
Computer Systems

Kasun Gunawardana

E-mail: kgg



University of Colombo School of Computing

Forms of Boolean Algebraic Expressions

Boolean Expressions

- There can be multiple boolean expressions for a single operational behavior (single truth table).
- Thus, there can be multiple circuit structures with different logic gate arrangements for the same behavior.
- Simple and minimal circuit structure is always preferred.
 - Efficiency
 - Cost

Simple Expression

- Boolean algebra helps to simplify expressions.

- $F1 = \bar{x}\bar{y}z + \bar{x}yz + x\bar{y}$ _____

- $F2 = x\bar{y} + \bar{x}z$ _____

- You will get two circuits if you draw circuits for $F1$ and $F2$.

x	y	z	$F2$	$F1$
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	0	0

Expression to Truth Table

- When a boolean expression is given, we can formulate the truth table for the expression.
- Identify the variables in the expression
 - If there are n variables, then there will be 2^n combinations of values
 - 2^n rows in the truth table
- Derive the resulting value for each value combination in the truth table rows.

Expression to Truth Table. (Cont.)

- Ex.

$$F(x, y, z) = x \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + \bar{y} \cdot z$$

- Three variables in $F(x, y, z)$
- There will be 2^3 combinations
- There will be 2^3 rows in the truth table

Expression to Truth Table. (Cont.)

- Ex.

$$F(x, y, z) = x \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + \bar{y} \cdot z$$

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0

Truth Table to Expression

- When a truth table is given, we can formulate the boolean algebraic expression to represent it.
- There are two forms (*Canonical forms*) in presenting the expression.
 - Sum of *Minterms* (Standard Products)
 - Product of *Maxterms* (Standard Sums)

Minterm

- In a three variable boolean expression, we can combine 3 variables with an AND operator.
- There are 8 possible such arrangements.
 - $\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z}$
 - $\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z$
 -
 - $x \cdot y \cdot z$
- Each of these AND terms is called ***Minterm*** (or Standard Product).
- E.g. - $(x \cdot y)$ is **not** a ***Minterm*** in this context.

Maxterm

- In a three variable boolean expression, we can combine 3 variables with an OR operator.
- There are 8 possible such arrangements.
 - $\bar{x} + \bar{y} + \bar{z}$
 - $\bar{x} + \bar{y} + z$
 -
 - $x + y + z$
- Each of these OR terms is called **Maxterm** (or Standard Sum)
- E.g. - $(\bar{y} + z)$ is not a **Maxterm** in this context.

Thank You..

Computer Systems

Kasun Gunawardana

E-mail: kgg



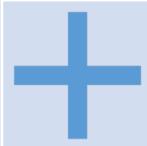
University of Colombo School of Computing

Canonical Forms & Standard Forms

[Sum – Product] in Mathematics



A **product** is the result of multiplying, or an expression that identifies factors to be multiplied.



A **sum** is the aggregate of two or more numbers or particulars as determined by or as if by the mathematical process of addition.

Sum of Minterms

- Disjunction of terms where each term is a conjunction of literals.
- The OR operations are performed on the terms that are made by AND operations.
- Ex.

$$F = \bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z + x \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot y \cdot z$$

- Each term in the expression is referred as ***Minterm*** or ***Standard Product***.

Product of Maxterms

- Conjunction of terms where each term is a disjunction of literals.
- The AND operations are performed on the terms that are made by OR operations.
- Ex.

$$F = (x + y + z) \cdot (x + y + \bar{z}) \cdot (x + \bar{y} + \bar{z})$$

- Each term in the expression is referred as **Maxterm** or **Standard Sum**.

