

# **COMP1071 - Digital Electronics**

## **Boolean Algebra**

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**Room:** MCS 2023

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# Overview of today's lecture

- Functionally complete sets
- Intro to Combinational Logic and Circuits
- Sum of Products vs Product of Sums
- Boolean Algebra

# Gates we have seen

**AND** gate:



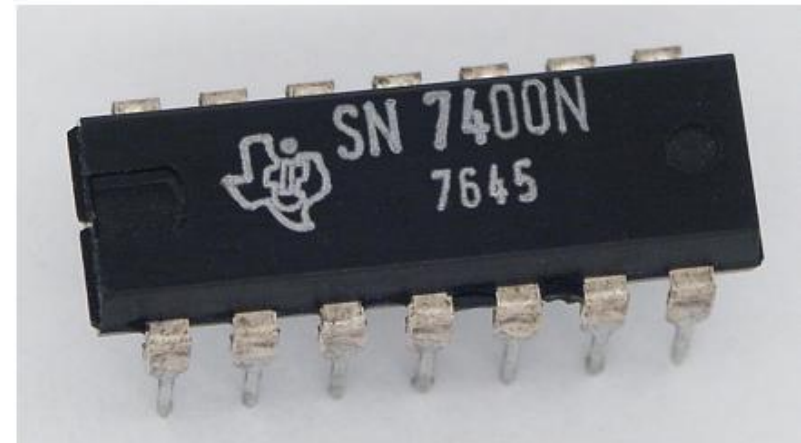
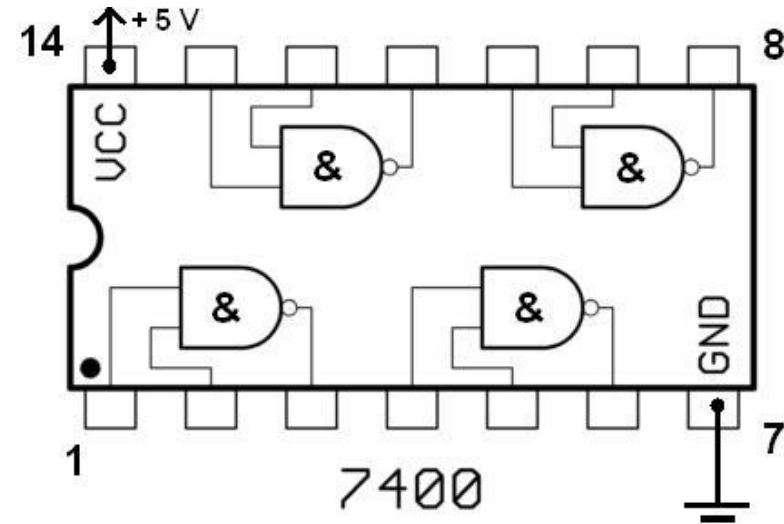
**OR** gate:



**NOT** gate:



**NAND** gate:



# More Boolean operations

A	B	Y
0	0	?
0	1	?
1	0	?
1	1	?

There are  $2^{2^k}$  possible Boolean operations on  $k$  inputs –  
*i.e.* 16 on 2 inputs.

The trivial operations are: 0, 1, A, B

We have seen  $\overline{A}$ ,  $\overline{B}$ ,  $A \cdot B$ ,  $A + B$

What else is there?

Adding rule:

$$0 + 0 = 0$$

$$0 + 1 = 1$$

$$1 + 0 = 1$$

$$1 + 1 = 0 \quad (\text{with Carry})$$

How many possible  
Boolean operations  
are there on 2  
inputs?

# Truth tables: Exclusive OR (XOR)

- XOR** gate:  Algebraic expression:  $Y = A \oplus B$

A	B	Y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

Linear truth table

XOR	B	
	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

Rectangular/Coordinate table

# Exclusive OR (XOR)

We can construct XOR using AND, OR and NOT:

$$A \oplus B = (A + B) \cdot (\overline{A \cdot B})$$

Check:

