COMP3222/9222 Digital Circuits & Systems

2. Optimized Implementation of Logic Functions

Lecture 2 Objectives

To learn more about:

- Synthesis & analysis of logic functions
- Graphical representation of logic functions in the form of Karnaugh maps
- Techniques for deriving minimum-cost implementations of logic functions
- Use of CAD tools and VHDL to implement logic functions

Consider simplifying $f(x1, x2, x3) = \sum m(0, 2, 4, 5, 6)$

- What is a minimum cost implementation?
- How is it obtained?

Row number	x_1	x_2	x_3	f	
$egin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ 7 \\ \end{array}$	0 0 0 0 1 1 1	0 0 1 1 0 0 1	0 1 0 1 0 1	1 0 1 0 1 1 1	$f = \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_2 \overline{x}_3 + \overline{x}_1 x_2 \overline{x}_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_2 \overline{x}_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_2 x_3 + x_1 x_2 \overline{x}_3$ $= \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_2$ $= \overline{x}_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_2$

The VHDL code for the function in L02/S3

```
Row
                                          number
                                                x_1
                                                  x_2
ENTITY func1 IS
   PORT(x1, x2, x3 : IN BIT;
                    :OUT BIT);
END func1:
ARCHITECTURE LogicFunc OF func1 IS
BEGIN
   f <= (NOT x1 AND NOT x2 AND NOT x3) OR
                                              Necessarily
       (NOT x1 AND x2 AND NOT x3) OR
                                              synthesizes to
             x1 AND NOT x2 AND NOT x3) OR
                                              f = \chi_3 + \chi_1 \chi_2
             x1 AND NOT x2 AND
                                      x3) OR
             x1 AND   x2 AND NOT x3);
END LogicFunc;
```

Karnaugh map

 The key to finding a minimum-cost expression for a given logic function is to reduce the number of product (or sum) terms needed in the expression by applying the combining/uniting property

$$x \cdot y + x \cdot y' = x$$
 and $(x + y) \cdot (x + y') = x$

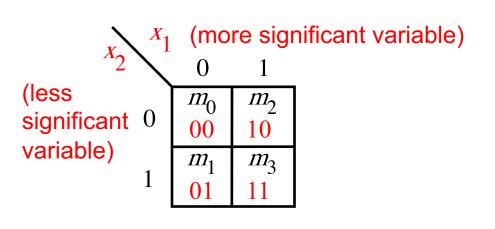
as judiciously as possible.

 The Karnaugh map approach provides a systematic way of performing this optimization

Layout of two-variable minterms in a two-variable Karnaugh map

X_1	X_2	
0	0	m_0
0	1	m_1
1	0	m_2
1	1	m_3

(a) Truth table

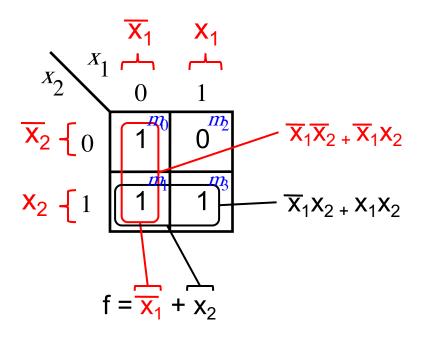


(b) Karnaugh map

Note that the addresses of horizontally and vertically adjacent cells in the Karnaugh map differ in a single bit

The function of L01/S25

X ₁	X ₂	$f(x_1, x_2)$
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0)
1	1	1

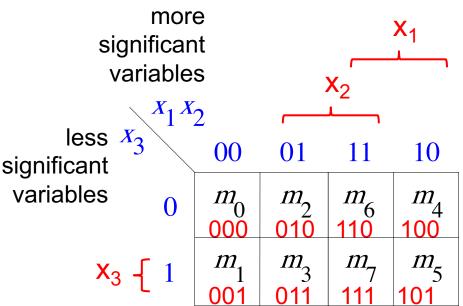


Note that adjacent cells in a column or row of the Karnaugh map can be combined in order to eliminate the variable that is present in both uncomplemented and complemented form

Karnaugh map layout of three-variable minterms

X_1	<i>x</i> ₂	<i>X</i> ₃	
0	0	0	m_0
0	0	1	m_1
0	1	0	m_2
0	1	1	m_3
1	0	0	m_4
1	0	1	m_5
1	1	0	m_6
1	1	1	m_7

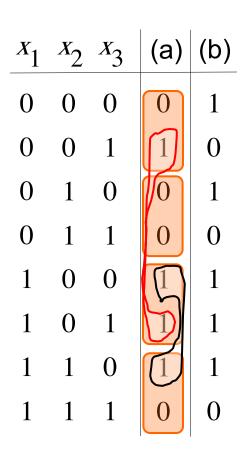
(a) Truth table

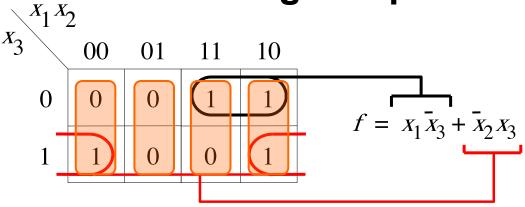


(b) Karnaugh map

Note: columns (rows) of the table are labeled using a Gray encoding – successive entries differ in just one bit.

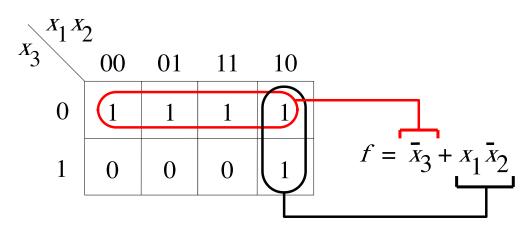
Examples of three-variable Karnaugh maps





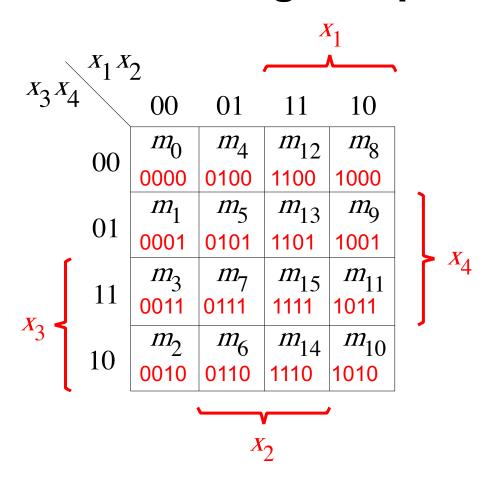
(a) The function of L01/S35

Note that the map wraps around to form a torus – adjacency can span the leftmost and rightmost columns



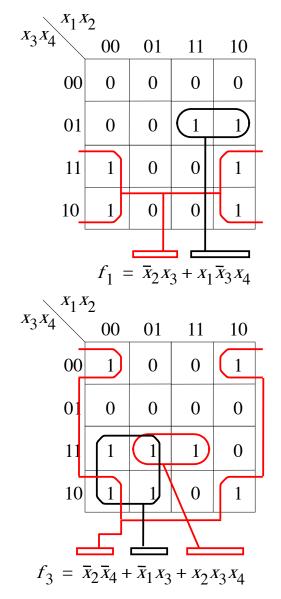
(b) The function of L02/S3

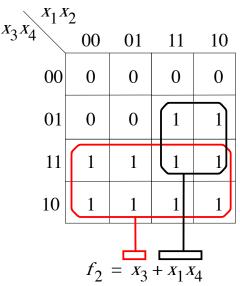
A four-variable Karnaugh map

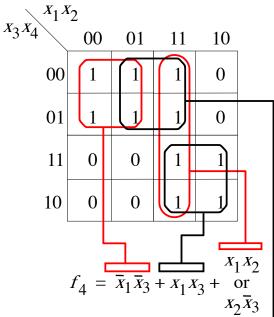


- Note that opposite edges are considered adjacent
- The map forms a "torus" or "donut-shape"

