
Computer Systems

Kasun Gunawardana

E-mail: kgg



University of Colombo School of Computing

Introduction to Boolean Algebra & Logic Operators

History – Boolean Algebra



Boolean Algebra – George Boole
(1854, A British mathematician)



The branch of algebra in which the values of the variables are the truth values true and false.

Boolean Algebra

- There are only two states
 - State 0
 - State 1
- Usually, a variable is considered in state 1 unless it is specifically designated with a negation.
 - x – variable x is assumed to be in state 1
 - \bar{x} – it is assumed that \bar{x} denotes state 0

Basic Operations: Boolean Algebra

$A.B$

AND

$A+B$

OR

\bar{A}

NOT

Boolean Function

- A Boolean function is an expression that consists of binary variables and boolean logic operations.

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

- A Boolean function can be evaluated for all possible values of the variables.
- Finite number of possible value combinations for all the variables.

Truth Table


- A boolean function can be expressed in a truth table.
- The number of rows will be 2^n where n is the number of variables in the function.

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

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 (Cont.)

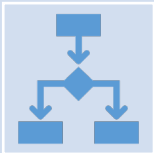
- Truth table can be elaborated with additional columns for each term



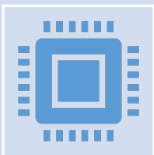
x	y	z	$y.\bar{z}$	F
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	0
1	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	0	1

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

Algebra to Logic Circuit



The operational behavior of a Boolean algebraic expression can be represented with a circuit diagram composed of logic gates.



A logic gate is a piece of hardware which emulates Boolean algebraic operation(s) and operates on Boolean inputs.

Inside of a Logic Gate

- Transistors
- Resistors
- Diodes

Transistor AND Gate

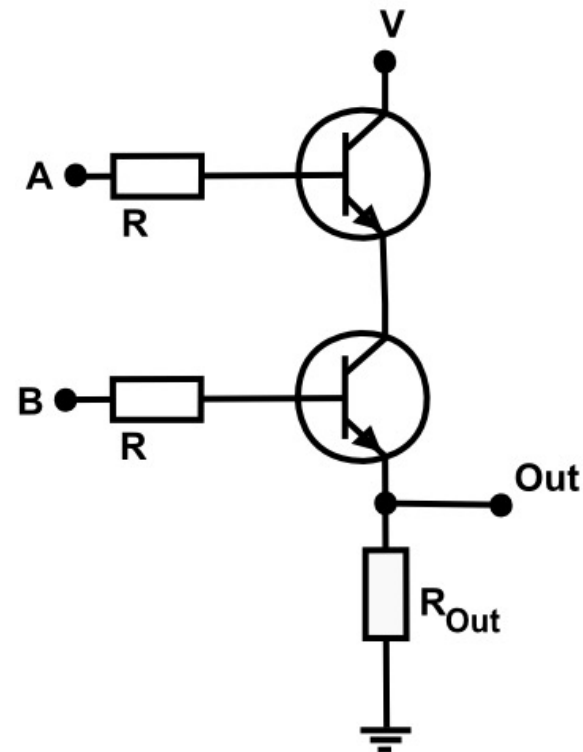
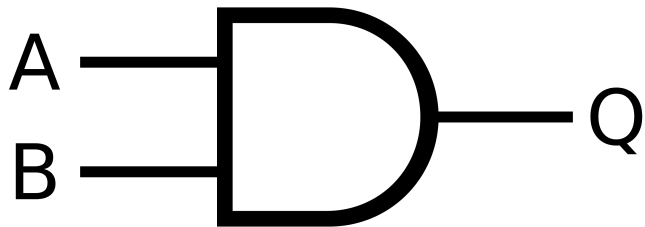