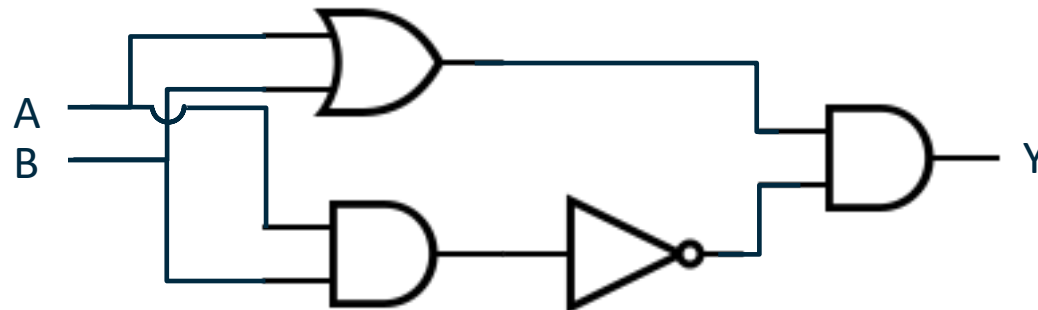
A	B	Y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

# Exclusive OR (XOR)

$$A \oplus B = (A + B) \cdot (\overline{A \cdot B})$$



is the same as



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# Functionally Complete Sets

In logic, a **functionally complete set of Boolean operators** is one which can be used to *express all possible truth tables* by combining members of the set into a Boolean expression.

# Functionally Complete Sets

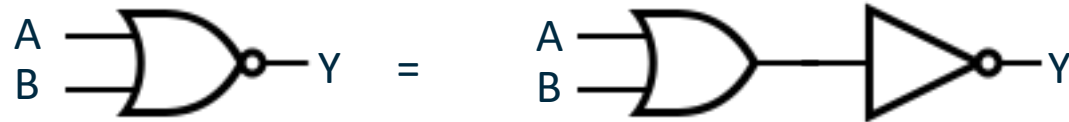
Every Boolean expression can be turned into a conjunctive normal form, see PoS!

Any logic circuit can be constructed with just these three operators

- **AND, OR, and NOT**
- They form a **functionally complete set**.

Charles Sanders Peirce (1880) showed that **NOR gates alone** form a functionally complete set.

NOR: inverse of OR,  $Y = \overline{A + B}$



A	B	Y
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	0

# NOR gates

**AND:**

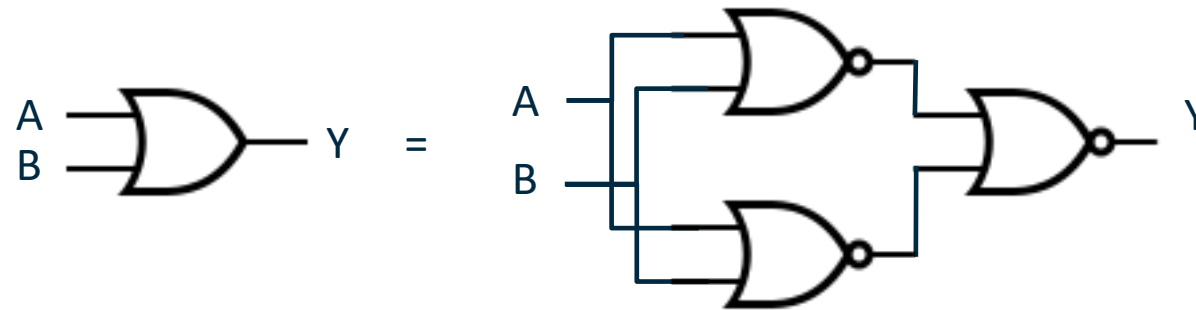
$$A \cdot B = \overline{\overline{A + A} + \overline{B + B}}$$

**OR:**

$$A + B = \overline{\overline{A + B} + \overline{A + B}}$$

**NOT:**

$$\overline{A} = \overline{A + A}$$



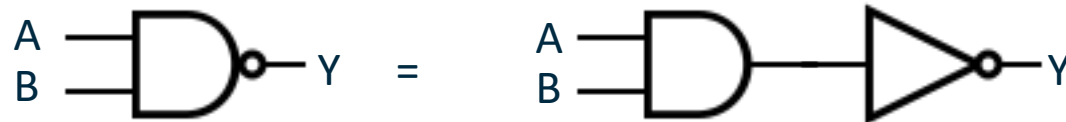
# Functionally Complete Sets

Any logic circuit can be constructed with just these three operators

- **AND, OR, and NOT**
- They form a **functionally complete set**.

Henry M. Sheffer (1913) showed that the **NAND gates alone** form a functionally complete set.