Examples of four-variable Karnaugh maps







The VHDL code for f_1 in L02/S11

```
: OUT BIT);
END func2;
ARCHITECTURE LogicFunc OF func2 IS
BEGIN
   f <= (NOT x1 AND NOT x2 AND x3 AND NOT x4) OR
       (NOT x1 AND NOT x2 AND x3 AND x4) OR
        (x1 AND NOT x2 AND NOT x3 AND x4) OR
        (x1 AND NOT x2 AND x3 AND NOT x4) OR
        (x1 AND NOT x2 AND x3 AND x4) OR
        (x1 AND x2 AND NOT x3 AND x4);
END LogicFunc;
```

Synthesizes as

 $f = \overline{\chi}_2 \chi_3 + \chi_1 \overline{\chi}_3 \chi_4$

00

01

11

10

0

0

0

0

0

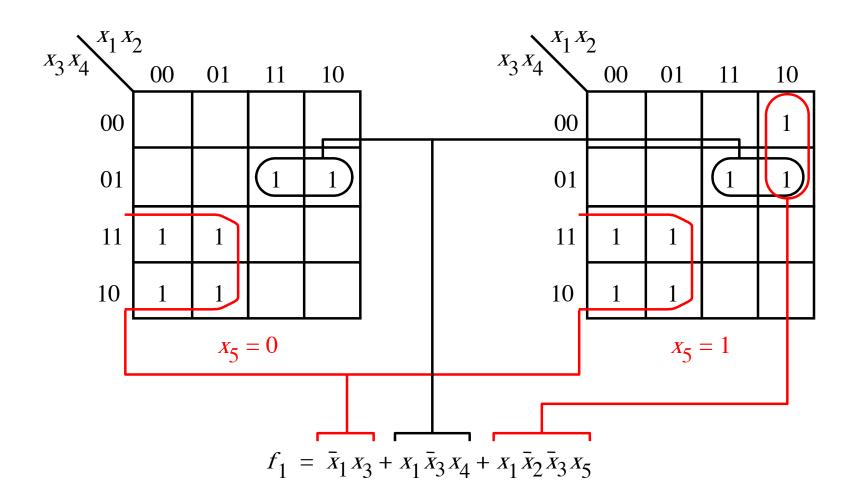
 $f_1 = \overline{x}_2 x_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_3 x_4$

ENTITY func2 IS

PORT (x1, x2, x3, x4

: IN BIT;

A five-variable Karnaugh map

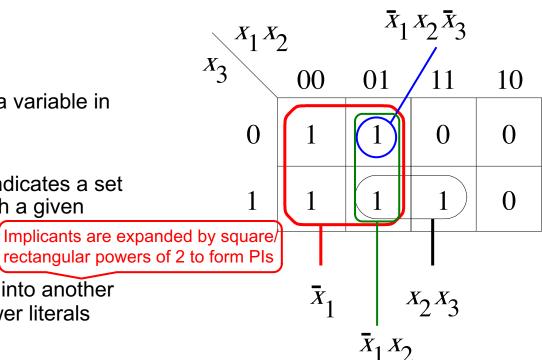


Minimization strategy

Terminology

- Literal
 - Each appearance of a variable in a product term
- **Implicant**
 - A product term that indicates a set of valuations for which a given function is equal to 1 Implicants are expanded by square/
- Prime implicant
 - Cannot be combined into another implicant that has fewer literals
- Cover
 - A collection of implicants that account for all valuations for which a given function is equal to 1
 - A cover consisting only of prime implicants leads to a minimal cost implementation

What is the cost of this function?

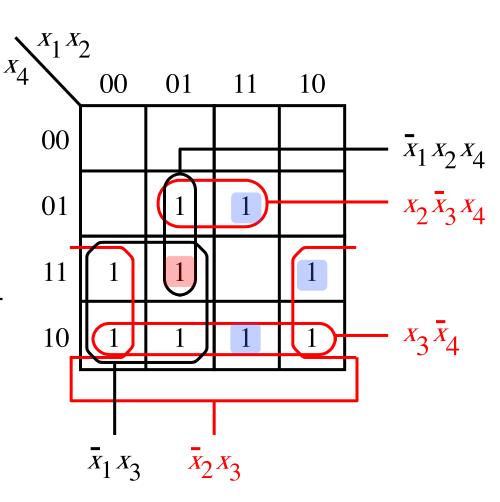


- Cost
 - We use the number of gates plus the total number of inputs to gates, but we assume that the primary inputs are available in both true and complemented form at zero cost – we don't count input inverters

Essential prime implicants

- Where there is choice as to which prime implicants to use in a cover, how do we find the minimum cost subset of prime implicants?
- If a prime implicant includes a minterm for which f = 1 that is not included in any other prime implicant, then it must be included in the cover and is referred to as an essential prime implicant
- If the set of essential prime implicants covers all valuations for which f = 1, then this set is the desired cover of f. Otherwise, determine the nonessential prime implicants that should be included to form a minimum-cost cover
- In this example, \overline{x}_1x_3 is preferred over $\overline{x}_1x_2x_4$ for covering $\overline{x}_1x_2x_3x_4$ since it has lower cost

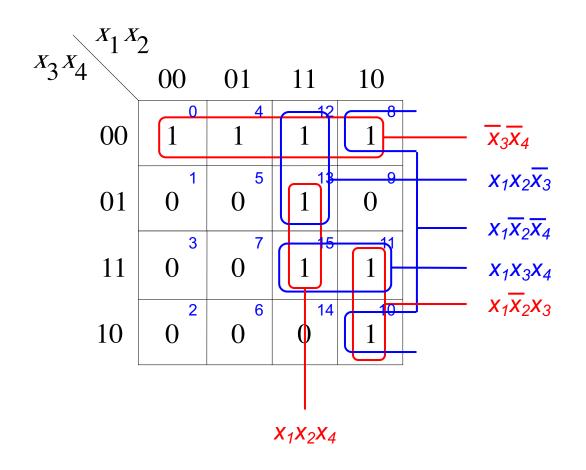
What is the cost of this function?



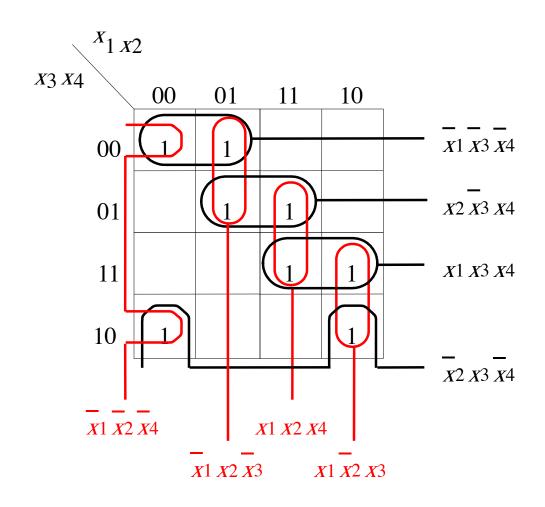
Heuristic choice of nonessential prime implicants

- The choice of nonessential prime implicants to be included in the cover is governed by cost considerations.
- The choice is often not obvious and, for functions of a large number of variables, may involve assessing many possibilities.
- A heuristic approach, which considers only a subset of possibilities but gives good results most of the time, is used:
 - Arbitrarily select one nonessential prime implicant and determine the cost of the resulting cover;
 - Next, determine the cost of a cover assuming that the chosen prime implicant is not included; and
 - Select for implementation the cover which costs least.

