expression. (This constraint may disappear in the future).

Also, the actual factored form is significant when a logic function has multiple factored forms. In principle, all factored forms could be derived for a given logic function automatically; this is not yet implemented, so each must be specified separately. Note that factored forms which differ by a permutation of the input variables (or by De Morgan's law) are not considered unique.

Each <pin-info> has the format:

```
PIN <pin-name> <phase> <input-load> <max-load>
  <rise-block-delay> <rise-fanout-delay>
  <fall-block-delay> <fall-fanout-delay>
```

<pin-name> must be the name of a pin in the <cell-logic-function>, or it can be * to specify identical timing information for all pins.

<pin-name> is INV, NONINV, or UNKNOWN corresponding to whether the logic function is negative-unate, positive-unate, or binate in this input variable respectively. This is required for the separate rise-fall delay model. (In principle, this information is easily derived from the logic function; this field may disappear in the
future).

<input-load> gives the input load of this pin. It is a floating point value, in arbitrary units convenient for the user.

<max-load> specifies a loading constraint for the cell. It is a floating point value specifying the maximum load allowed on the output.

<rise-block-delay> and <rise-fanout-delay> are the rise-time parameters for the timing model. They are floating point values, typically in the units nanoseconds, and nanoseconds/unit-load respectively.

<fall-block-delay> and <fall-fanout-delay> are the fall-time parameters for the timing model. They are floating point values, typically in the units nanoseconds, and nanoseconds/unit-load respectively.

All of the delay information is specified on a pin-by-pin basis. The meaning is the delay information for the most critical pin is used to determine the delay for the gate.

LATCH SPECIFICATION

Latches are specified as follows:

LATCH <cell-name> <cell-area> <cell-logic-function>
<pin-info>
  .
  ..
<pin-info>
<latch-spec>
  [<clock-delay-info>]
  [<constraint-info>]

<cell-name>, <cell-area>, <cell-logic-function> and <pin-info> are the same as in the combinational case.
<latch-spec> is required but <constraint-info> is optional.
<clock-delay-info> is necessary for synchronous latches and flip-flops.

<latch-spec> has the following format:

SEQ <latch-input> <latch-output> <latch-type>

<latch-input> must be the name of the output of the cell. Thus, <latch-input> is described as a function of <latch-output> in the <cell-logic-function>. A special name "ANY" can be used for <latch-output> to specify to the mapper that <latch-output> needs not be a signal name in the <cell-logic-function>. This is useful for describing D-type flip-flops and latches. <latch-type> can be ACTIVE_HIGH or ACTIVE_LOW for transparent latches; RISING_EDGE or FALLING_EDGE for edge-triggered flip-flops; or ASYNCH for asynchronous latches.

<clock-delay-info> gives the propagation delay from the clock pin to the output. Its format is as follows:

CONTROL <clock-pin-name> <input-load> <max-load>
  <rise-block-delay> <rise-fanout-delay>
  <fall-block-delay> <fall-fanout-delay>
<constraint-info> gives the setup and hold time constraints with respect to the clock signal. The format is:

CONSTRAINT <pin-name> <setup-time> <hold-time>

If not specified, the values of 0.0 are assumed.

Example 0 of latch specification

```
LATCH "d-latch" 80 Q=D;
PIN D NONINV 1 999 1 .2 1 .2
SEQ Q ANY ACTIVE_HIGH
CONTROL CLK 1 999 1 .2 1 .2
CONSTRAINT D 0.2 0.2
```

Example 1 of <cell-logic-function>

```
O = !((I1 * I2);
```

is legal and defines a NAND gate with 1 inverted input; it could also be specified as

```
O = I1 + !I2;
```

There is no advantage or disadvantage to either representation; only 1 need be given.

Example 2 of <cell-logic-function>

```
O = !((I1 * I2) + !(I3 + I4));
```

is incorrectly specified. It must be re-written as either:

```
O = !((I1 * I2) + (!I3 * !I4));
```

or

```
O = (!I1 + !I2)*(I3 + I4);
```

Again, there is no advantage or disadvantage to either representation as they differ only by De Morgan's law. Only 1 need be given. Note that there are no other factored forms for this equation.

Example 3 of <cell-logic-function>

```
O = a*b + a*c + b*c;
```

is one specification of a majority gate. Another possible specification (which IS considered different) is:
\[ 0 = a(b + c) + bc; \]

Any permutation of the input variables does not provide a new specification; hence, these are the only two useful representations for a majority gate logic function. Both should be provided to the technology mapping program, until further notice.