

Department of Electrical Engineering  
and Computer Science



# **EEE 3342: Digital Systems**

## **Chapter 2: Boolean Algebra**

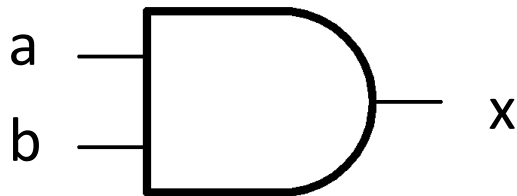
*Instructor:* Suboh A. Suboh

# Boolean Algebra

- It is algebra on binary numbers
- Invented by mathematician and philosopher George Boole in 1847
- Claude Shannon first applied Boolean algebra to circuits in 1939
- The variables (like  $X$ ,  $Y$ ) can be either 0 or 1

# Operation: AND

- $x = a \text{ AND } b$   
x is equal to 1 if  $a = 1$  and  $b = 1$   
X is equal to 0 otherwise
- Also written as:  $x = a.b$  or  $x=ab$



This is an AND gate

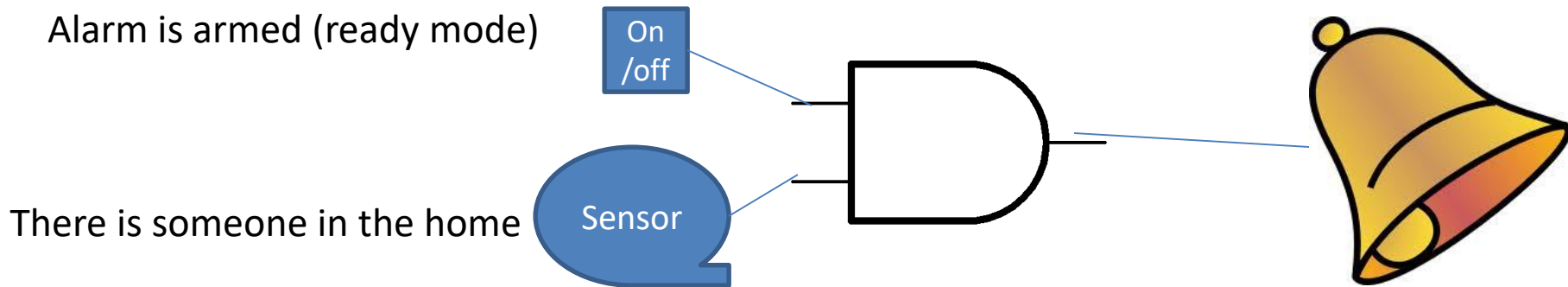
Below is the truth table for  $x = a.b$

The truth table lists all the possible input and the corresponding output

a	b	x
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

# Example of Using AND Gate

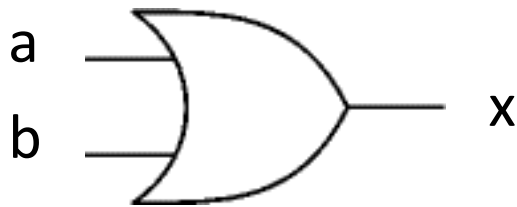
- Home alarm system



On /off	Sensor	Bell	Description
0	0	0	Alarm is off, no one in the home → Bell silent
0	1	0	Alarm is off, intruder in the home → Bell silent
1	0	0	Alarm is on, no one in the home → Bell silent
1	1	1	Alarm is on, intruder in the home → Bell rings

# Basic Operation: OR

- $x = a \text{ OR } b$   
x is equal to 1 if  $a = 1$  or  $b = 1$   
X is equal to 0 otherwise
- Also written as:  $x = a + b$



This is an OR gate

Below is the truth table for  
 $x = a + b$

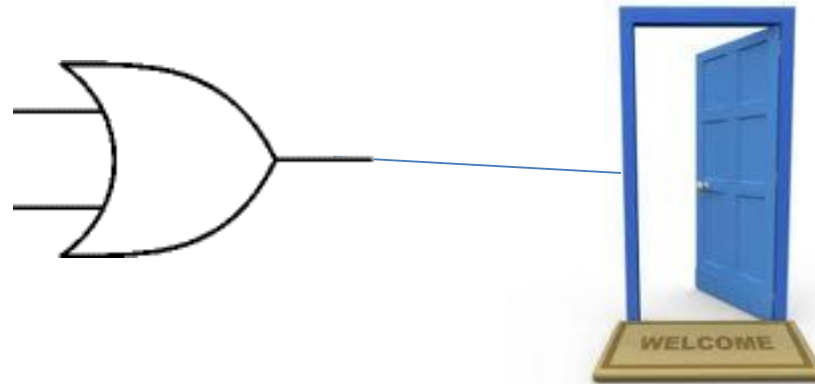
a	b	x
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1


# Example of Using OR Gate

- Building door

Apartment 1 opens door

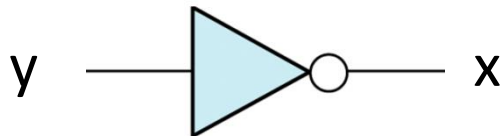
Apartment 2 opens door



#1	#2		
0	0	0	Apt1 doesn't open door, Apt 2 doesn't open door → Door is closed
0	1	1	Apt 1 doesn't open door, Apt 2 opens door → Door is open
1	0	1	Apt 1 opens door, Apt 2 doesn't open door → Door is open
1	1	1	Apt 1 and Apt 2 open door → Door is open

# Basic Operation: Inverse

- Also called complement
- $x = y'$
- Also written as  $x = \overline{y}$ 
  - x is equal to 1 if  $y = 0$
  - x is equal to 0 if  $y = 1$
- x is the complement or inverse of y