The function $f(x1,...,x4) = \sum m(0, 4, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15)$

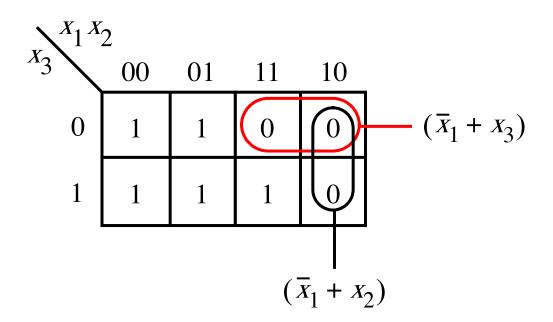


The function $f(x1,...,x4) = \sum m(0, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 15)$



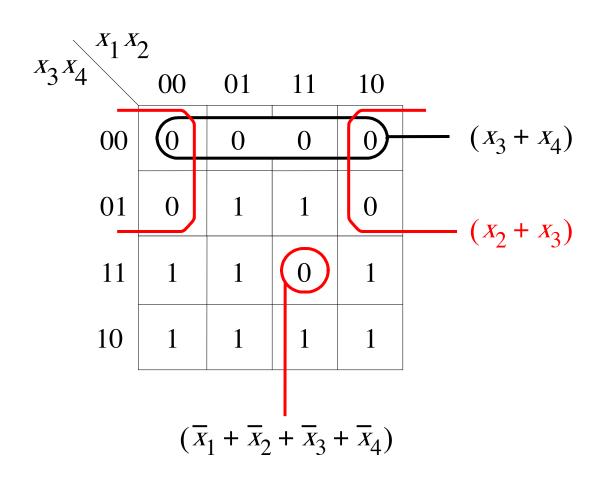
POS minimization of $f(x1, x2, x3) = \Pi M(4, 5, 6)$

 Minimal SOP (sum of product) and POS (product of sum) implementations need to be compared to determine the least cost realization



What is the cost of this function? Which costs less: SOP or POS?

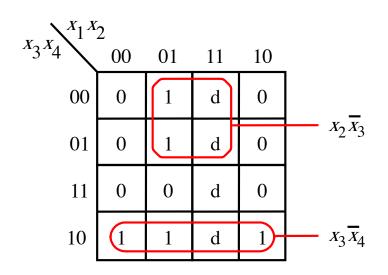
POS minimization of $f(x1,...,x4) = \Pi M(0, 1, 4, 8, 9, 12, 15)$



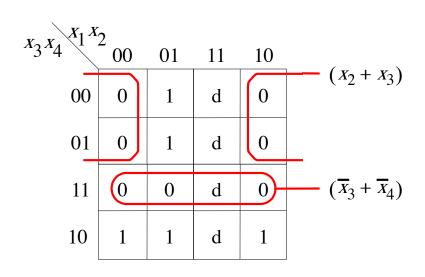
Which implementation is cheaper: POS or SOP?

Practical Reality 1: Incompletely specified functions

- Don't care conditions/valuations (incompletely specified functions) offer additional opportunities for simplification
- A don't care can be assigned the value 0 or 1 as desired
- Two implementations of the function $f(x1,...,x4) = \sum m(2,4,5,6,10) + D(12,13,14,15)$

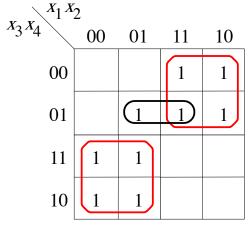


(a) SOP implementation

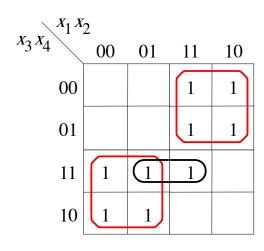


(b) POS implementation

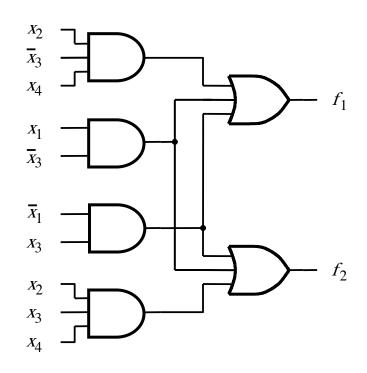
Practical Reality 2: Multiple-output synthesis



(a) Function f_1

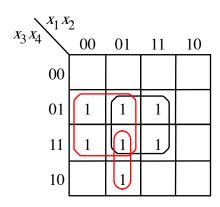


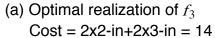
(b) Function f_2

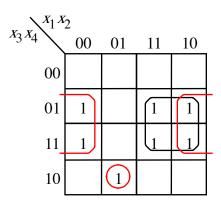


(c) Combined circuit for f_1 and f_2

Another example of multiple-output synthesis

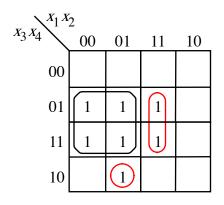


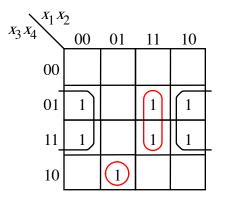




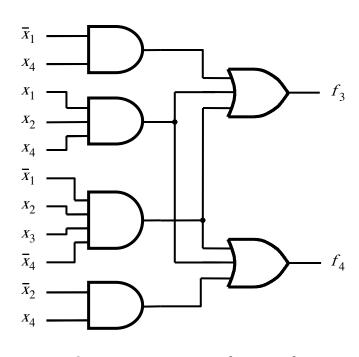
(b) Optimal realization of f_4 Cost = 2x2-in+1x4-in+1x3-in = 15

Combined cost = 14 + 15 = 29





(c) Optimal realization of f_3 and f_4 together Combined cost = 2x2-in+3x3-in+1x4-in = 23



(d) Combined circuit for $\,f_{3}\,$ and $\,f_{4}\,$

Note that the realizations of (c) are sub-optimal if considered individually

Practical Reality 3: Factoring for multilevel implementation

$$f(x_1,...,x_7) = x_1x_3\overline{x}_6 + x_1x_4x_5\overline{x}_6 + x_2x_3x_7 + x_2x_4x_5x_7$$

$$= x_1\overline{x}_6(x_3 + x_4x_5) + x_2x_7(x_3 + x_4x_5) \text{ [Distributive law]}$$

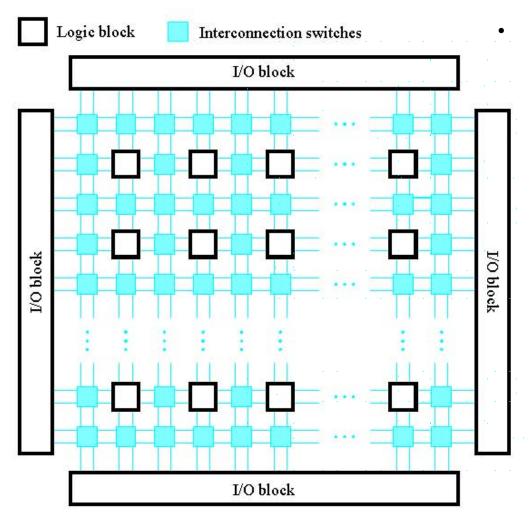
$$= (x_1\overline{x}_6 + x_2x_7)(x_3 + x_4x_5)$$

- Factoring is necessary when the implementation resources (logic gates) haven't got the capacity to implement a function
- Factoring allows a function to be implemented from simpler sub-functions
 - Here, 4-input AND and OR gates are needed to implement f naively, but suppose the implementation technology we use only provides 2- or 3-input gates

Implementation technologies

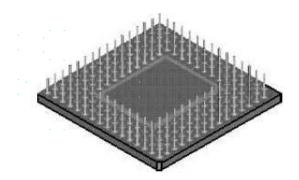
- Digital circuits are implemented in various solid state/silicon device technologies
- Their functions can be classified as either fixed or programmable
- Devices that are manufactured to perform fixed functions range from small-scale integrated devices that contain a few specific logic gates to custom VLSI circuits that comprise millions of gates
- Programmable devices can be customized after fabrication to implement specific circuits
 - Examples include Programmable Logic Arrays, Complex Programmable Logic Devices and FPGAs
- Q: Is an ARM or Intel processor fixed or programmable?
- Q: How does the programmability of a processor differ from that of an FPGA?