NAND: inverse of AND,  $Y = \overline{A \cdot B}$



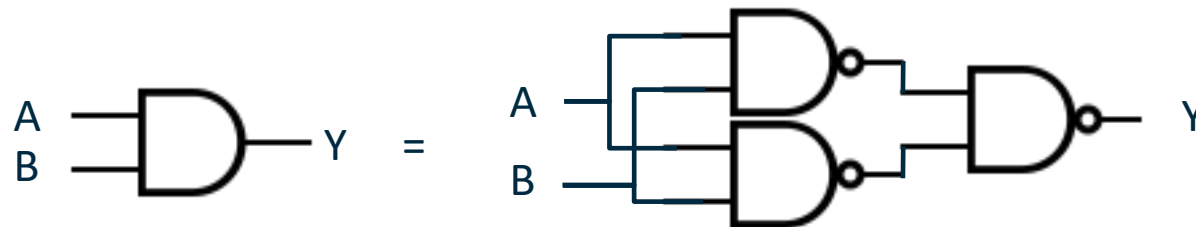
A	B	Y
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

# NAND gates

**AND:**  $A \cdot B = \overline{\overline{A \cdot B} \cdot \overline{A \cdot B}}$

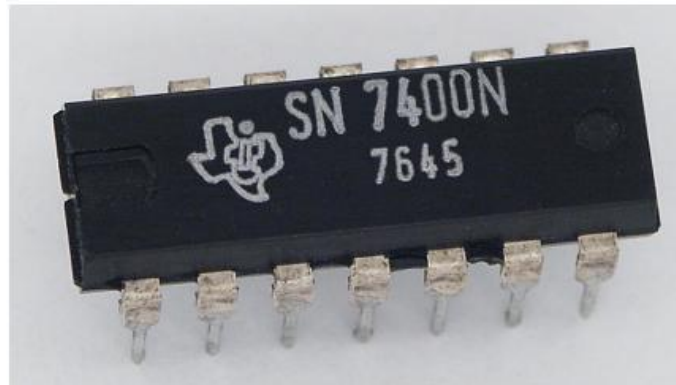
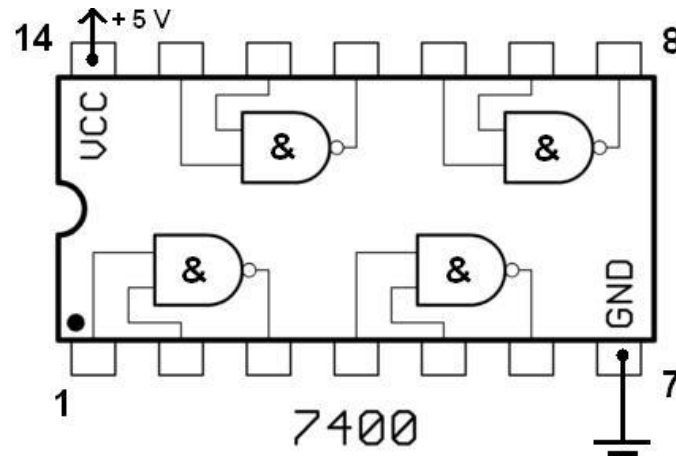
**OR:**  $A + B = \overline{\overline{A \cdot A} \cdot \overline{B \cdot B}}$

**NOT:**  $\overline{A} = \overline{A \cdot A}$



# NAND chips

NAND gates are easier to make (use less silicon for same performance) than NOR gates. So often used as universal gates. E.g. the 7400:



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# Digital design principles

Digital design is all about **managing the complexity** of huge numbers of interacting elements. Some principles help humans do this:

**Abstraction:** Hiding details when they aren't important.

**Discipline:** Restricting design choices to make things easier to model, design and combine. E.g. the logic families and the digital abstraction.

