

1. LECTURE: COMBINATONAL CIRCUITS BASIC CONCEPTS

- 1. General introduction to the course
- 2. Combinational circuits: basic concepts
- 3. Boolean algebra and logic functions: a review

AIMS AND SCOPE OF THE COURSE

This course will give an overview of the basic concepts and applications of digital technics, from Boolean algebra to microprocessors.

The lectures will cover more advanced materials and subjects than those contained the introductory three semester course of the B.Sc. programme. It will focus more on the general concepts of the subject and less on the practical details.

In this respect it is supposed that the students have already a good foundation and a certain level of hands-on experience in digital technics and electronics.

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TOPICS IN FOCUS

Basic concepts of digital technics

Programmable Logic Devices (PLDs) and Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FGPAs)

Digital (combinational) design and synthesis

Synchronous sequential circuits analysis and synthesis

Arithmetic circuits, adders and multipliers

MOS, CMOS and VLSI digital circuits.

D/A and A/D converters.



DIGITAL NETWORKS: CLASSIFICATION

Digital/logic circuits/networks can be classified into two groups:

1. Combinational logic networks

Results of an operation depend *only* on the present inputs to the operation

Uses: perform arithmetic, control data movement, compare values for decision making

2. Sequential logic networks

Results depend on both the inputs to the operation *and* the result of the previous operation Uses: counter, controllers, etc.





















FULL ADDER: BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS

Sum

$$S_i = \overline{A_i}\overline{B_i}C_{i-1} + \overline{A_i}\overline{B_i}\overline{C_{i-1}} + \overline{A_i}\overline{B_i}\overline{C_{i-1}} + \overline{A_i}\overline{B_i}C_{i-1}$$

Carry

$$C_{i} = \overline{A_{i}}B_{i}C_{i-1} + \overline{A_{i}}B_{i}C_{i-1} + \overline{A_{i}}B_{i}\overline{C}_{i-1} + \overline{A_{i}}B_{i}C_{i-1}$$

$$= A_iB_i + A_iC_{i-1} + B_iC_{i-1} = A_iB_i + (A_i + B_i)C_{i-1}$$

$$= A_iB_i + (A_i \oplus B_i)C_{i-1}$$

The sum can be expressed as a three-variable exclusive OR function $(S_i = A_i \oplus B_i \oplus C_i)$.

The carry is the three-variable majority function and can also be expressed in various other algebraic forms.

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FULL ADDER: GENERAL RELEVANCE

The full adder is the fundamental building block in many arithmetic circuits, such as adders and multipliers.

Since these circuits strongly affect the overall performance in current digital ICs, their speed optimization is crucial in high performance applications, and typical applications require a tradeoff between power consumption and speed.

In addition, as arithmetic circuits significantly contribute to the overall power budget, their power consumption reduction becomes the main objective to pursue in lowpower ICs used in portable electronic equipment.





BOOLEAN ALGEBRA: ITS ROOTS

The Boolean algebra is a brand of mathematics that was first developed systematically, because of its applications to logic, by the English mathematician *George Boole*, around 1850.

A modern engineering application is to switching, digital and computer circuit design.

Contributions by *Augustus De Morgan* (contemporary of Boole) and by *Claude Shannon* (1930'ies and 1940'ies) are also important.

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BOOLEAN ALGEBRA AND DIGITAL CIRCUITS

The connection between Boolean algebra and switching circuits has been established by Claude Shannon in the 1930's.

Boolean algebra is the main analytical tool for the analysis and synthesis of logic circuits and networks.

Boolean logic: Rules for handling Boolean constants and variables that can take on 2 values

 True/false; on/off; closed/open; yes/no; 1/0; high/low (voltage)

-Three fundamental operations: AND, OR and NOT

BOOLEAN ALGEBRA: RELEVANCE

In the 1930s, while studying switching circuits, Claude Shannon observed that one could also apply the rules of Boole's algebra in this setting, and he introduced switching algebra as a way to analyze and design circuits by algebraic means in terms of logic gate.

Shannon already had at his disposal the abstract mathematical apparatus, thus he cast his switching algebra as the two-element Boolean algebra.

In circuit engineering settings today, there is little need to consider other Boolean algebras, thus "switching algebra" and "Boolean algebra" are often used interchangeably.

BOOLEAN ALGEBRA: RELEVANCE

Efficient implementation of Boolean functions is a fundamental problem in the design of combinational circuits.

Modern electronic design automation tools for VLSI circuits often relay on an efficient representation of Boolean functions like (reduced ordered) binary decision diagrams (BDD) for logic synthesis and formal verification.



















MANIPULATE EXPRESSIONS BOOLEAN MINIMIZATION

Need a way to manipulate expressions. Rules of 'adding', 'multiplying' plus associative, distributive laws etc. The rules are very similar to basic algebra.

One can transform one Boolean expression into an equivalent expression by applying the postulates the theorems of Boolean algebra. This is important if one wants to convert a given expression to a *canonical form (a standardized form) or if one wants to minimize the* number of literals (asserted or negated variables) or terms in an expression. Minimizing terms and expressions can be important because electrical circuits often consist of individual components that implement each term or literal for a given expression. Minimizing the expression allows the designer to use fewer electrical components and, therefore, can reduce the cost of the system.