A Field-Programmable Gate Array (FPGA)



For cost and performance reasons, as few chips as possible are used to implement a design

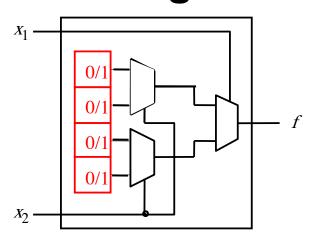
- 7400-series chips implement the equivalent of just a few two-input NAND gates (the prevalent metric for chip size)
- An SPLD or CPLD macrocell represents about 20 equivalent gates; thus a PAL with 8 macrocells can accommodate a circuit that needs up to about 160 gates and a large CPLD with 500 macrocells can implement circuits of up to 10,000 equivalent gates
- Modern FPGAs can be used to implement circuits of millions of equivalent gates in size



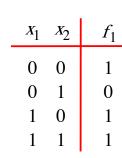
(a) General structure of an FPGA

(b) Pin grid array (PGA) package (bottom view)

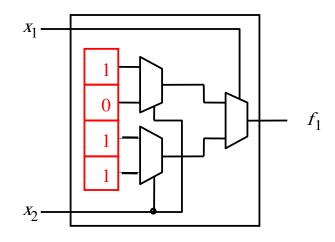
A two-input lookup table (LUT) as an FPGA logic cell/block



(a) Circuit for a two-input LUT

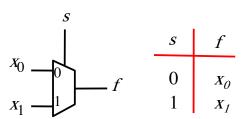


(b) $f_1 = \bar{x}_1 \bar{x}_2 + x_1$

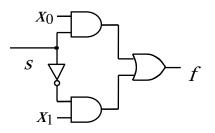


(c) Storage cell contents in the LUT

An *n*-input LUT serves as a small 2ⁿ address memory to implement an arbitrary Boolean function of *n* variables



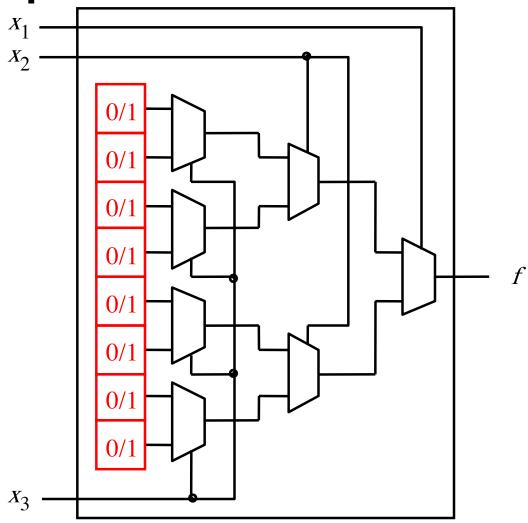
A two-input multiplexer (MUX) $f = \overline{s}.x_0 + s.x_1$ selects one of its two inputs to be routed to the output



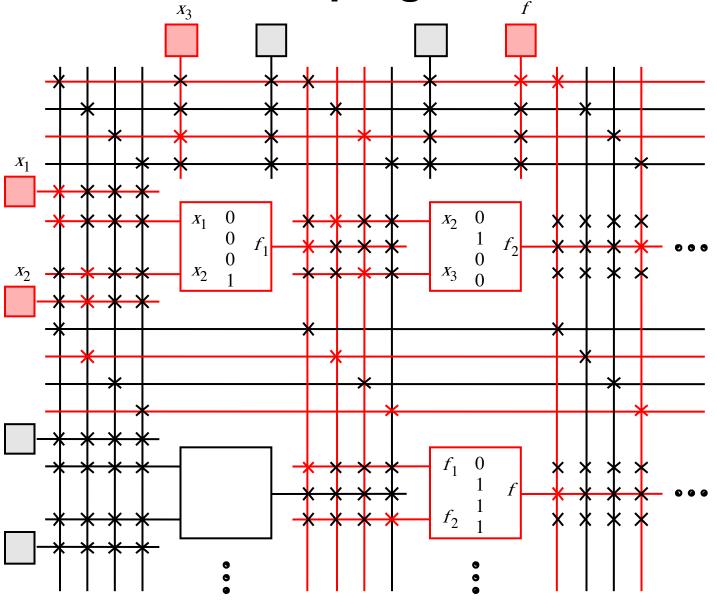
Two-input multiplexer circuit (2-MUX)

B&V3, Figure 3.36 L02/S27

A three-input LUT



A section of a programmed FPGA



$$f_1 = x_1 x_2$$

$$f_2 = \overline{x}_2 x_3$$

$$f = f_1 + f_2$$

$$= x_1 x_2 + \overline{x}_2 x_3$$

In an FPGA, the LUT contents, routing switches and connection boxes are most commonly configured via memory cells

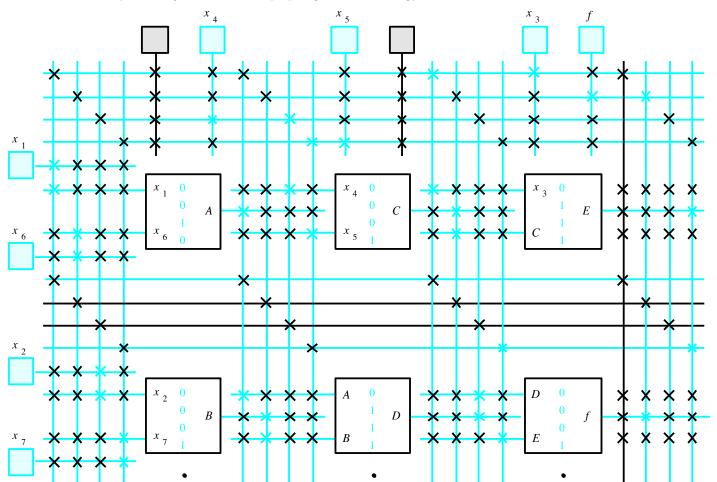
B&V3, Figure 3.39 L02/S29

Practical Reality 3:

Factoring for multilevel implementation

$$f(x_1,...,x_7) = x_1x_3\overline{x}_6 + x_1x_4x_5\overline{x}_6 + x_2x_3x_7 + x_2x_4x_5x_7$$

$$= x_1\overline{x}_6(x_3 + x_4x_5) + x_2x_7(x_3 + x_4x_5)$$
 [Distributive law]
$$= (x_1\overline{x}_6 + x_2x_7)(x_3 + x_4x_5)$$