This is an inverter

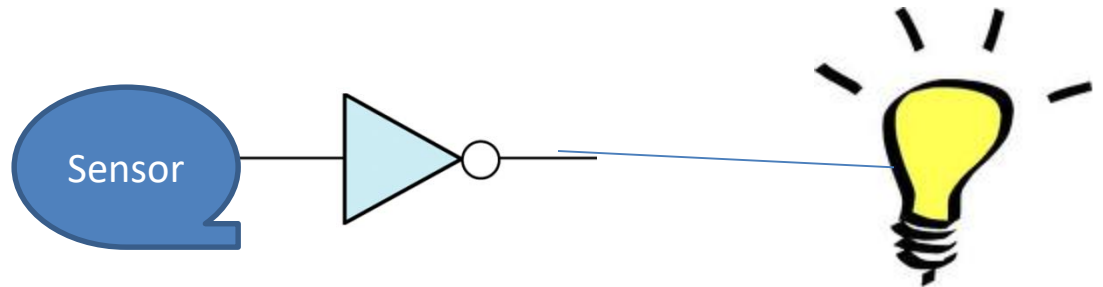
Below is the truth table for  
 $x = y'$

y	x
0	1
1	0

# Example of Using an Inverter

- Automatic light switch

Light sensor  
Gives 0 when it's dark  
Gives 1 when there's light



y	x	
0	1	It's dark → The light goes on
1	0	

It's dark → The light goes on

There is light (it's daytime) → The light is off



# Let's Recap

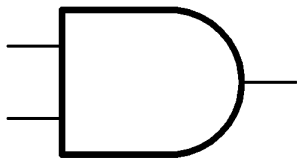
## AND Operation

$$0 \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$0 \cdot 1 = 0$$

$$1 \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$1 \cdot 1 = 1$$



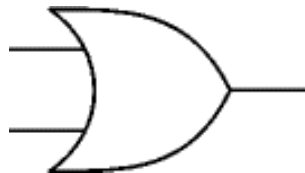
## OR Operation

$$0 + 0 = 0$$

$$0 + 1 = 1$$

$$1 + 0 = 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 1$$



## Inverse Operation

$$0' = 1$$

$$1' = 0$$

*Pronounced:*

(zero not equals 1)

(inverse of zero is 1)

(complement of zero is 1)

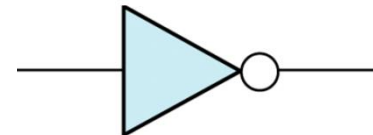
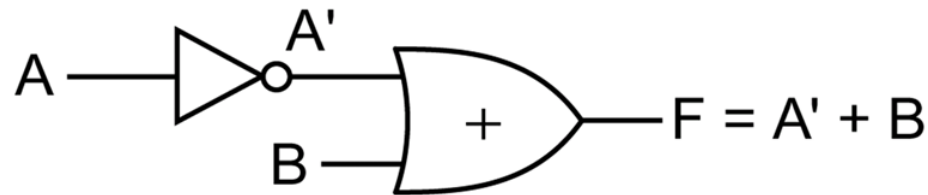


Diagram figures

# Boolean Expression

- It is made of Boolean operations (and, or, inverse)
- $F = A' + B$



- Write the truth table for the function  $F$   
(All possible inputs and corresponding outputs)

Remember:  
2 inputs ( $n=2$  bits)

$2^n$  possible input  
combination

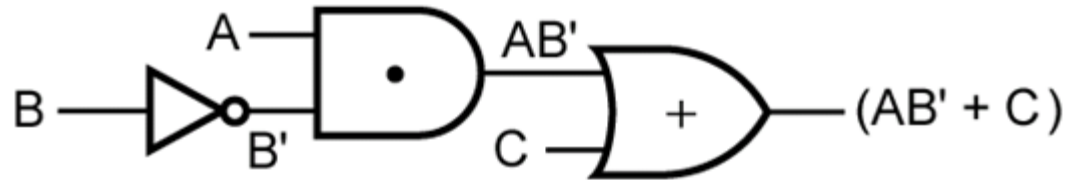
From 0 to  $2^n-1$   
From 0 to 3 in this case

$A$	$B$	$A'$	$F = A' + B$
0	0	1	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	1	0	1

# Boolean Expressions and Truth Tables

- $F = AB' + C$

- Draw the diagram



- Write the truth table of F

<b>A B C</b>	<b>B'</b>	<b>AB'</b>	<b>AB'+C</b>
<b>0 0 0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>0 0 1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>0 1 0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>0 1 1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 0 0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 0 1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 1 0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>1 1 1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

# Two Functions can be Equivalent

- We have two functions

$$F = AB' + C$$

$$G = (A + C) \cdot (B' + C)$$

- Are these two functions equivalent?
  - Write the truth table of these 2 functions
  - Look at the output
  - They are equivalent if the output is the same for all input combinations

A	B	C	B'	AB'	AB'+C	A+C	B'+C	(A+C)(B'+C)
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1

Yes, F and G are equivalent . They have the same output for any input.

# Theorems

$$A + 0 = A$$

$$A + 1 = 1$$

*Idempotent laws:*

$$A + A = A$$

*Involution law:*

$$(A')' = A$$

*Laws of complementarity*

$$A + A' = 1$$

$$A \cdot 1 = A$$

$$A \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$A \cdot A = A$$

$$A \cdot A' = 0$$

A can be substituted by an expression:

A: XYZ

We have:  $A \cdot 0 = 0$

So,  $XYZ \cdot 0 = 0$

(from  $A \cdot 0 = 0$ )

And

$$XYZ + (XYZ)' = 1$$

(from  $A + A' = 1$ )

You can prove these theorems by doing a truth table.

Let's show that:  $A + A' = 1$

If  $A = 0$ , then we have:  $0 + 0' = 0 + 1 = 1$  correct

If  $A = 1$ , then we have:  $1 + 1' = 1 + 0 = 1$  correct

Then the theorem is correct

# Commutative, Associative and Distributive Laws

## *Commutative Law*

- $X.Y = Y.X$                        $X + Y = Y + X$

## *Associative Law*

- $(X + Y) + Z = X + (Y + Z) = X + Y + Z$
- $(XY).Z = X.(YZ) = XYZ$

- Prove this one
- Do a truth table

X	Y	Z	XY	YZ	(XY)Z	X(YZ)
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	1	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1

## *Distributive law*

- $X(Y + Z) = XY + XZ$
- $X + YZ = (X + Y) (X + Z)$ 
  - Let's prove this
  - We can do a truth table, but we can also do algebra

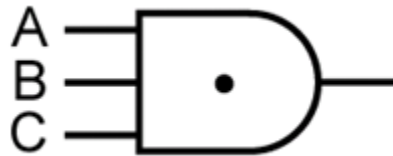
$$\begin{aligned}(X + Y) (X + Z) &= XX + XZ + XY + YZ \\&= X + XZ + XY + YZ \\&= X (1 + Z + Y) + YZ \\&= X (1) + YZ \\&= X + YZ\end{aligned}$$

Correct

# More than Two Inputs

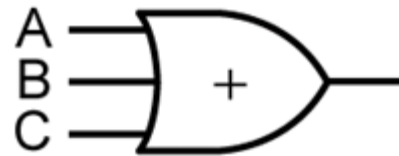
- AND

- The result is 1 iff (if and only if),  $A=1$ ,  $B=1$ ,  $C=1$
- Otherwise it's 0