## The three –y's:

**Hierarchy:** dividing a system into modules and submodules

**Modularity:** well-defined functions and interfaces for modules

**Regularity:** encouraging uniformity so modules can be swapped or reused.

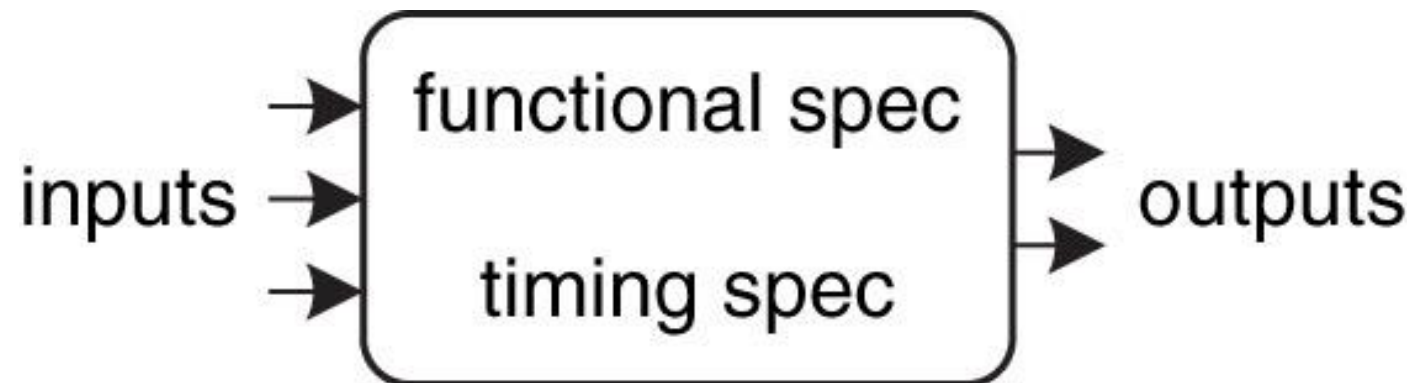


# Circuits

Network that processes discrete-valued variables.

A **circuit** has:

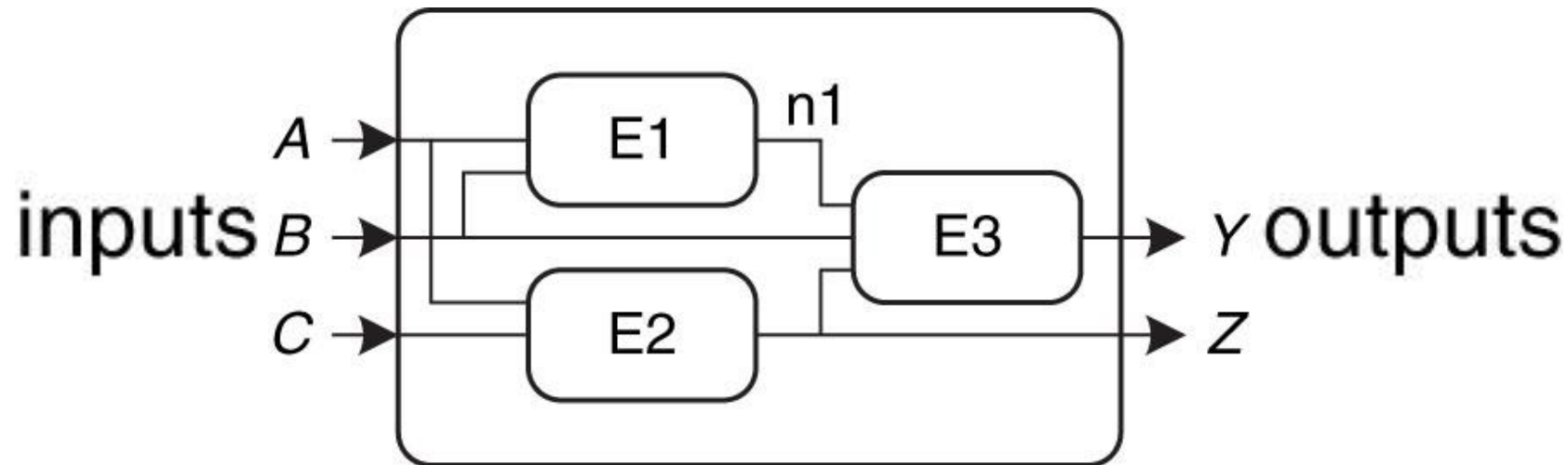
- one or more discrete valued input terminals
- one or more discrete valued output terminals
- a specification of the relationship between inputs and outputs
- a specification of the delay between inputs changing and outputs responding



# Circuits

The circuit is made up of **elements** and **nodes**:

- An **element** is itself a circuit with inputs, outputs and specs.
- A **node** is a wire joining elements, whose voltage conveys a discrete valued variable.



# Combinational logic

We wish to design **very large** circuits to perform functions for us.