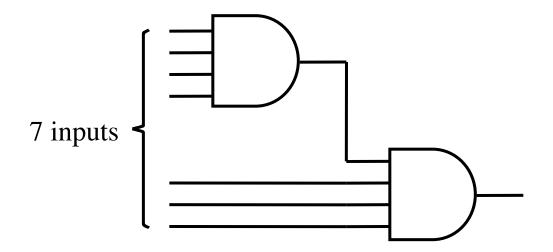
L02/S30

The VHDL code for the function of L02/S24

```
ENTITY func3 IS
     PORT (x1, x2, x3, x4, x5, x6, x7 : IN
                                                   BIT:
                                            : OUT BIT);
END func3;
ARCHITECTURE LogicFunc OF func3 IS
BEGIN
     f \le (x1 \text{ AND } x3 \text{ AND NOT } x6) \text{ OR}
          (x1 AND x4 AND x5 AND NOT x6) OR
          (x2 AND x3 AND x7) OR
          (x2 AND x4 AND x5 AND x7);
END LogicFunc;
                                                Synthesizes as
                                                f = (x_1 \overline{x}_6 + x_2 x_7)(x_3 + x_4 x_5)
```

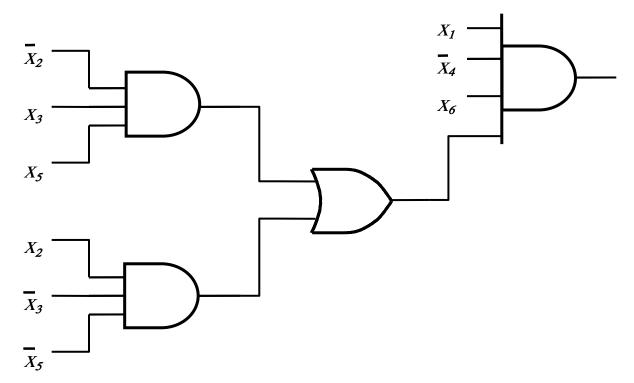
Realizing a seven-input product term

Implementing wide functions when gate fan-in is limited



Still Practical Reality 3: A factored circuit

- Factoring can be used to overcome fan-in constraints
- For example, $f = x_1 \overline{x}_2 x_3 \overline{x}_4 x_5 x_6 + x_1 x_2 \overline{x}_3 \overline{x}_4 \overline{x}_5 x_6$ = $x_1 \overline{x}_4 x_6 (\overline{x}_2 x_3 x_5 + x_2 \overline{x}_3 \overline{x}_5)$ for FO4 (fan-in of 4) gates



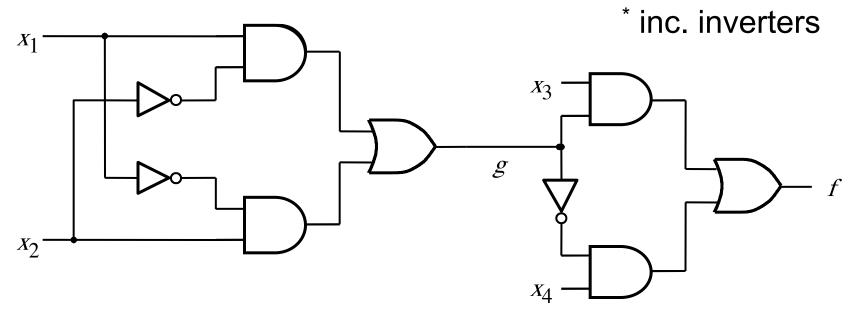
Practical Tradeoff:

Functional decomposition

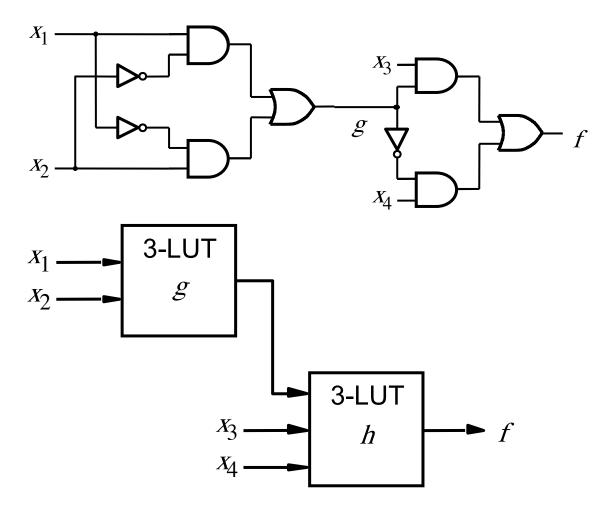
- Multilevel realizations can reduce the cost of a circuit with increased propagation delay penalties
- Consider the minimum-cost SOP expression

$$f = \overline{x}_1 x_2 x_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_2 x_3 + x_1 x_2 x_4 + \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_2 x_4 [7 \text{ gates} + 18 \text{ inputs}]^*$$
$$= (\overline{x}_1 x_2 + x_1 \overline{x}_2) x_3 + (x_1 x_2 + \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_2) x_4$$

= $gx_3 + \overline{g}x_4$ with $g = \overline{x}_1x_2 + x_1\overline{x}_2$ [9 FO2 gates+15 inputs]*

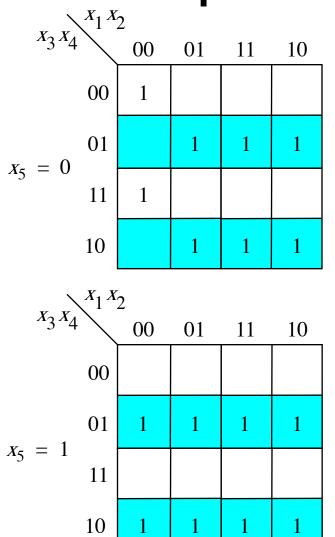


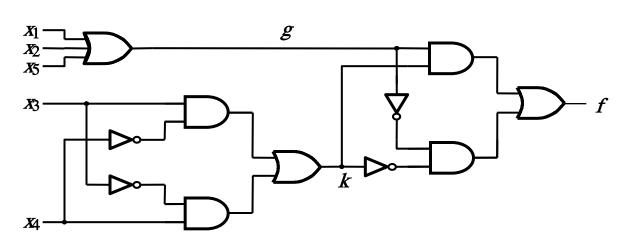
The structure of decomposition in L02/S34



Q: How many 2-LUTs are needed to implement this function?

Decomposition for Example 4.7





(b) Circuit obtained using decomposition

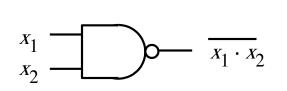
Q: How many 3-LUTs are needed to implement this function?

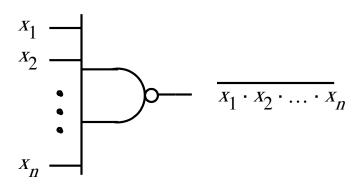
(a) Karnaugh map for the function f

NAND and **NOR** gates

In custom VLSI implementations, NAND & NOR gate circuit realizations of SOP/POS networks are preferred over AND/OR/NOT gate realizations because they require less

transistors to implement





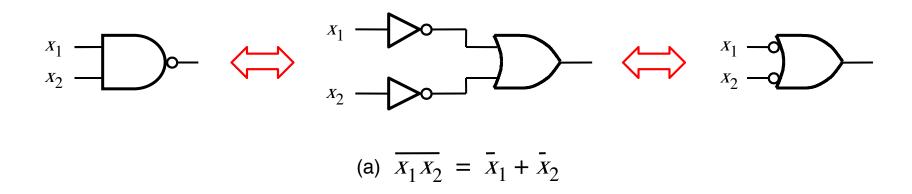
(a) NAND gates

$$\begin{array}{c}
x_1 \\
x_2 \\
\vdots \\
x_{n}
\end{array}$$

(b) NOR gates

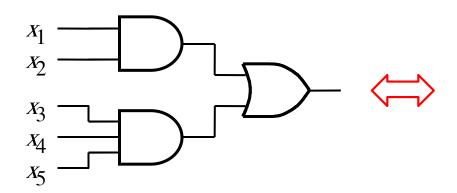
DeMorgan's theorem in terms of logic gates