- OR

- The results is 1 if  $A=1$ , or  $B=1$ , or  $C=1$





# Simplification Theorems

- To simplify an expression means to make it smaller

$$XY + XY' = X$$

$$X + XY = X$$

$$(X + Y')Y = XY$$

$$(X + Y)(X + Y') = X$$

$$X(X + Y) = X$$

$$XY' + Y = X + Y$$

- We can prove them by truth table or by algebra

$$XY + XY' = X(Y + Y') = X(1) = X$$

$$X + XY = X(1 + Y) = X(1) = X$$

$$(X + Y')Y = XY + YY' = XY + 0 = XY$$

$$XY' + Y = (Y + X)(Y + Y') = (X + Y) \cdot 1 = X + Y$$


By distributive law (a previous slide)

# Example 1

- Simplify

$$Z = A'BC + A'$$

$$Z = A' (BC + 1)$$

$$= A' (1)$$

$$= A'$$

## Example 2

- Simplify this expression

$$Z = [A + B'C + D + EF] \cdot [A + B'C + (D + EF)']$$


Observe the repetition  
of terms

You can write this out in a long expression, but if you observe the repetition of terms, you can do substitution

$$\text{Let } X = A + B'C \quad \text{and} \quad Y = D + EF$$

$$\text{Then, } Z = (X + Y) \cdot (X + Y)'$$

A theorem in a previous slide,  $Z = X$

$$\text{Then, } Z = A + B'C$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If you don't remember the theorem} \\ (X+Y)(X+Y)' &= XX + XY' + XY + YY' \\ &= X(1 + Y' + Y) \\ &= X \end{aligned}$$

# Example 3

- Simplify this expression

$$Z = \underbrace{(AB + C)} \cdot (B'D + C'E') + \underbrace{(AB + C)'}_{}$$

Observe the repetition  
of terms

You can write this out in a long expression, but if you observe the repetition of terms, you can do substitution

Let  $X = AB + C$  and  $Y = B'D + C'E'$

Then,  $Z = XY + X'$

A theorem in a previous slide,  $Z = X' + Y$

Then,  $Z = (AB + C)' + B'D + C'E'$

If you don't remember the theorem  
 $XY + X' = (X + X') \cdot (Y + X')$   
 $= 1 \cdot (Y + X')$   
 $= X' + Y$

# Multiplying Out a Boolean Expression

- To fully multiply out an expression, keep multiplying until there are no parentheses
- It's ok to simplify
- Multiply out:  $(A + BC) \cdot (A + D + E)$

$$AA + AD + AE + ABC + BCD + BCE$$

$$= A + AD + AE + ABC + BCD + BCE$$

$$= A(1 + D + E + BC) + BCD + BCE$$

$$= A + BCD + BCE$$

# Sum-of-Products

- If you multiply out an expression, it becomes a sum-of-products
- Sum-of-products look like this:

$$AB' + CD'E + AC'E'$$

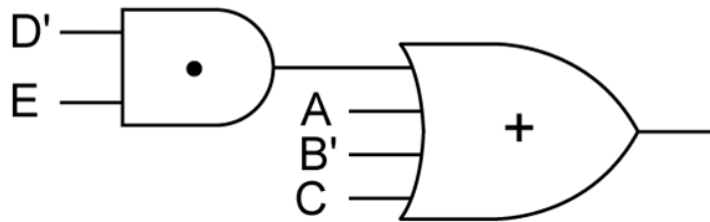
$$\text{or } ABC' + DEFG + H$$

$$\text{or } A + B' + C + D'E, \text{ but not } (A+B)CD + EF$$

Look at these, you can't multiply them anymore!

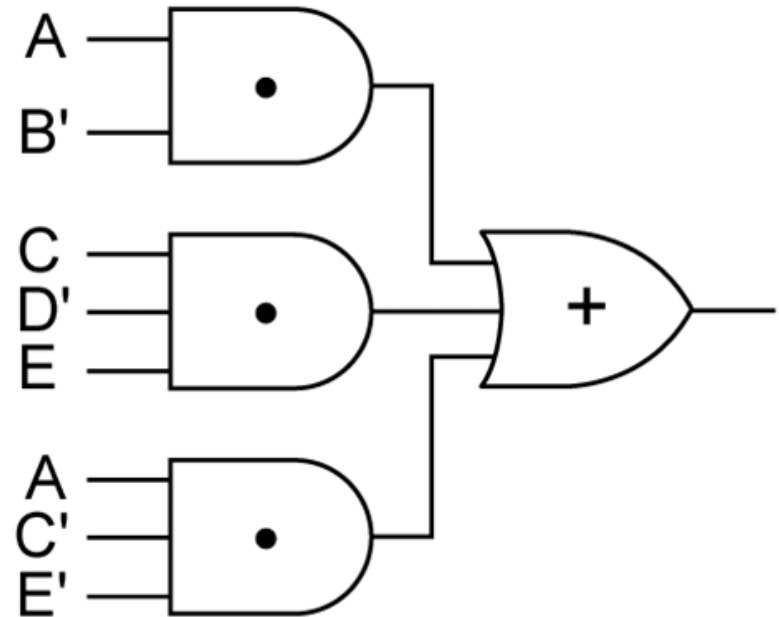
The digital circuit diagram of sum-of-products is 2-level

$$A + B' + C + D'E$$



1 level      1 level

$$AB' + CD'E + AC'E'$$



1 level      1 level

# Factoring a Boolean Expression

- You can keep factoring a Boolean expression until everything is inside the parentheses
- Multiply out:  $AB' + C'D$

You need to use this rule:  
 $X + YZ = (X + Y) \cdot (X + Z)$

$$AB' + C'D$$

$$= (AB' + C') \cdot (AB' + D)$$

$$= (C' + A) \cdot (C' + B') \cdot (D + A) \cdot (D + B')$$

Step-by-step is shown in the box below

Let  $X = AB'$

We have:  $X + C'D$

Apply the rule, we have:  $(X + C') \cdot (X + D)$

Substitute back in  $X$ , we have:  $(AB' + C') \cdot (AB' + D)$



# Product of Sums

- If you keep factoring out an expression, it becomes a product of sums
- The expression in the previous slide became a product of sums
- Product of sums look like this

$$(A + B').(C' + D' + E).(A + C' + E')$$

$$(A + B).(C + D + E).F \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad (A + B).(C + D + E).(F)$$

$$AB'C(D' + E) \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad (A).(B').(C).(D' + E)$$