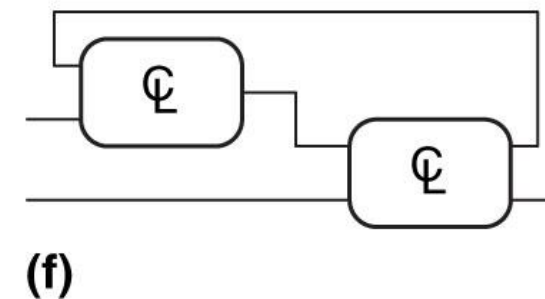
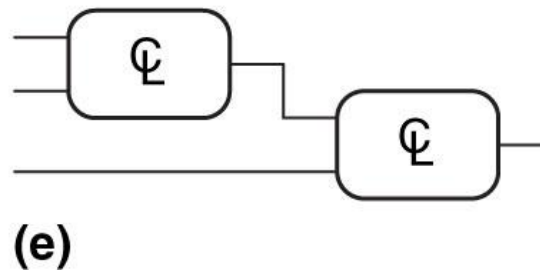
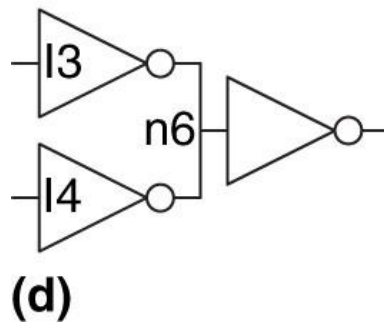
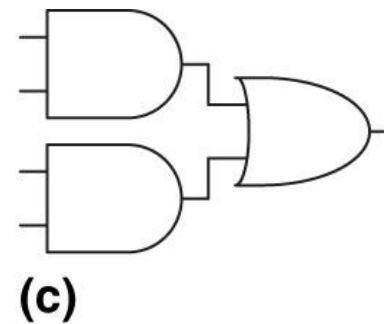
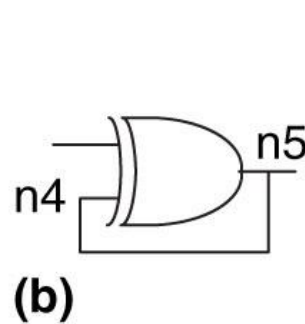
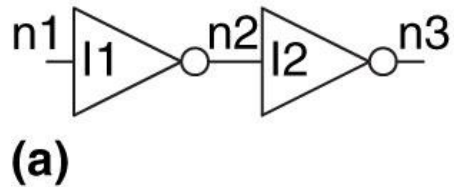
We will restrict what we allow, for now, firstly to **combinational logic\*** and circuits.

## Combinational logic rules:

- **Individual gates** are combinational circuits.
- Every circuit **element** must be a combinational circuit.
- Every node is either an **input** to the circuit or connecting **to exactly one output** of a circuit element
- The circuit has **no cyclic paths** – every path through the circuit visits any node at most once.

# Combinational logic

Which of these are combinational circuits and why?

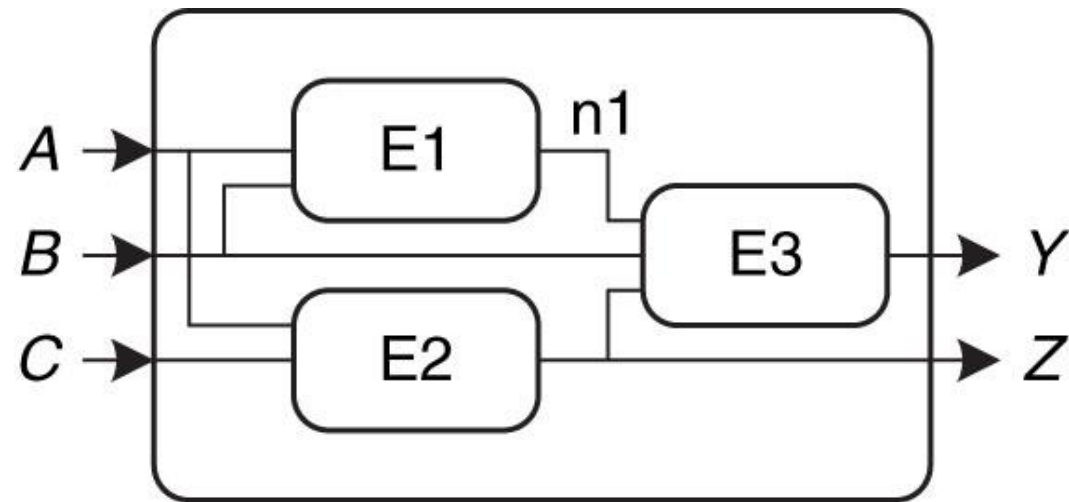


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- Sum of Products vs Product of Sums
- Boolean Algebra

# Boolean Algebra

- The algebra of 0/1 variables.
- Used for specifying the function of a combinational circuit
- Used to analyse and simplify the circuits required to give a specified truth table.