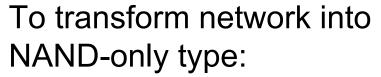
Allows us to transform AND-OR networks into NAND-only or NOR-only equivalent networks



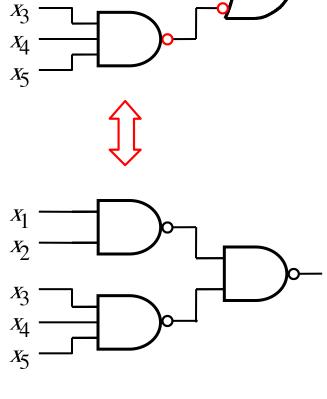
$$\begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} x_1 \\ x_1$$

Using NAND gates to implement a SOP network

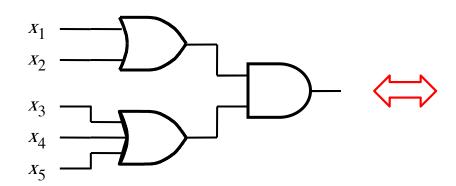




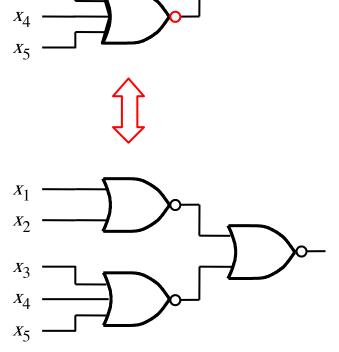
- Replace AND & OR gates with equivalent NAND gates
- 2. Ensure the logical value of no wire is changed due to step 1. Insert additional bubbles into wires where only one bubble was added during step 1.



Using NOR gates to implement a POS network



Follow a similar algorithm to transform network into NOR-only type



Example 2.3

- Consider the function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sum m(2, 3, 4, 6, 7)$
- The canonical SOP expression is derived using minterms $f = m_2 + m_3 + m_4 + m_6 + m_7$ = $\overline{x}_1 x_2 \overline{x}_3 + \overline{x}_1 x_2 x_3 + x_1 \overline{x}_2 \overline{x}_3 + x_1 x_2 \overline{x}_3 + x_1 x_2 x_3$
- The expression can be simplified using algebraic manipulation or a Karnaugh map:

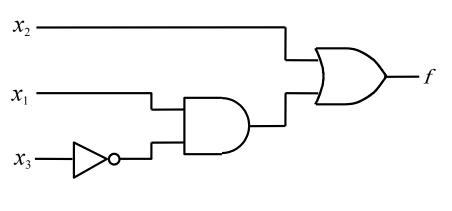
$$f = \overline{X}_1 X_2 (\overline{X}_3 + X_3) + X_1 (\overline{X}_2 + X_2) \overline{X}_3 + X_1 X_2 (\overline{X}_3 + X_3)$$

$$= \overline{X}_1 X_2 + X_1 \overline{X}_3 + X_1 X_2$$

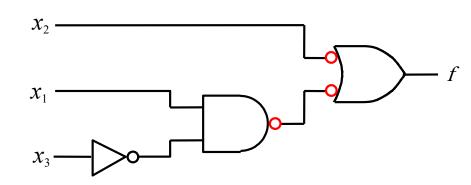
$$= (\overline{X}_1 + X_1) X_2 + X_1 \overline{X}_3$$

$$= X_2 + X_1 \overline{X}_3$$

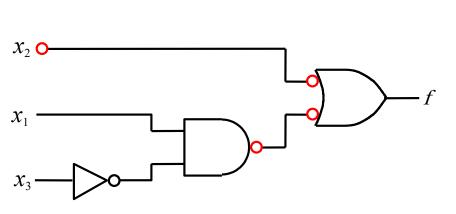
NAND-gate realization of the function in Example 2.3



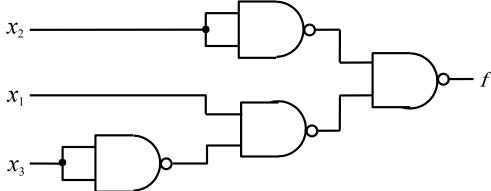
(a) SOP implementation



(b) Partial NAND conversion



(c) Balancing inserted inversions



(d) Resulting NAND implementation

Example 2.4

 Consider again the function of Example 2.3. Instead of using the minterms, we can specify this function as a product of maxterms for which f = 0, namely,

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \Pi M(0, 1, 5)$$

Then the canonical POS expression is derived as

$$f = M_0 \cdot M_1 \cdot M_5$$

= $(x_1 + x_2 + x_3)(x_1 + x_2 + \overline{x_3})(\overline{x_1} + x_2 + \overline{x_3})$

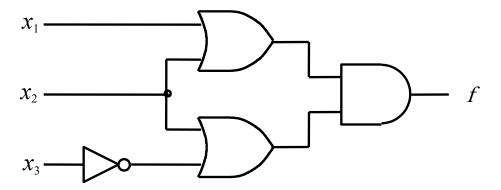
A simplifeied POS expression can be derived as

$$f = ((x_1 + x_2) + x_3)((x_1 + x_2) + \overline{x_3})(x_1 + (x_2 + \overline{x_3}))(\overline{x_1} + (x_2 + \overline{x_3}))$$

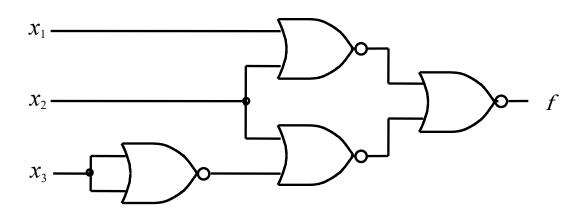
$$= ((x_1 + x_2) + x_3\overline{x_3})(x_1\overline{x_1} + (x_2 + \overline{x_3}))$$

$$= (x_1 + x_2)(x_2 + \overline{x_3})$$

NOR-gate realization of the function in Example 2.4

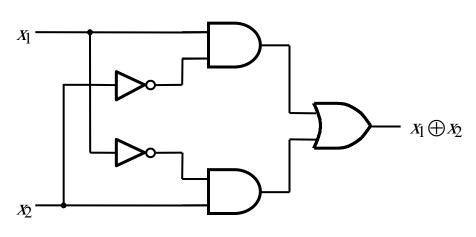


(a) POS implementation

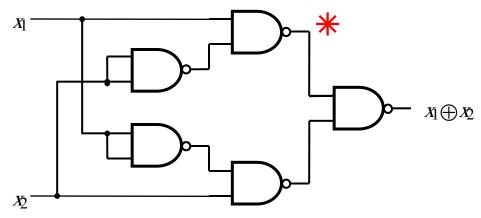


(b) NOR implementation

Implementation of XOR



(a) Sum-of-products implementation



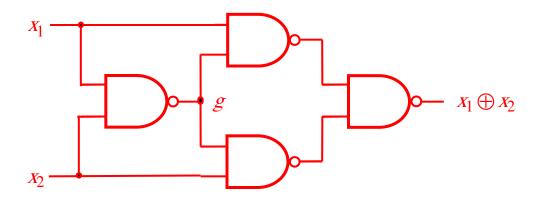
(b) NAND gate implementation

Since
$$(\overline{x_1 \cdot \overline{x_2}}) = (\overline{0 + x_1 \cdot \overline{x_2}})$$