Image Source - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AND_gate

AND Operation

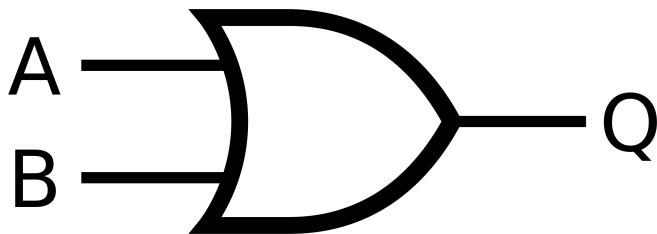
- Operator is symbolically denoted as follows:
 - $A \cdot B$
 - $A \wedge B$



A	B	$Q = A \cdot B$
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

OR Operation

- Operator is symbolically denoted as follows:
 - $A + B$
 - $A \vee B$



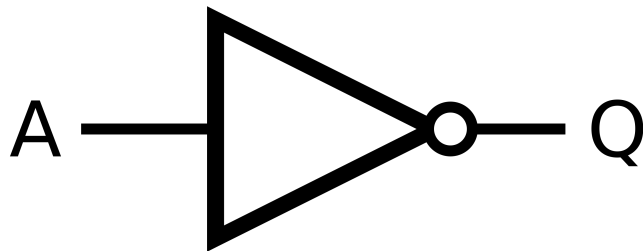
A	B	$Q = A+B$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

NOT Operation

- Operator is symbolically denoted as follows:

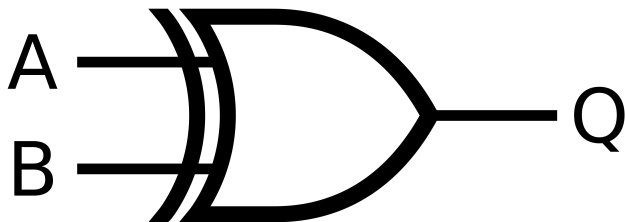
- \bar{A}
- $\neg A$
- $\sim A$
- A'

A	$Q = \bar{A}$
0	1
1	0



XOR Operation

- Operator is symbolically denoted as follows:
 - $A \oplus B$

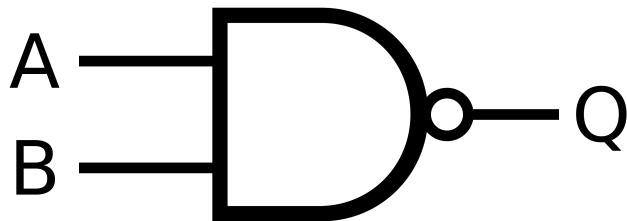


A	B	$Q = A \oplus B$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

NAND Operation

- Operator is symbolically denoted as follows:

- $\overline{(A \cdot B)}$
- $\overline{(A \wedge B)}$
- $(A \cdot B)'$
- $\neg(A \wedge B)$

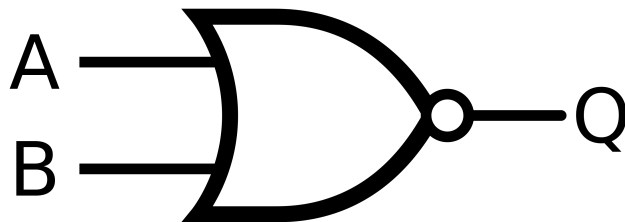


A	B	$\overline{(A \cdot B)}$
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

NOR Operation

- Operator is symbolically denoted as follows:

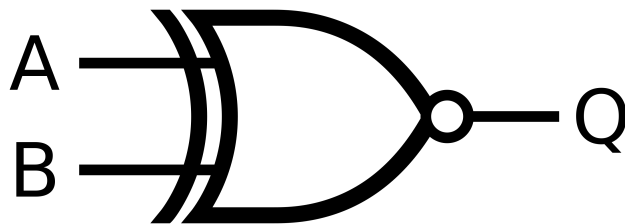
- $\overline{(A + B)}$
- $\overline{(A \vee B)}$
- $(A + B)'$
- $\neg(A \vee B)$