But not  $(A+B)(C+D)+EF$

# Example

Factor out:  $C'D + C'E' + G'H$

*Start by factoring out regularly,  
Then use the rule in the box below*

$$= C'(D + E') + G'H$$

Apply the rule in the box below  
Consider this equal to X  
And think  $(X + C').(X + D + E')$

$$= (G'H + C').(G'H + D + E')$$

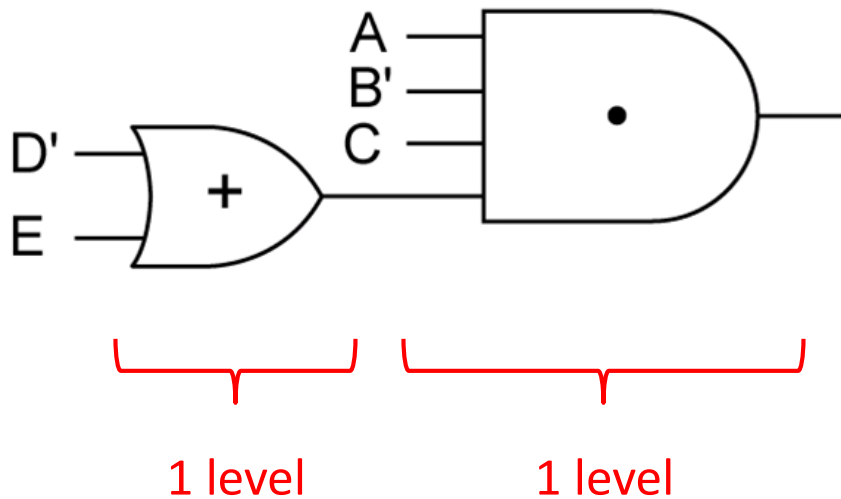
Consider this equal to X  
And think  $(X + G').(X + H)$

$$= (C' + G').(C' + H).(D + E' + G').(D + E' + H)$$

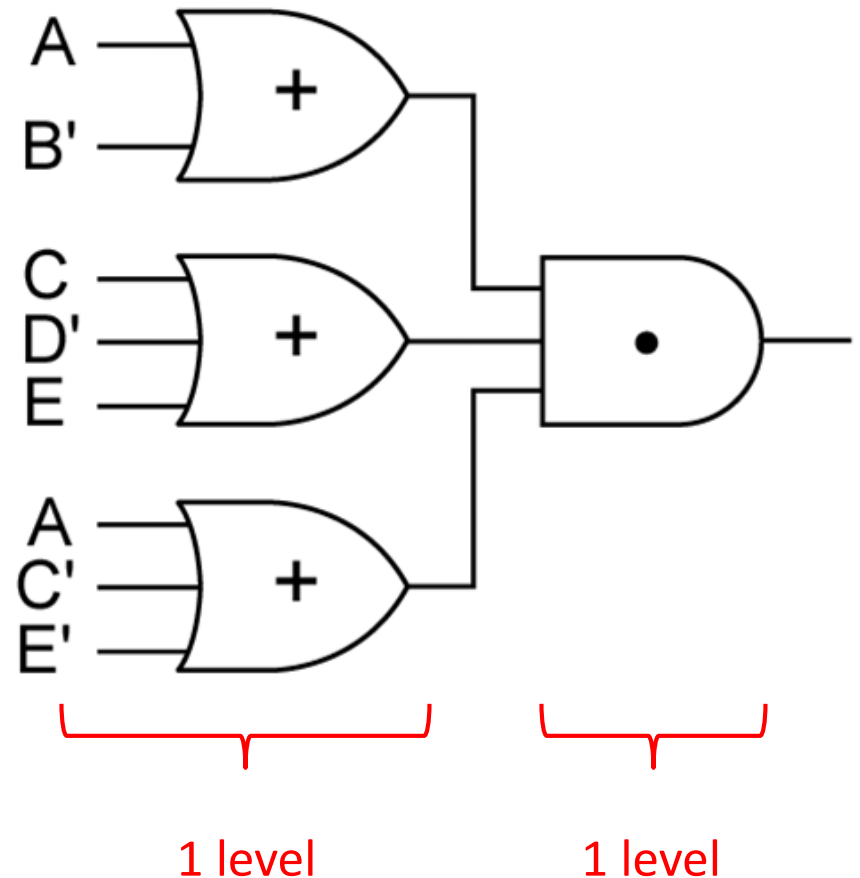
You need to use this rule:  
 $X + YZ = (X + Y) . (X + Z)$

The digital circuit diagram of product-of-sums is 2-level

$$AB'C(D' + E)$$



$$(A + B')(C + D' + E)(A + C' + E')$$



# DeMorgan's Laws

First law:

$$(A + B)' = A'B'$$

OR becomes AND

Second law:

$$(AB)' = A' + B'$$

AND becomes OR

Prove DeMorgan's Laws. Do a truth table

A	B	A'	B'	A+B	(A+B)'	A'B'	AB	(AB)'	A'+B'
0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0



First law



Second law

# DeMorgan's Laws General Form

$$(A+B+C+D+E+F+\dots)' = A'B'C'D'E'F'\dots$$

$$(ABCDEF\dots)' = A'+B'+C'+D'+E'+F'+\dots$$

DeMorgan's Laws short form (prev. slide)

$$(A + B)' = A'B'$$

$$(AB)' = A' + B'$$

How is DeMorgan's laws useful?