# Boolean Algebra

- **Variables** are represented by letters, e.g.  $A, B, C$ ...  
The **complement** or **inverse** of a variable is written with a bar, e.g.  $\overline{A}$ .
- A variable or its complement is called a **literal**, e.g.  $A, \overline{A}, B$  or  $\overline{B}$ .
- The **AND** of several literals is called a **product**, e.g.  $A\overline{B}C$  or  $A\overline{C}$ ,  
Products may be written  $A \cdot B \cdot C, ABC, A \cap B \cap C$  or  $A \wedge B \wedge C$ .  
A **minterm** is a product in which **all** the inputs to a function appear once each (either in its complemented or uncomplemented form).
- The **OR** of several literals is called a **sum** or **implicant**, e.g.  $A + B + C$  or  $A + C$   
Sums may be written  $A + B + C, A \cup B \cup C$  or  $A \vee B \vee C$ .  
A **maxterm** is a sum in which **all** the inputs to a function appear once each (either in its complemented or uncomplemented form).

# Truth table to Boolean eqn.

X	Y	Z	F(X,Y,Z)
0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0



# Truth table to Boolean eqn.

## “Sum of products (SoP)” form

Every Boolean expression can be written as minterms **ORed together**:

$$(A \cdot B \cdot C) + (A \cdot \bar{B} \cdot \bar{C}) + (\bar{A} \cdot B \cdot C)$$

## “Product of sums (PoS)” form

Also every Boolean expression can be written as maxterms **ANDed together**:

$$(\bar{A} + \bar{B} + \bar{C}) \cdot (\bar{A} + B + C) \cdot (A + \bar{B} + \bar{C})$$

# Truth table to SoP

X	Y	Z	F(X,Y,Z)
0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0

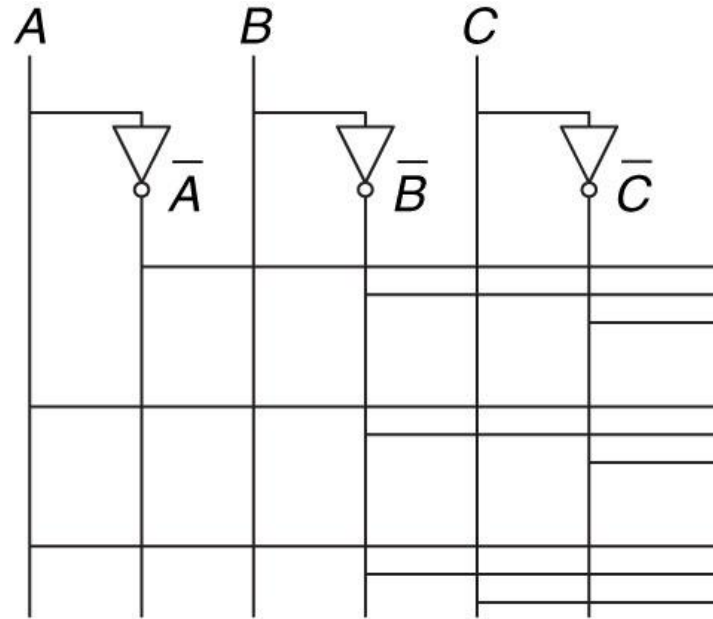
Each row can be represented by a minterm that is true:

**OR** together the **1 values** of the function, to give SOP form:

$$F(X,Y,Z) = \underbrace{\bar{X} \cdot \bar{Y} \cdot \bar{Z}} + \underbrace{\bar{X} \cdot Y \cdot Z} + \underbrace{X \cdot \bar{Y} \cdot Z} + \underbrace{X \cdot Y \cdot \bar{Z}}$$

## Example of circuit design:

$$Y = \overline{A}\overline{B}\overline{C} + A\overline{B}\overline{C} + A\overline{B}C$$



This layout can be used for any sum-of-products expression.