A	B	$\overline{(A + B)}$
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	0

XNOR Operation

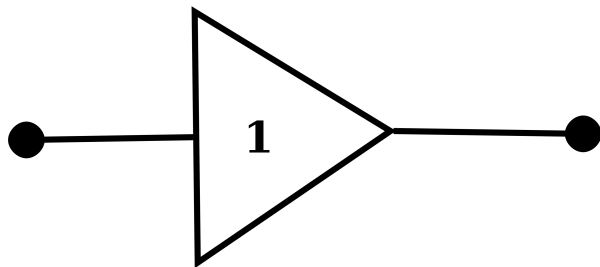
- Operator is symbolically denoted as follows:
 - $\overline{A \oplus B}$



A	B	$\overline{A \oplus B}$
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

Buffer

- A basic logic gate that passes its input, unchanged, to its output.
- To increase the propagation delay of circuits



A	Q
0	0
1	1

Logic Gates Manufacturing

- Gates are built into IC form
- Single IC may have several gates
- Typically one type of gates in an IC
- Multi input single gate ICs available

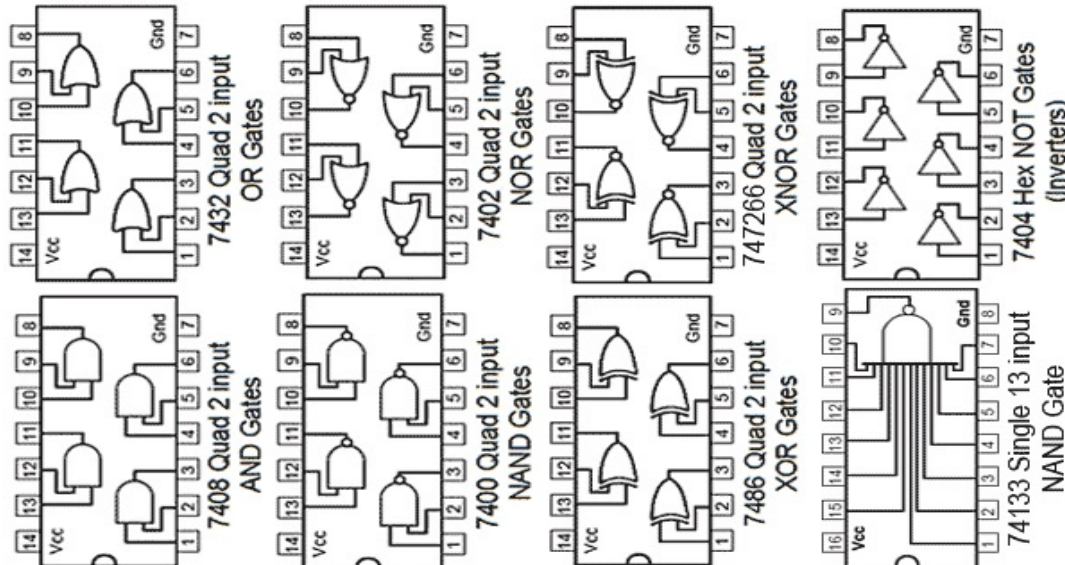


Image Source <https://learnabout-electronics.org/Digital/dig21.php>

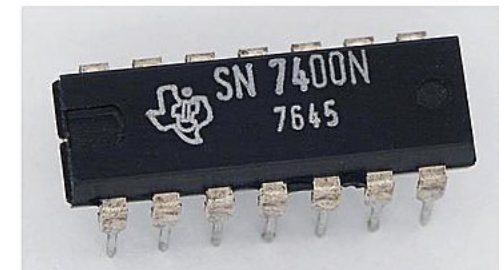
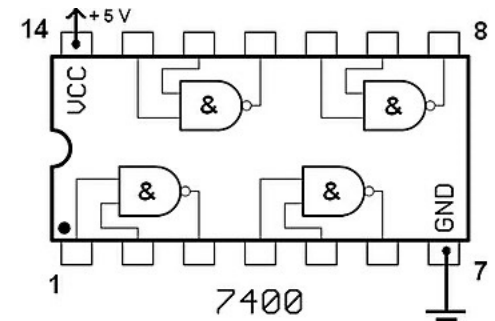
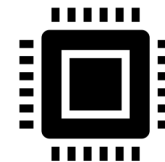