They allow us to find the complement of an expression

~Remember, the complement is the inverse~

# Example


## DeMorgan's Laws

$$(X + Y)' = X'Y'$$

$$(XY)' = X' + Y'$$


Find the complement of this expression:  $(A' + B).C'$

It is:  $[(A' + B).C']'$



Apply:  $(XY)' = X' + Y'$

$$= (A' + B)' + (C')'$$

$$= (A' + B)' + C$$


Apply:  $(X + Y)' = X'Y'$

$$= (A')'.B' + C$$

$$= AB' + C$$

## Example 2

Find the complement of:  $(AB' + C).D' + E$

$$(X + Y)' = X'Y'$$
$$(XY)' = X' + Y'$$

$$[(AB' + C).D' + E]'$$

$$= [(AB' + C).D']' . E'$$

$$= [(AB' + C)' + D] . E'$$

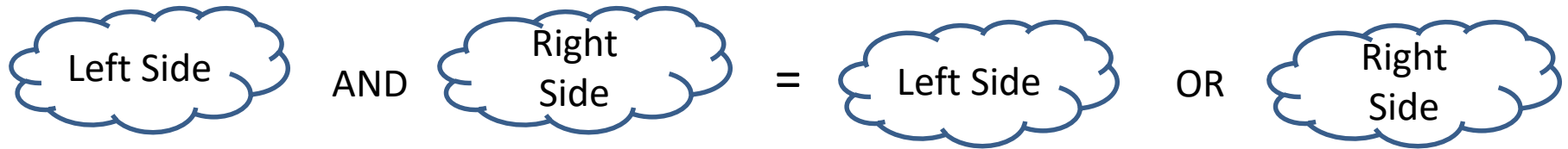
$$= [(A' + B).C' + D] . E'$$

$$= (A'C' + BC' + D) . E'$$

$$= A'C'E' + BC'E' + DE'$$

Remember, with DeMorgan's,  
the OR becomes AND  
the AND becomes OR

# Visualizing DeMorgan's Laws



The bar on top means invert

$\overline{A}$  is the same as  $A'$



We have,  $F = A'B + AB'$ . Find the complement of F.

$$\begin{aligned} F' &= (A'B + AB')' \\ &= (A'B)' \cdot (AB')' \\ &= (A + B') \cdot (A' + B) \\ &= AA' + AB + A'B' + BB' \\ &= 0 + AB + A'B' + 0 \\ &= AB + A'B' \end{aligned}$$

Verify this result with a truth table

# Duality

- We have a Boolean expression
- To obtain its dual, replace AND with OR and OR with AND
- Replace 1 with 0 and 0 with 1
- The variables stay the same
- The invert signs stay the same

$$(XYZ)^D = X + Y + Z$$

$$(X + Y + Z)^D = XYZ$$

# Duality

- When you have a big expression, start from the outwards and go inwards

$$(AB' + C)^D$$

$$= (\dots) \cdot C$$

$$= (A + B') \cdot C$$

Find the dual of:  $(AB' + C).D' + E$

Start from outwards and go inwards

$$[ (AB' + C).D' + E ]^D$$

$$= ( \dots\dots\dots ) . E$$

$$= [ ( \dots\dots\dots ) + D' ] . E$$

$$= [ ( \dots\dots ) . C + D' ] . E$$

$$= [ (A + B').C + D' ] . E$$

This is the dual. We can multiply it out in the two lines below

$$= (AC + B'C + D').E$$

$$= ACE + B'CE + D'E$$

You may also write all at once

# Another Way to Find the Dual

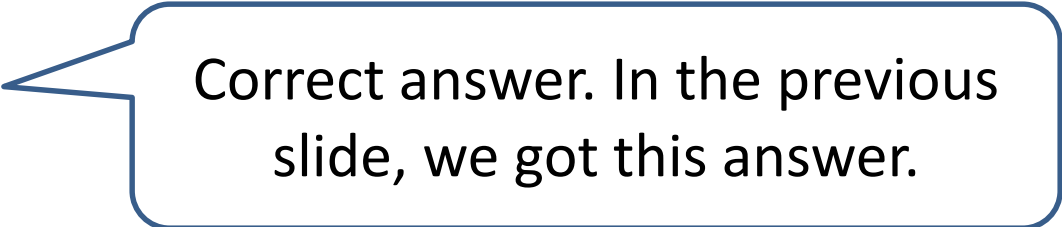
- Complement the whole expression (using DeMorgan's)
- Then, complement every variable

We want to find the dual of:  $[(AB' + C).D' + E]'$

In a previous slide, we found its complement by using DeMorgan. We got:  $A'C'E' + BC'E' + DE'$

Now let's complement every variable, we get:

$$ACE + B'CE + D'E$$



Correct answer. In the previous slide, we got this answer.

# Let's Summarize Duality

- Find the dual of:  $AB' + C$  using the two methods
- Method 1: Replace AND with OR. Also, replace OR with AND. Start from outward to inward.

$$\begin{aligned} & (AB' + C)^D \\ &= (\dots\dots) \cdot C \\ &= (A + B') \cdot C \end{aligned}$$

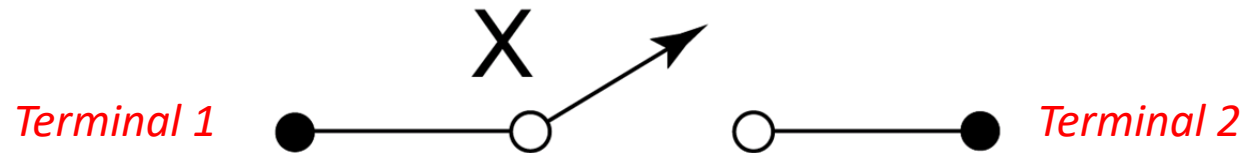
- Method 2: Find the complement. Then, invert every variable

$$\text{Complement: } (AB' + C)' = (AB')' \cdot C' = (A' + B) \cdot C'$$

$$\text{Invert every variable: } (A + B') \cdot C$$

# Switches

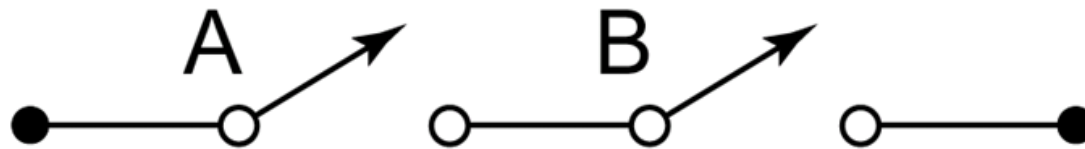
- This is a switch
- If  $X=0$ , the switch is open
  - The switch in the figure is open; the two terminals are not connected



- If  $X=1$ , the switch is closed
  - It means the two terminals are connected
- What can we do with the switches?
  - We can write the Boolean expression with switches

# Example

- $F = A.B$
- Draw a circuit with switches that implements  $F$

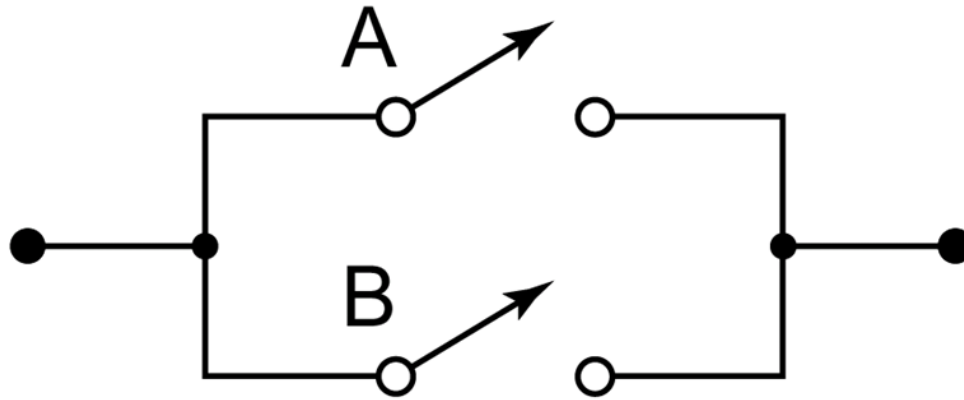


- Remember, when  $A=1$ ,  $B=1$ , the switches will close
- The two terminals are connected



