UNIT-II
Boolean algebra and Logic Gates

BOOLEAN OPERATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS

Variable, complement, and literal are terms used in Boolean algebra. A variable is a symbol used to represent a logical quantity. Any single variable can have a 1 or a 0 value. The complement is the inverse of a variable and is indicated by a bar over variable (overbar). For example, the complement of the variable A is A. If A = 1, then A = 0. If A = 0, then A = 1. The complement of the variable A is read as "not A" or "A bar." Sometimes a prime symbol rather than an overbar is used to denote the complement of a variable; for example, B' indicates the complement of B. A literal is a variable or the complement of a variable.

Boolean Addition

Recall from part 3 that Boolean addition is equivalent to the OR operation. In Boolean algebra, a sum term is a sum of literals. In logic circuits, a sum term is produced by an OR operation with no AND operations involved. Some examples of sum terms are A + B, A + B, A +
B + C, and A + B + C + D.

A sum term is equal to 1 when one or more of the literals in the term are 1. A sum term is equal to 0 only if each of the literals is 0.

Example

Determine the values of A, B, C, and D that make the sum term
A + B + C + D equal to 0.

Boolean Multiplication

Also recall from part 3 that Boolean multiplication is equivalent to the AND operation. In Boolean algebra, a product term is the product of literals. In

logic circuits, a product term is produced by an AND operation with no OR operations involved. Some examples of product terms are AB, $A\overline{B}$, ABC, and ABCD.

A product term is equal to 1 only if each of the literals in the term is 1. A product term is equal to 0 when one or more of the literals are 0.

Example

Determine the values of A, B, C, and D that make the product term $\overline{A}BC\overline{D}$ equal to 1.

LAWS AND RULES OF BOOLEAN ALGEBRA

■ *Laws of Boolean Algebra*

The basic laws of Boolean algebra-the commutative laws for addition and multiplication, the associative laws for addition and multiplication, and the distributive law-are the same as in ordinary algebra.

Commutative Laws

►The commutative law of addition for two variables is written as

A+B = B+A

This law states that the order in which the variables are ORed makes no difference. Remember, in Boolean algebra as applied to logic circuits, addition and the OR operation are the same. Fig.(4-1) illustrates the commutative law as applied to the OR gate and shows that it doesn't matter to which input each variable is applied. (The symbol ≡ means "equivalent to.").

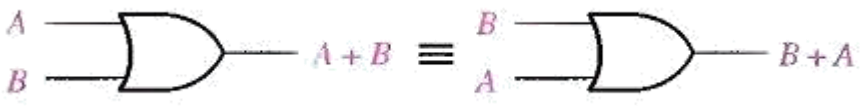

Fig.(4-1) Application of commutative law of addition.