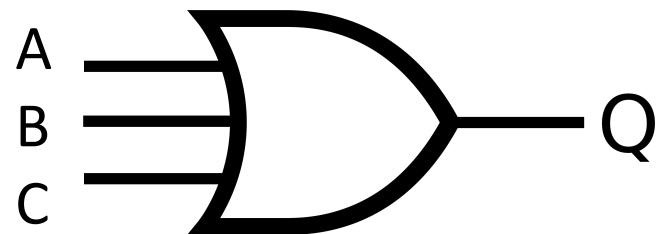
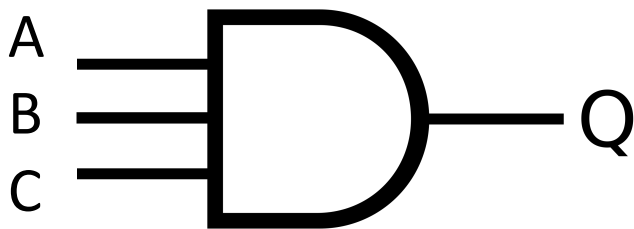
Image Source

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Logic_gate



Multi Input Logic Gates

- Gates with more than two inputs are available
- AND Gate with three inputs (A.B.C)
- OR Gate with ~~four~~^{three} inputs (A+B+C)



Multi Input Logic Gates (Cont.)

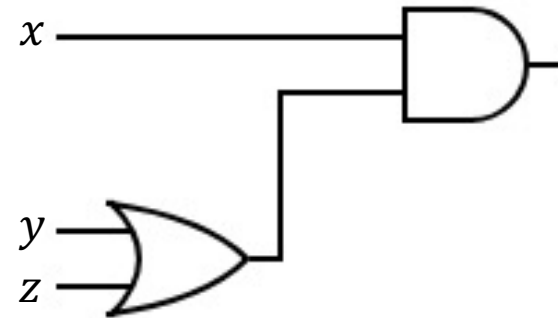
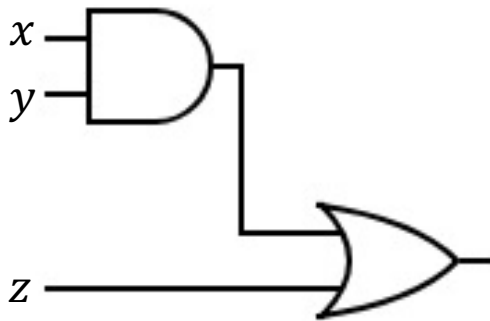
- Gates with more than two inputs are available
- AND Gate with three inputs
 - $F = x \wedge y \wedge z$
- OR Gate with three inputs
 - $F = x \vee y \vee z$
- XOR Gate with three inputs
 - $F = x \oplus y \oplus z$



Drawing Logic Circuits

- How to draw the logic circuit for a given boolean expression?