DE MORGAN'S THEOREM ON THE K-MAP $\overrightarrow{A+B} = \overrightarrow{A} \cdot \overrightarrow{B}$ $\overrightarrow{A+B} = \overrightarrow{A} \cdot \overrightarrow{B}$ $\overrightarrow{A+B} = \overrightarrow{A} + \overrightarrow{A$

DE MORGAN'S THEOREM

De Morgan's formulation of his theorem influenced the algebraization of logic undertaken by Boole, which cemented De Morgan's claim to the find, although a similar observation was made by Aristotle and was known to Greek and Medieval logicians, e.g. to William Ockham (1325), the great medieval scholastic philosopher.

In electrical engineering context the negation operator can be written as an overline (bar) above the terms to be negated.

In the originate the mnemonic

"break the line, change the operation"

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BOOLEAN THEOREMS: DUALITY

The theorems above appear in pairs. Each pair form a *dual*. An important principle in the Boolean algebra system is that of *duality*. Any valid expression you can create using the postulates and theorems of Boolean algebra remains valid if you interchange the operators and constants appearing in the expression. Specifically, if one exchanges the • (AND) and + (OR) operators and swaps the 0 and 1 values in an expression, one will wind up with an expression that obeys all the rules of Boolean algebra. *This does not mean the dual expression computes the same values*, it only means that both expressions are legal in the Boolean algebra system. Therefore, this is an easy way to generate a second theorem for any fact one proves in the Boolean algebra system.













CLASSIFICATION OF BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS OF TWO VARIABLES

Name of the function	f(A,B)
Logical constants	0, 1
Functions of one variable	A, Ā, B, B
AND, OR, NAND, NOR	A•B, A+B, A•B, A+B
XOR (A⊕B), XNOR (A⊙B)	A B+A B, A B+A B
INHIBITION	$A \supset B, B \supset A$
IMPLICATION	$A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow A$



THE 16 POSSIBLE BOLEAN FUNCTINS OF TWO VARIABLES			
F	unction #	Description	
	0	Zero or Clear. Always returns zero regardless of A and B input values.	
	1	Logical NOR (NOT (A OR B)) = (A+B)'	
	2	Inhibition = BA' (B, not A). Also equivalent to $B>A$ or $A < B$.	
	3	NOT A. Ignores B and returns A'.	
	4	Inhibition = AB' (A, not B). Also equivalent to $A>B$ or $B.$	
	5	NOT B. Returns B' and ignores A	
	6	Exclusive-or (XOR) = $A \oplus B$. Also equivalent to $A \neq B$.	
	7	Logical NAND (NOT (A AND B)) = (A• B)'	
	8	Logical AND = A• B. Returns A AND B.	
	9	Equivalence = $(A = B)$. Also known as exclusive-NOR (not exclusive-or).	
	10	Copy B. Returns the value of B and ignores A's value.	
	11	Implication, B implies $A = A + B'$. (if B then A). Also equivalent to $B \ge A$.	
	12	Copy A. Returns the value of A and ignores B's value.	
	13	Implication, A implies $B = B + A'$ (if A then B). Also equivalent to $A \ge B$.	
	14	Logical OR = A+B. Returns A OR B.	
	15	One or Set. Always returns one regardless of A and B input values.	49

BOOLEAN FUNCTIOS AND OPERATIONS OF TWO VARIABLES: A SUMMARY

From the 16 possible two-variable Boolean functions

6 can be considered as trivial (2 of them are constants, 4 of them are in fact one-variable functions)

From the 10 non-trivial functions 2 (AND and OR) and their complementary (AND-NOT and OR-NOT) as well as the EXCLUSIVE-OR (antivalency) and the EXCLUSIVE-NOR (equivalency) are of significance for the practice.





DEFINITION OF A LOGIC FUNCTIONS BY ITS 1 VALUES

List the indices of those variable combinations to which a 1 value of the function belongs to.

This kind of definition also needs the agreement on the weights of the variables.

This definition is known as (extended) SOP (sum-of-products) or disjunctive canonical form.

This definition is also unique similarly to the characteristic number.







THE CONJUNCTIVE CANONICAL FORM (EXTENDED) PRODUCT-OF-SUMS There exist an other canonical form, the conjunctive canonical form, or the (extended) product-of-sums (POS) form. This is also unique.

The two canonical forms are equivalent and can be transformed into each other using the De Morgan theorem.

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THE DISJUNCTIVE CANONICAL FORM (EXPANDED) SUM-OF-PRODUCTS

The minterms of all n-variable functions are n-literal products

Any logic function of n-variables can be defines by a sum of n-variable minterms (sum of products, SOP)

This is unambiguous only if the weighing of the independent variables is given.

Since logic summing is disjunction, this form is also known as disjunctive canonical form of a logic function.

The corresponding SOP is termed as expanded sum-ofproducts form

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EXAMPLE: THE TWO CANONICAL FORMS OF XOR

The (trivial) extended SOP form (disjunctive canonical form) of the XOR function (F(A,B) = $A \oplus B$ is

$F = \overline{A}B + A\overline{B} = \Sigma^2 (1,2)$

The extended POS form (conjunctive canonical form) of the same function is

 $F = (A + B) (A + B) = \Pi^2 (0,3)$

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REVISION QUESTIONS

1. Describe and discuss the fundamental properties of combinational logic circuits.

2. State and interpret DeMorgan's theorem.

3. State and interpret Shannon's extension of DeMorgan's theorem.

4. Interpret and explain the following concepts: (standard/extended) sum-of-product form, also known as (minterm/disjunctive) canonical form (standard/extended) product-of-sum form, also known as (maxterm/conjunctive) canonical form.
Prime implicants: essential and non-essential