$$= (x_1 \cdot \overline{x_1} + x_1 \cdot \overline{x_2})$$

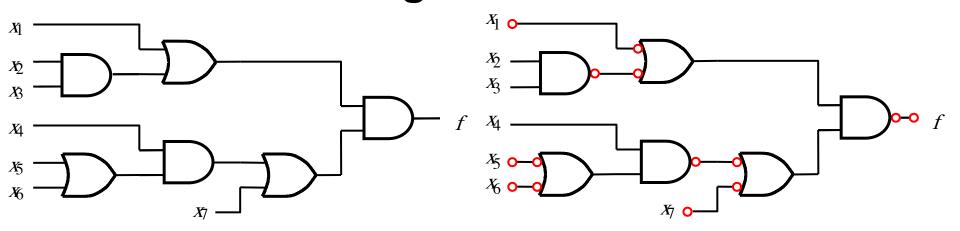
$$= (x_1 \cdot (\overline{x_1} + \overline{x_2}))$$

$$= x_1 \cdot (\overline{x_1 \cdot x_2})$$



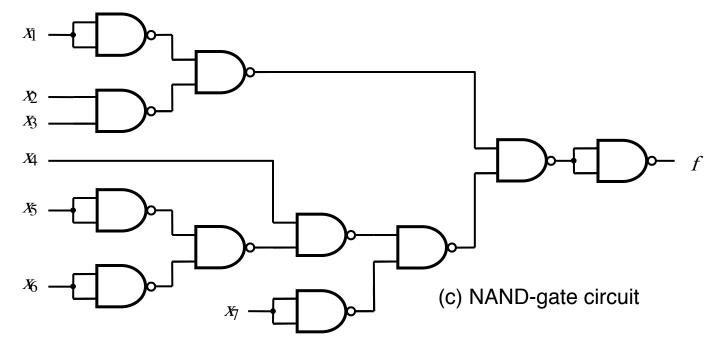
(c) Optimal NAND gate implementation

Multilevel NAND-gate circuit

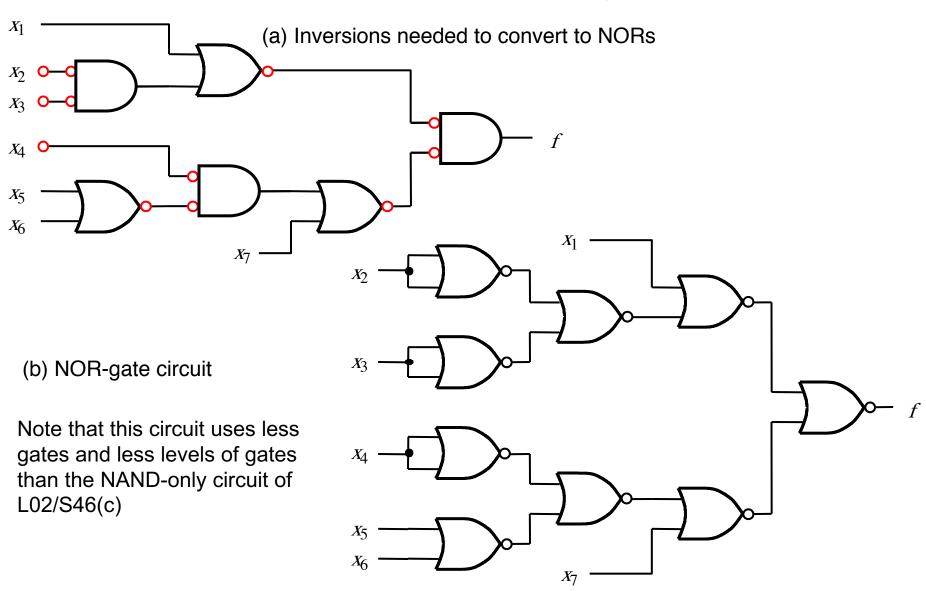


(a) Circuit with AND and OR gates

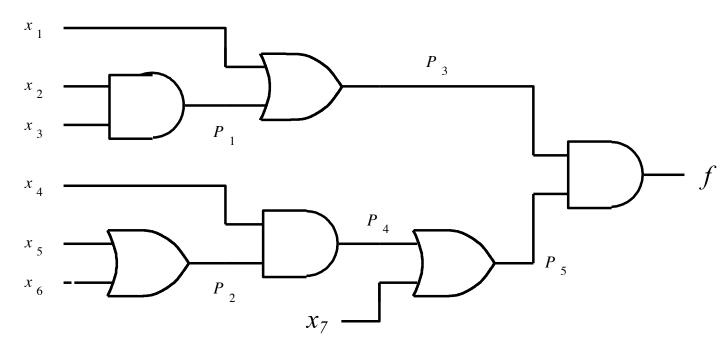
(b) Inversions needed to convert to NANDs



Equivalent multilevel NOR-gate circuit



Analysis of multilevel circuit



$$P_{1} = x_{2}x_{3}$$

$$P_{2} = x_{5} + x_{6}$$

$$P_{3} = x_{1} + P_{1} = x_{1} + x_{2}x_{3}$$

$$P_{4} = x_{4}P_{2} = x_{4}(x_{5} + x_{6})$$

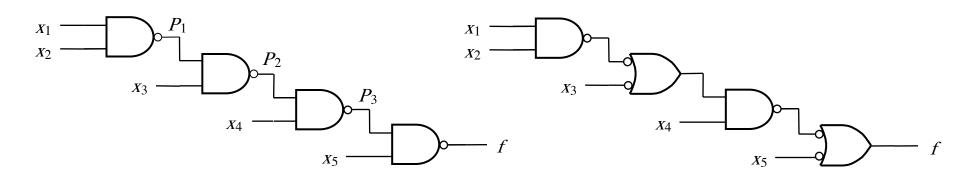
$$P_{5} = P_{4} + x_{7} = x_{4}(x_{5} + x_{6}) + x_{7}$$

$$f = P_3 P_5$$

$$= (x_1 + x_2 x_3)(x_4(x_5 + x_6) + x_7)$$

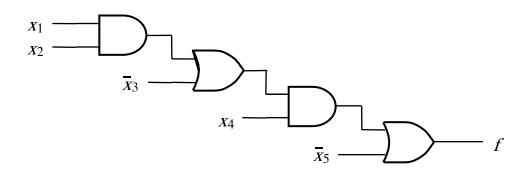
$$= x_1 x_4 x_5 + x_1 x_4 x_6 + x_1 x_7 + x_2 x_3 x_4 x_5 + x_2 x_3 x_4 x_6 + x_2 x_3 x_7$$

Analyzing multilevel NOR/NAND-only circuits



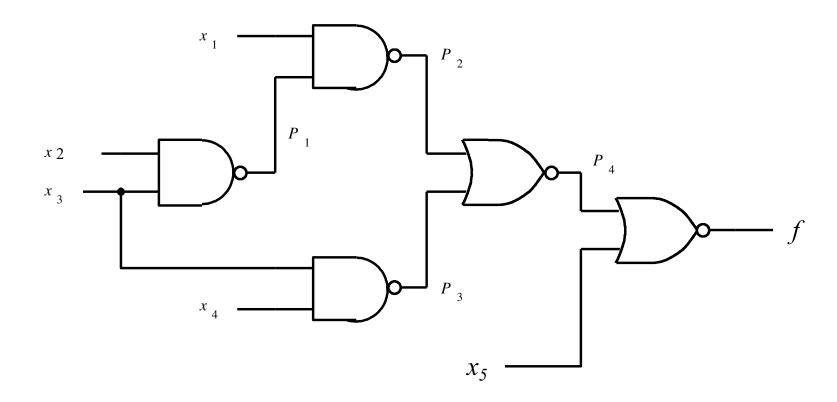
(a) NAND-gate circuit

(b) Moving bubbles to convert to ANDs and ORs avoids multiple, tedious inversions



(c) Circuit with AND and OR gates

Exercise: What f does this circuit implement?