## Example 2

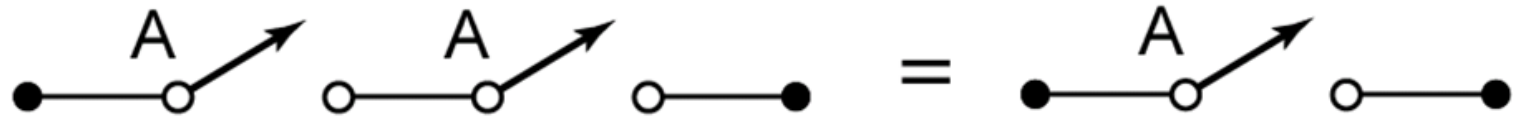
- Draw the switch circuit for  $F = A + B$



- If  $A=1$  or  $B=1$  or  $A=B=1$ , the two terminals will be connected

# Simplification

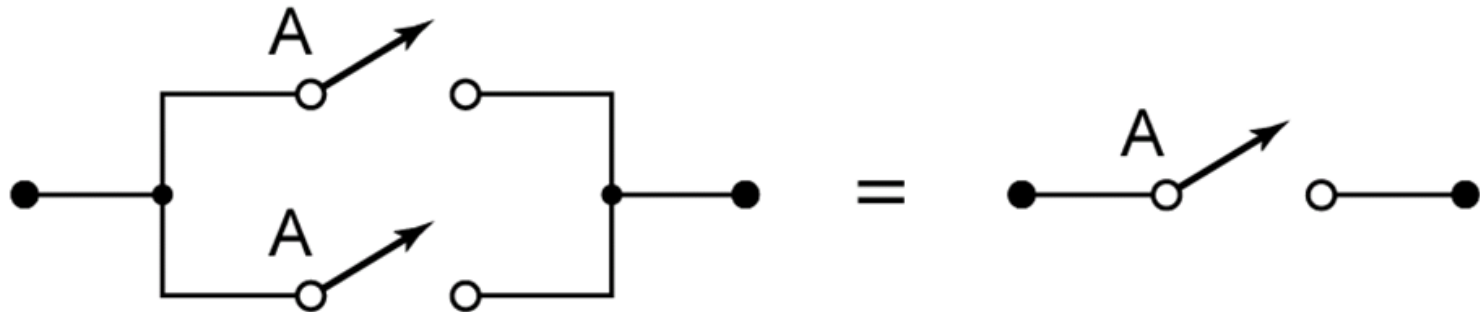
- We learned that:  $A.A = A$
- The same applied in the switch circuit



- On the left side:
  - If  $A=1$ , the two terminals will connect
  - If  $A=0$ , the two terminals will not be connected
- So, we can replace the left side with one switch controlled by A

# Simplification

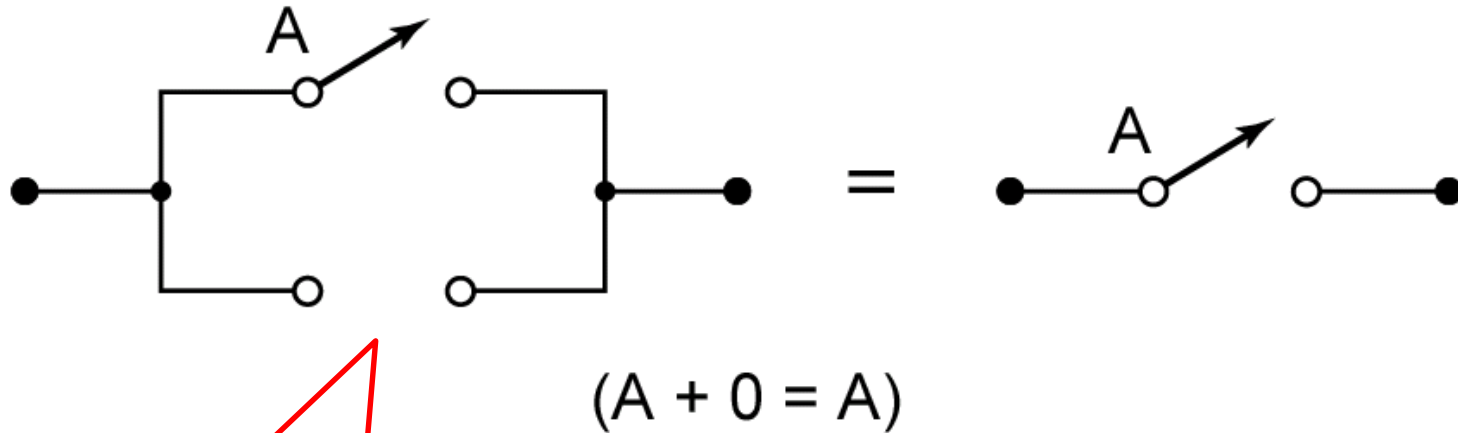
- We learned that  $A + A = A$
- The same applied when we draw the switch circuit



- On the left side:
  - The terminals will connect if  $A=1$
  - They will disconnect if  $A=0$
- So, it is equivalent to one switch that's controlled by A