Standard Forms

- In ***Canonical*** Form, each term must contain all the variables in the truth table.
- But ***Standard Form*** is an alternative way to express Boolean function.
- A term in an expression that is expressed in a standard form doesn't need to contain all the variables in the truth table.
- There are two standard forms.
 - Sum of Products
 - Product of Sums

Standard Form – Sum of Products

- OR operation is performed over several terms where each term is made up by performing AND operation over several literals.
- Ex.

$$F = \bar{x} \cdot y + \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z + y$$



$$F = \bar{x} \cdot y + \bar{y} \cdot (x + \bar{z}) + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z + y$$



Standard Form - Product of Sums

- AND operation is performed over several terms where each term is made up by performing OR operation over several literals.
- Ex.

$$F = y \cdot (x + z) \cdot (\bar{x} + \bar{y} + \bar{z})$$



$$F = y \cdot (x + z \cdot \bar{y}) \cdot (\bar{x} + \bar{y} + \bar{z})$$



Computer Systems

Kasun Gunawardana

E-mail: kgg



University of Colombo School of Computing

Truth Table to Canonical Forms

A Row of a Truth Table

- A row of a truth table represents a possible state of the expression.
- The expression cannot take two states simultaneously.
- Ex. Consider the 3rd row
 - It says the expression's results '1' when $x = 0$ and $y = 1$ and $z = 0$
 - Note the Conjunction (AND)
 - Thus, it can be formalized into $\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z}$

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

Truth Table to Expression

- All such rows that result ‘1’ say the expression will be ‘1’ in either case
 - The expression will be ‘1’ when the variables are set as rows **3 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8**.
 - Note the Disjunction (OR)
 - Thus, it can be formalized as follows:
- $$F = \bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z + x \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot y \cdot z$$

Expression in “Sum of Minterms” Form

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

Terms in Disjunctive Form

- If we take the 3rd row, we understood that it represents $F_3 = \bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z}$
- When $x = 0$ and $y = 1$ and $z = 0$, F_3 results 1
- If one of \bar{x} or y or \bar{z} becomes 0, then F_3 will result 0.
- $\bar{x} = 0$ OR $y = 0$ OR $\bar{z} = 0$ will result the complement of F_3
- Therefore, complement of F_3 can be written in disjunctive form.
- $\overline{F_3} = x + \bar{y} + z$
- $\therefore F_3 = \overline{(x + \bar{y} + z)}$

De Morgan's Theorem

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

De Morgan's Theorem

- We have proved that,

$$\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} = \overline{(x + \bar{y} + z)}$$

- Similarly, we can prove that,

$$\overline{(x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z)} = \bar{x} + y + \bar{z}$$

- This is a theorem in Boolean Algebra and applicable for any number of variables.

Expression in Conjunctive Form

- We derived the expression of the truth table as follows:

$$F = \bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z + x \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot y \cdot z$$

- This means when at least one of those terms become 1 then F will result 1.
- It implies when all the terms in F are **negated** at the same time, it will result 0.
- $(\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z}) \cdot (\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z}) \cdot (\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z) \cdot (\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z}) \cdot (\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot z) = \bar{F}$

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

PoM - Representation

- Similarly, \bar{F} can be written as $\bar{F} = \bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z} + \bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z + \bar{x} \cdot y \cdot z$
- When all the term in \bar{F} are negated, then it will result $\bar{\bar{\bar{F}}}$
- $\bar{\bar{\bar{F}}} = \overline{(\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z})} \cdot \overline{(\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z)} \cdot \overline{(\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot z)}$
- As we studied in the slide “[De Morgan's Theorem](#)”, each term in $\bar{\bar{\bar{F}}}$ can be written in disjunctive form.
- $\bar{\bar{\bar{F}}} = (x + y + z) \cdot (x + y + \bar{z}) \cdot (x + \bar{y} + \bar{z})$
where $\bar{\bar{\bar{F}}} = F$
- $F = (x + y + z) \cdot (x + y + \bar{z}) \cdot (x + \bar{y} + \bar{z})$

Expression in “Product of Maxterms” Form

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

Truth Table to Expression - Notes

- For a given truth table, there can be a logical expression in two canonical forms,
 - Sum of Minterms
 - Product of Maxterms
- Conversion of expressions in SoM to PoM and vice versa can be done.

Thank You..

Computer Systems

Kasun Gunawardana

E-mail: kgg



University of Colombo School of Computing

Canonical Forms to Truth Table

SoM Expression to Truth Table

- Each Minterm is associated with a row
 - Find the row corresponds to each Minterm
 - Fill the result column with '1'
- Fill all the result column for all the remaining rows with '0'
- Ex. $F = \bar{x}.\bar{y} + x\bar{y} + x.y$

x	y	F
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	1
1	1	1

PoM Expression to Truth Table

- **Intuition:** If a single Maxterm becomes zero then the entire expression would result zero.
- Literals in a Maxterm are combined with OR operation. Ex. $(x + y + z)$.
- All literals in a term are inverted and combined with AND operation ($\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z}$), would give the logical complement of the same term (De Morgan's Thrm).
- Then we can map each product term to a row in the truth table.