# Truth table to PoS

X	Y	Z	F(X,Y,Z)
0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0

Each row can be represented by a maxterm that is false:

$$X + Y + Z$$

$$X + \bar{Y} + Z$$

$$\bar{X} + Y + \bar{Z}$$

**AND** together the **0 values** of the function, to give POS for F:

$$F(X, Y, Z) = (X + Y + \bar{Z})(X + \bar{Y} + Z)(\bar{X} + Y + Z)(\bar{X} + \bar{Y} + \bar{Z})$$

Compare to  $F(X, Y, Z) = \bar{X} \cdot \bar{Y} \cdot \bar{Z} + \bar{X} \cdot Y \cdot Z + X \cdot \bar{Y} \cdot Z + X \cdot Y \cdot \bar{Z}$

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# Boolean Algebra

Two equivalent expressions for the same logical formula:

$$F(X,Y,Z) = (X + Y + \bar{Z})(X + \bar{Y} + Z)(\bar{X} + Y + Z)(\bar{X} + \bar{Y} + \bar{Z})$$

$$F(X,Y,Z) = \bar{X} \cdot \bar{Y} \cdot \bar{Z} + \bar{X} \cdot Y \cdot Z + X \cdot \bar{Y} \cdot Z + X \cdot Y \cdot \bar{Z}$$

Which is simpler?

Is there another equivalent expression that is simpler than either?

We will use **Boolean algebra** and **Karnaugh maps** to produce the simplest equivalent expression that can then be turned into circuitry.

# Axioms of Boolean Algebra

Axiom		Dual axiom		Name
A1	$B = 0 \text{ if } B \neq 1$	A1'	$B = 1 \text{ if } B \neq 0$	Binary field
A2	$\overline{0} = 1$	A2'	$\overline{1} = 0$	NOT
A3	$0 \cdot 0 = 0$	A3'	$1 + 1 = 1$	AND/OR
A4	$1 \cdot 1 = 1$	A4'	$0 + 0 = 0$	AND/OR
A5	$0 \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot 0 = 0$	A5'	$1 + 0 = 0 + 1 = 1$	AND/OR

Axioms cannot be proven – they are defined or assumed.  
Each axiom has a dual obtained by interchanging AND and OR,  
and 0 and 1.

# Theorems of one variable

Theorem		Dual theorem		Name
T1	$B \cdot 1 = B$	T1'	$B + 0 = B$	Identity
T2	$B \cdot 0 = 0$	T2'	$B + 1 = 1$	Null element
T3	$B \cdot B = B$	T3'	$B + B = B$	Idempotency
T4	$\overline{\overline{B}} = B$			Involution
T5	$B \cdot \overline{B} = 0$	T5'	$B + \overline{B} = 1$	Complements

Theorems can be proved by applying the axioms and checking cases



# Theorems of several variables

	Theorem	Dual	Name
T6	$B \bullet C = C \bullet B$	$B + C = C + B$	Commutativity
T7	$(B \bullet C) \bullet D = B \bullet (C \bullet D)$	$(B + C) + D = B + (C + D)$	Associativity
T8	$B \bullet (C + D) = B \bullet C + B \bullet D$	$(B + C) \bullet (B + D) = B + (C \bullet D)$	Distributivity
T9	$B \bullet (B + C) = B$	$B + (B \bullet C) = B$	Covering
T10	$B \bullet C + B \bullet \overline{C} = B$	$(B + C) \bullet (B + \overline{C}) = B$	Combining
T11	$B \bullet C + \overline{B} \bullet D + C \bullet D = B \bullet C + \overline{B} \bullet D$		Consensus
T11'	$(B + C) \bullet (\overline{B} + D) \bullet (C + D) = (B + C) \bullet (\overline{B} + D)$		
T12	$\overline{B_0 \bullet B_1 \bullet B_2 \dots} = \overline{B_0} + \overline{B_1} + \overline{B_2} \dots$		De Morgan's
T12'	$\overline{\overline{B_0} + \overline{B_1} + \overline{B_2} \dots} = \overline{B_0} \bullet \overline{B_1} \bullet \overline{B_2} \dots$		

# DeMorgan's Theorem

Proof of two variable case:

$$\overline{A \cdot B} = \overline{A} + \overline{B}$$

Proof:

$A$	$B$	$A \cdot B$	$\overline{A \cdot B}$	$\overline{A}$	$\overline{B}$	$\overline{A} + \overline{B}$
0	0	0	1	1	1	1
0	1	0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	0	0	0	0

# Theorems of several variables

Theorem	Dual	Name
<p><b>Key principle for simplification:</b></p> <p>use T10 and T11 to remove variables or terms</p> <p>use others to rearrange so that T10 or T11 can be applied</p>		
T10	$B \cdot C + B \cdot \bar{C} = B$ $(B + C) \cdot (B + \bar{C}) = B$	Combining
T11	$B \cdot C + \bar{B} \cdot D + C \cdot D = B \cdot C + \bar{B} \cdot D$	Consensus
T11'	$(B + C) \cdot (\bar{B} + D) \cdot (C + D) = (B + C) \cdot (\bar{B} + D)$	
<p>General form of T10: for any implicant (i.e., product or sum) P and variable A, <math>PA + P\bar{A} = P</math></p>		

# Example

Draw the circuit corresponding to this truth table.

1. Sum of products form
2. Simplification using Boolean Algebra

A	B	C	Y
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0

Sum of products:  $Y = \bar{A} B \bar{C} + \bar{A} B C + A B \bar{C}$

Now minimise this equation:  $Y = \bar{A} B (\bar{C} + C) + A B \bar{C}$

$$Y = \bar{A} B + A B \bar{C}$$

# Example

Draw the circuit corresponding to this truth table.

1. Sum of products form
2. Simplification using Boolean Algebra

A	B	C	Y
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	0
1	1	0	1
1	1	1	0

Sum of products:

$$Y = \overline{A} B \overline{C} + \overline{A} B C + \overline{A} B \overline{C} + A B \overline{C}$$

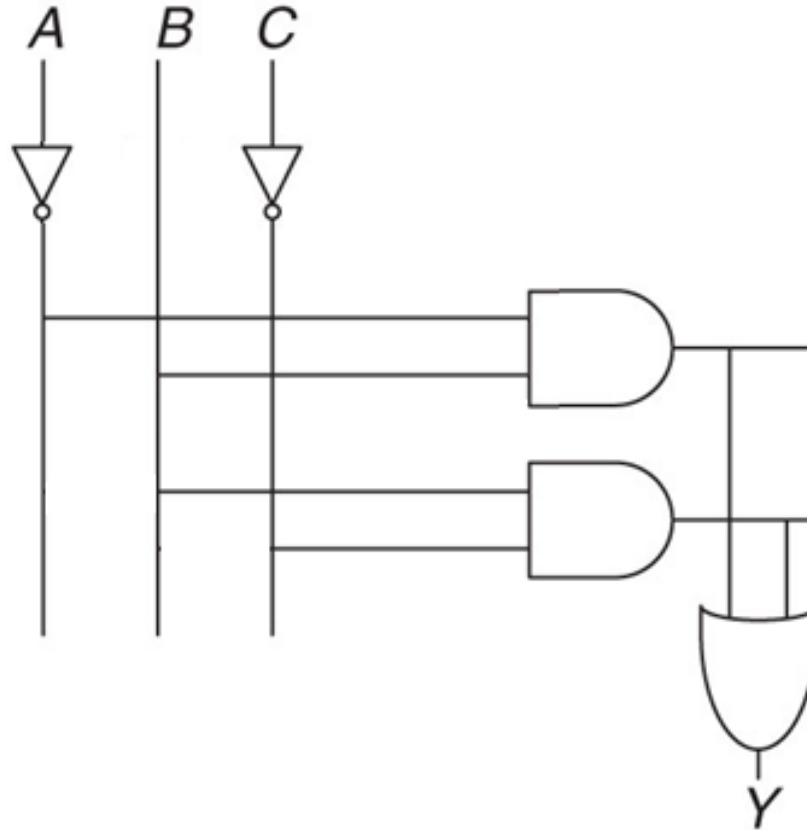
Now minimise this equation:

$$Y = \overline{A} B (\overline{C} + C) + (A + \overline{A}) B \overline{C}$$

$$Y = \overline{A} B + B \overline{C}$$

# Example

$$Y = \bar{A} B + B \bar{C}$$



The simplified expression gives the same logical output with much less hardware.

# Summary

- Functionally Complete Sets
- Combinational Logic and Circuits
- Sum of Products and Product of Sums
- Boolean Algebra