We learned that:  $A + 0 = A$

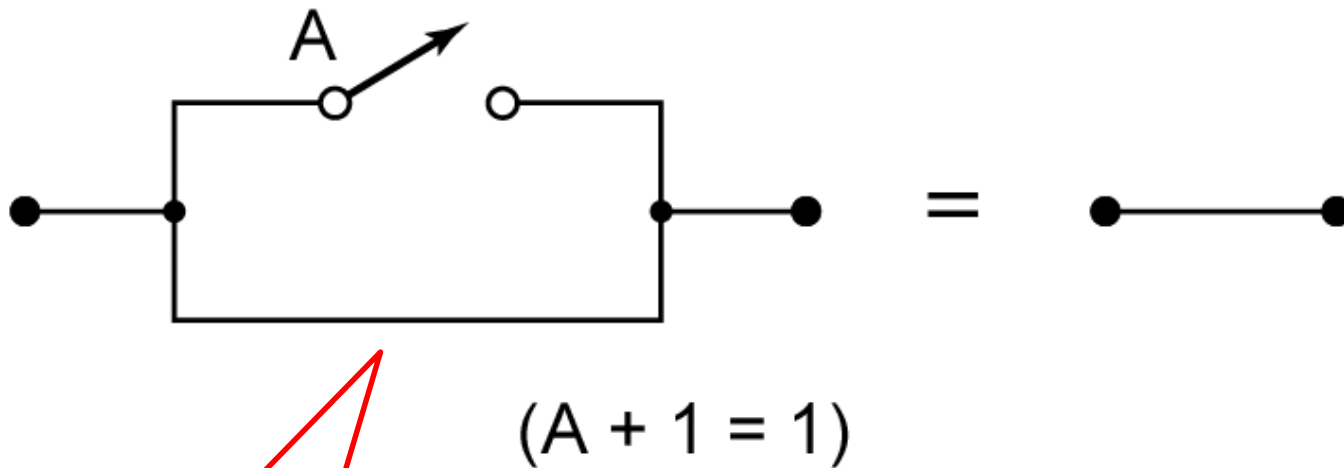
This is shown in the switch circuit



This switch is always open.  
So it is equivalent to zero.

We learned that:  $A + 1 = 1$

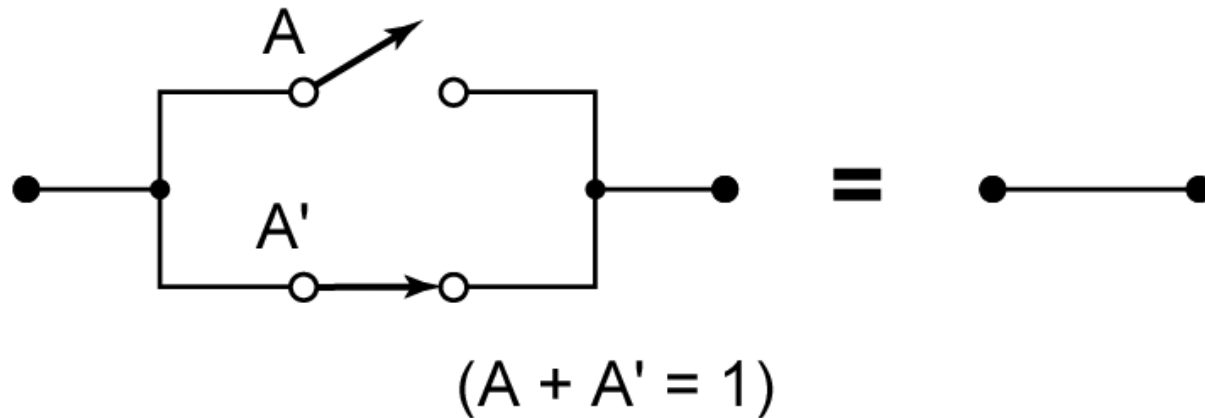
This is shown in the switch circuit



The bottom part is equivalent to 1 since it's always closed.

$$A + A' = 1$$

This is represented in the switch circuit below.

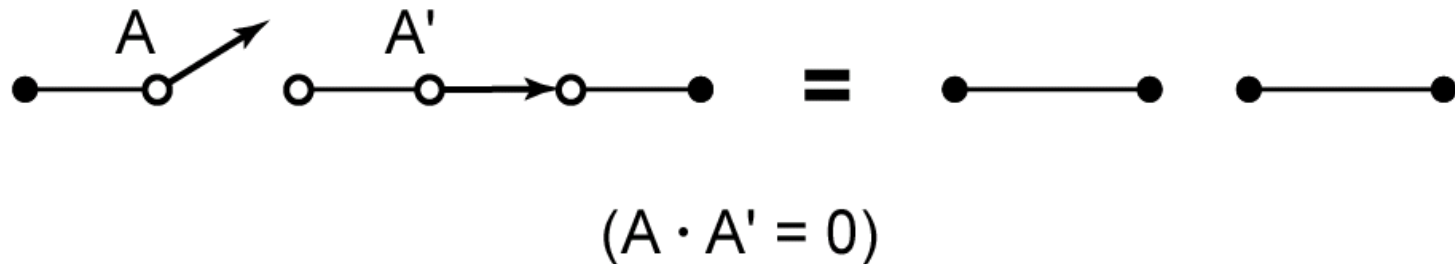


$$A \cdot A' = 0$$

This is shown in the circuit below.

If one switch closes, the other opens.

This circuit is always open.



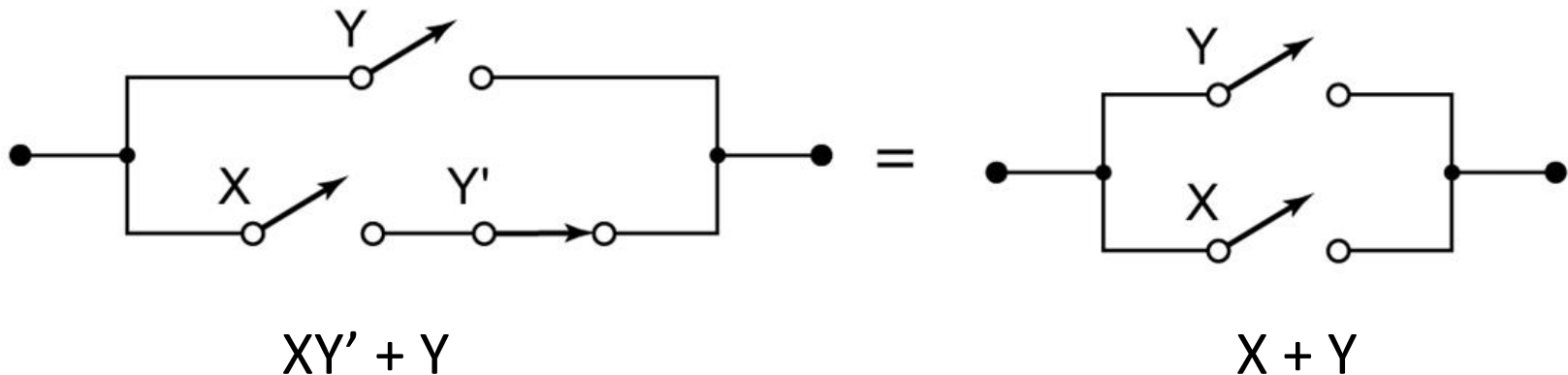
We learned:

$$XY' + Y = X + Y$$

$$XY' + Y$$

Apply 2<sup>nd</sup> distributive law,  
we get:

$$(Y+Y').(Y+X) =$$
$$1.(Y+X) = X+Y$$



The circuit on the left side:

If  $Y=1$ , the circuit closes

If  $X=1$ , there are two cases of  $Y$

If  $Y=1$ , it closes on the top side

If  $Y=0$ , the switch on the low side closes (since it's controlled by  $Y'$ )

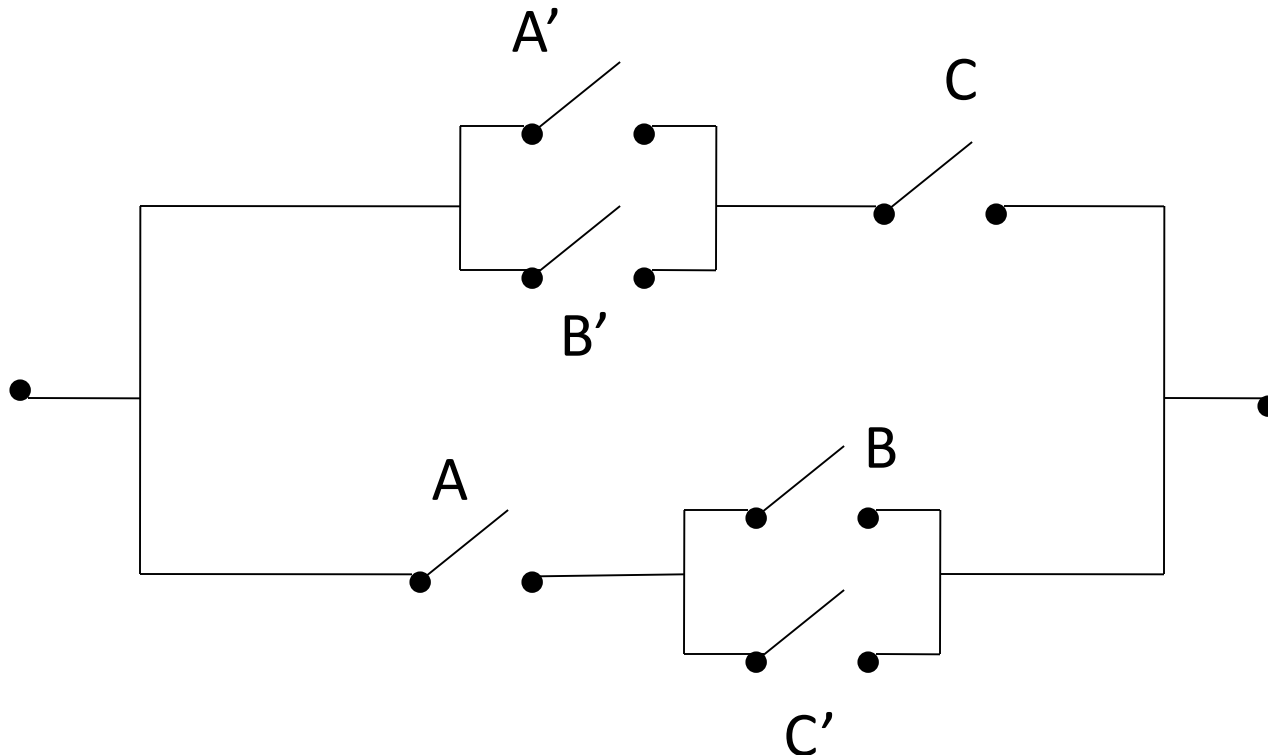
So, If  $X=1$ , the circuit closes



# Example

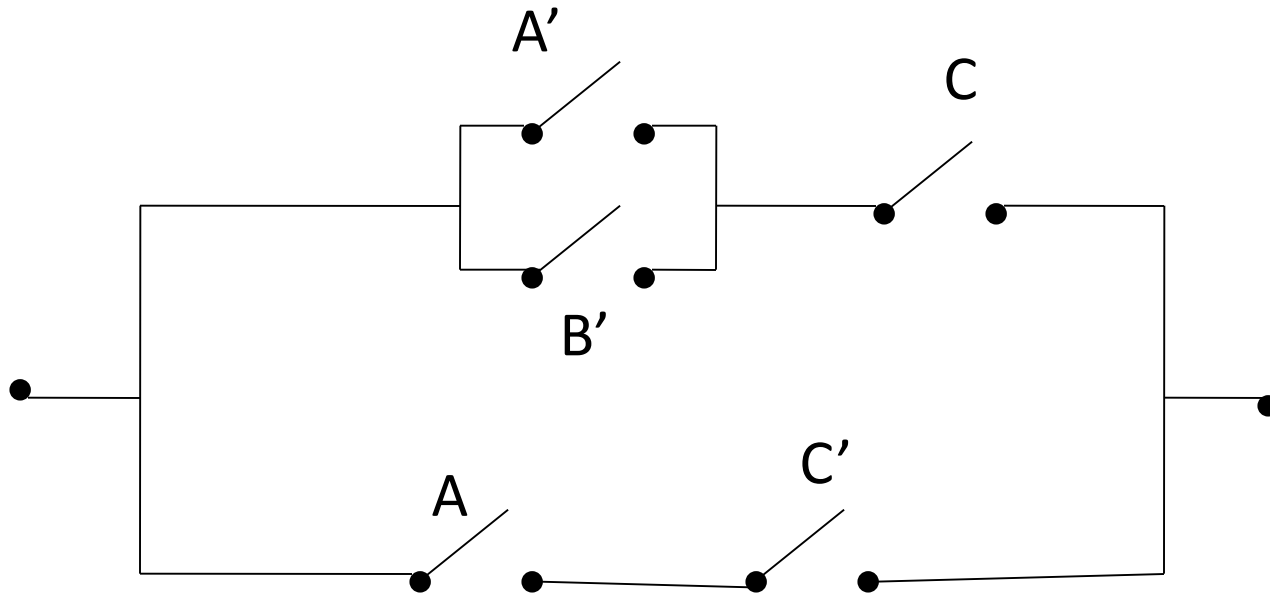
- Draw the switch circuit for:

$$F = (A' + B').C + A.(B + C')$$



## Example 2

Write the Boolean expression that corresponds to this switch circuit



$$F = (A' + B').C + (A.C')$$