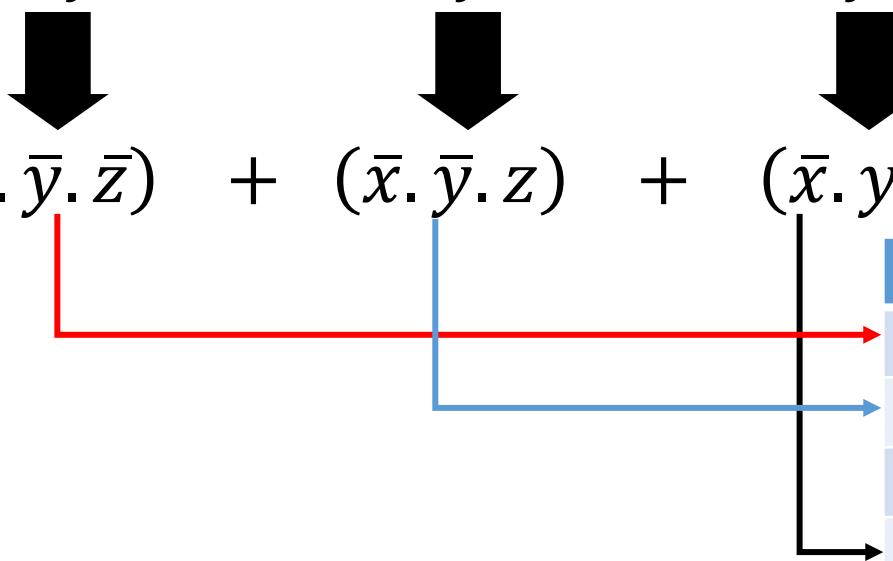
PoM Expression to Truth Table (Cont.)

- Negate each literal in a Maxterm.
- Assuming logical AND over all literals, select the row.
 - Fill the result column with '0'
- Fill the result column for all the remaining rows with '1'.

PoS Expression to Truth Table (Ex.)

- $F = (x + y + z) \cdot (x + y + \bar{z}) \cdot (x + \bar{y} + \bar{z})$
- $\bar{F} = (\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z}) + (\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z) + (\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot z)$

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1



Exercises

- Derive the logical expression for the given truth table in
 - Sum of Minterm form
 - Product of Maxterms form

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	1
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

Exercise – Sum of Minterms

- Sum of Minterms

$$F = \bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z} + \bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z + \bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot y \cdot \bar{z} + x \cdot y \cdot z$$

$$F(x, y, z) = \sum (0, 1, 2, 4, 6, 7)$$

Note that row index starts from 0

x	y	z	F
$\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z}$	0	0	0
$\bar{x} \cdot \bar{y} \cdot z$	0	0	1
$\bar{x} \cdot y \cdot \bar{z}$	0	1	0
	1	1	1
$x \cdot \bar{y} \cdot \bar{z}$	1	0	1
	1	0	0
$x \cdot y \cdot \bar{z}$	1	1	0
$x \cdot y \cdot z$	1	1	1

Exercise – Product of Maxterms

- Product of Maxterms

$$G = (x + \bar{y} + \bar{z}) \cdot (\bar{x} + y + \bar{z})$$

$$G(x, y, z) = \prod (3, 5)$$

Note that row index starts from 0

$$x + \bar{y} + \bar{z}$$

$$\bar{x} + y + \bar{z}$$

x	y	z	F
0	0	0	1
0	0	1	1
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1
1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1

Homework..!

- Practice SoM, PoM
 - Truth table to SoM and PoM
 - When given SoM or PoM, construct the truth table
 - Conversion of SoM to PoM and PoM to SoM
- Be familiar with De Morgan's Theorem
- Circuit construction
 - Construct the circuit when the expression is given
 - Construct the expression when the circuit is given

Thank You..!