$$F = x \cdot y + z$$



Operator Precedence



Parentheses



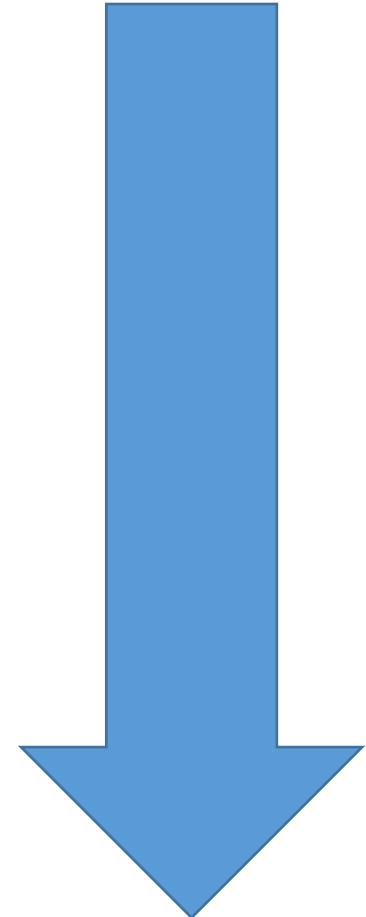
NOT



AND



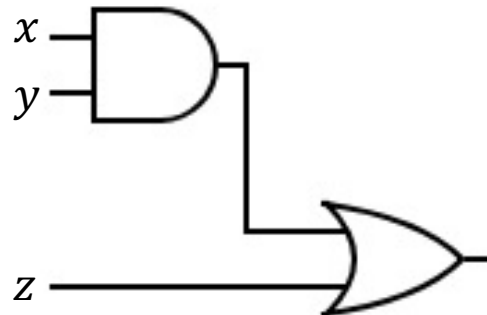
OR



Drawing Logic Circuits

- The logic circuit for a given boolean expression can be drawn using appropriate gates.

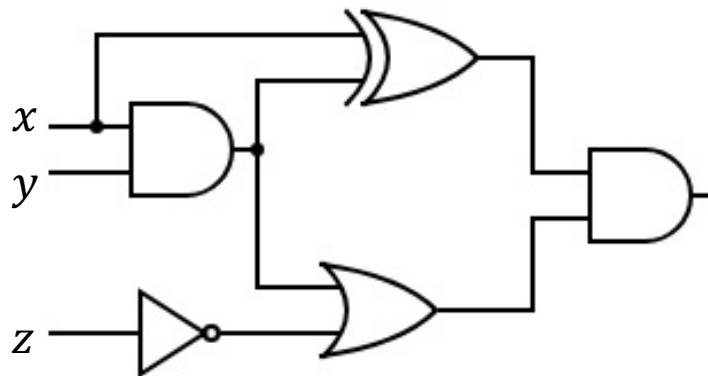
$$F = x.y + z$$



Drawing Logic Circuits

- Complex expressions require complex gate arrangements.

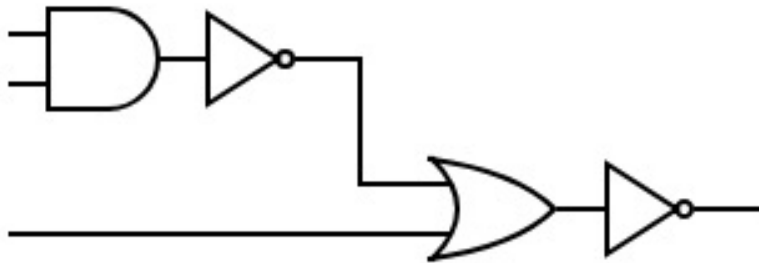
$$F = (x \oplus (x \cdot y)) \cdot (x \cdot y + \bar{z})$$



Drawing Logic Circuits (Cont.)

- Multiple circuits for the same expression

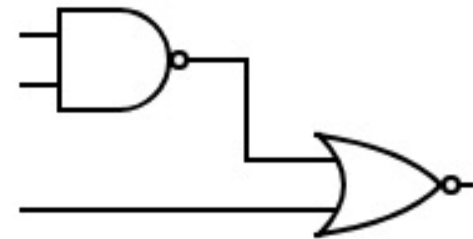
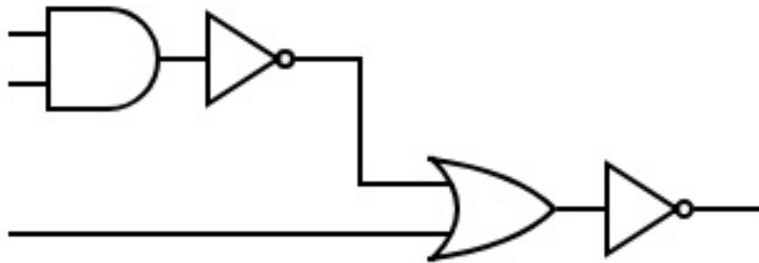
$$F = \overline{\overline{x.y} + z}$$



Drawing Logic Circuits (Cont.)

- Multiple circuits for the same expression

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



Thank You..!