The VHDL code for the function in L02/S3

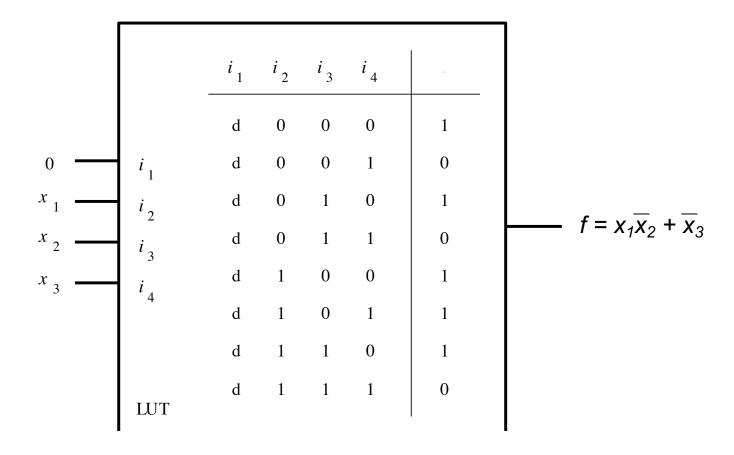
```
The std logic package
 LIBRARY is needed to include package
                                                         defines legal values and
                                                         uses for data type;
                LIBRARY ieee;
These two
                                                         STD LOGIC values:
                USE ieee.std logic 1164.all;
lines need to
                                                         {0,1, Z, -, U, X, W, L, H}
be included
                                                                Row
                ENTITY func1 IS
before every
                                                               number
                                                                     x_1
                                                                        x_2
                                                                           x_3
                    PORT (x1, x2, x3 : IN
                                              STD LOGIC;
design module
                                                                     0
                                                                           0
                                       : OUT STD LOGIC);
that uses data
                                                                           0
                END func1;
objects of type
std_logic
                ARCHITECTURE LogicFunc OF func1 IS
                BEGIN
                    f <= (NOT x1 AND NOT x2 AND NOT x3) OR
                        (NOT x1 AND x2 AND NOT x3) OR
Z high impedance
                                                                    Synthesizes to
                        (x1 AND NOT x2 AND NOT x3) OR
  don't care
                                                                    f = \chi_1 \overline{\chi}_2 + \overline{\chi}_3
                        (x1 AND NOT x2 AND x3) OR
  uninitialized
X unknown
                        (x1 AND x2 AND NOT x3);
W weak signal
                END LogicFunc;
L weak tending to 0
```

Optimized Implementation of Logic Functions

L02/S51

H weak tending to 1

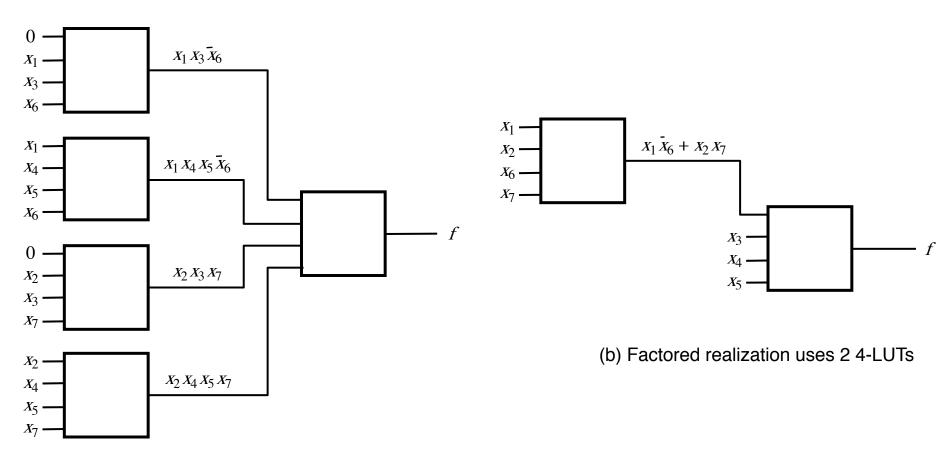
The VHDL code in L02/S51 implemented in a 4-LUT



The VHDL code for the function of L02/S24

```
LIBRARY ieee;
USE ieee.std logic 1164.all;
ENTITY func3 IS
     PORT (x1, x2, x3, x4, x5, x6, x7 : IN STD LOGIC;
                                          : OUT STD LOGIC);
END func3:
ARCHITECTURE LogicFunc OF func3 IS
BEGIN
     f \le (x1 \text{ AND } x3 \text{ AND NOT } x6) \text{ OR}
          (x1 AND x4 AND x5 AND NOT x6) OR
          (x2 AND x3 AND x7) OR
          (x2 AND x4 AND x5 AND x7);
END LogicFunc;
                                              Synthesizes as
                                              f = (x_1 \overline{x}_6 + x_2 x_7)(x_3 + x_4 x_5)
```

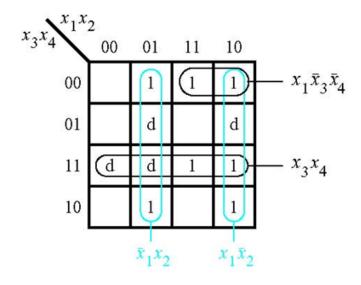
Implementation of the VHDL code in L02/S53



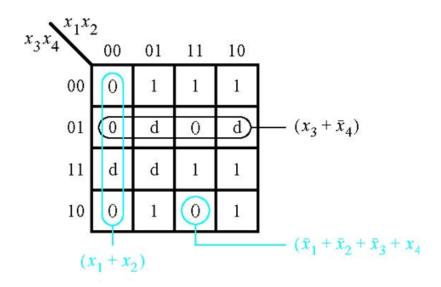
(a) Sum-of-products realization requires 5 4-LUTs

Exercise:

• Determine the minimum-cost SOP and POS expressions for the function $f(x1,x2,x3,x4) = \Sigma m(4,6,8,10,11,12,15) + D(3,5,7,9)$



(a) Determination of the SOP expression



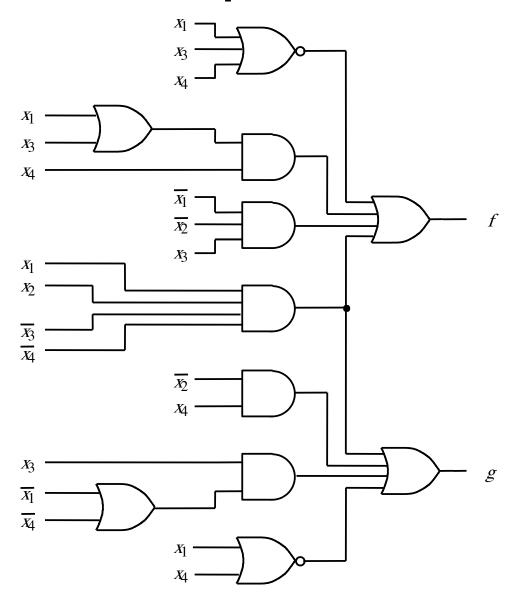
(b) Determination of the POS expression

Exercise:

 Use Karnaugh maps to find the minimum-cost SOP and POS expressions for the function

$$f(x_1,..x_4) = \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_3 \overline{x}_4 + x_3 x_4 + x_1 x_2 x_4 + \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_2 \overline{x}_3 x_4$$
assuming don't cares are defined as D = $\Sigma(9,12,14)$

Circuit for problem 4.43



What is the cost of this circuit, assuming variables are available in complemented and uncomplemented forms?

Re-implement the circuit at the lowest possible cost. (Can you beat 33?)