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**Abstract**—This manual explains Karnaugh maps (K-map) and state machines by deconstructing a decade counter.

## 1 THE DECADE COUNTER

The block diagram of a decade counter (repeatedly counts up from 0 to 9) is available in Fig. 1. The *incrementing* decoder and *display* decoder are part of *combinational* logic, while the *delay* is part of *sequential* logic.

## 2 INCREMENTING DECODER

The incrementing decoder in Fig. 1 takes the numbers 0, 1, ..., 9 in binary as inputs and generates the consecutive number as output. The corresponding truth table is available in Fig. I.

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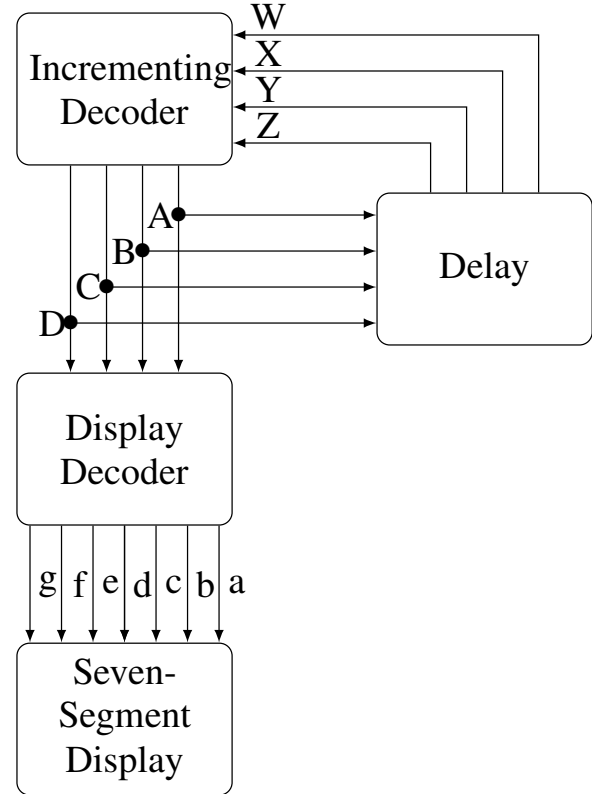


Fig. 1: The decade counter

## 3 KARNAUGH MAP

Using Boolean logic, output A in Table I can be expressed in terms of the inputs W, X, Y, Z as

$$A = W'X'Y'Z' + W'XY'Z' + W'X'YZ' + W'XYZ' + W'X'Y'Z \quad (1)$$

### 3.1 K-Map for A

The expression in (1) can be minimized using the K-map in Fig. 2. In Fig. 2, the *implicants* in boxes 0,2,4,6 result in  $W'Z'$ . The implicants in boxes 0,8

Z	Y	X	W	D	C	B	A
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0

TABLE I

ZY	XW			
	00	01	11	10
00	1	0	0	1
01	1	0	0	1
11	0	0	0	0
10	1	0	0	0

Fig. 2: K-map for A.

result in  $W'X'Y'$ . Thus, after minimization using Fig. 2, (1) can be expressed as

$$A = W'Z' + W'X'Y' \quad (2)$$

**Problem 1.** Using the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} X + X' &= 1 \\ XX' &= 0, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

derive (2) from (1) algebraically.

### 3.2 K-Map for B

From Table I, using boolean logic,

$$B = WX'Y'Z' + W'XY'Z' + WX'YZ' + W'XYZ' \quad (4)$$

ZY	XW			
	00	01	11	10
00	0	1	0	1
01	0	1	0	1
11	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0

Fig. 3: K-map for B.

**Problem 2.** Show that (4) can be reduced to

$$B = WX'Z' + W'XZ' \quad (5)$$

using Fig. 3.

**Problem 3.** Derive (5) from (4) algebraically using (3).

ZY	XW			
	00	01	11	10
00	0	0	1	0
01	1	1	0	1
11	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0

Fig. 4: K-map for C.

### 3.3 K-Map for C

From Table I, using boolean logic,

$$C = WXY'Z' + W'X'YZ' + WX'YZ' + W'XYZ' \quad (6)$$

**Problem 4.** Show that (6) can be reduced to

$$C = WXY'Z' + X'YZ' + W'YZ' \quad (7)$$

using Fig. 4.

**Problem 5.** Derive (7) from (6) algebraically using (3).

ZY \ XW				
	00	01	11	10
00	0	0	0	0
01	0	0	1	0
11	0	0	0	0
10	1	0	0	0

Fig. 5: K-map for D.

### 3.4 K-Map for D

From Table I, using boolean logic,

$$D = WXYZ' + W'X'Y'Z \quad (8)$$

**Problem 6.** Minimize (8) using Fig. 5.

## 4 DON'T CARE CONDITIONS

4 binary digits are used in the incrementing decoder in Fig. 1. However, only the numbers from 0-9 are used as input/output in the decoder and we *don't care* about the numbers from 10-15. This phenomenon can be addressed by revising Table I to obtain Table II.

Z	Y	X	W	D	C	B	A
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	-	-	-	-
1	0	1	1	-	-	-	-
1	1	0	0	-	-	-	-
1	1	0	1	-	-	-	-
1	1	1	0	-	-	-	-
1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

TABLE II

ZY \ XW				
	00	01	11	10
00	1	0	0	1
01	1	0	0	1
11	-	-	-	-
10	1	0	-	-

Fig. 6: K-map for A with don't cares.

The revised K-maps for A,B,C,D are now available in Figs. 6-9 resulting in

$$A = W' \quad (9)$$

$$B = WX'Z' + W'X \quad (10)$$

$$C = X'Y + W'Y + WXY' \quad (11)$$

$$D = W'Z + WXY \quad (12)$$

ZY \ XW	00	01	11	10
00	0	1	0	1
01	0	1	0	1
11	-	-	-	-
10	0	0	-	-

Fig. 7: K-map for  $B$  with don't cares.

ZY \ XW	00	01	11	10
00	0	0	0	0
01	0	0	1	0
11	-	-	-	-
10	1	0	-	-

Fig. 9: K-map for  $D$  with don't cares.

ZY \ XW	00	01	11	10
00	0	0	1	0
01	1	1	0	1
11	-	-	-	-
10	0	0	-	-

Fig. 8: K-map for  $C$  with don't cares.

D	C	B	A	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	Decimal
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	5
0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	7
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	9

TABLE III: Truth table for display decoder.

## 5 DISPLAY DECODER

Table III is the truth table for the display decoder in Fig. 1.

**Problem 7.** Use K-maps to obtain the minimized expressions for  $a, b, c, d, e, f, g$  in terms of  $A, B, C, D$  with and without don't care conditions.

## 6 FINITE STATE MACHINE

Fig. 10 shows a *finite state machine* (FSM) diagram for the decade counter in Fig. 1.  $s_0$  is the state when the input to the incrementing decoder is 0. The *state transition table* for the FSM is Table I where the present state is denoted by the variables  $W, X, Y, Z$  and the next state by  $A, B, C, D$ . The FSM implementation is available in Fig. 11. The *flip-flops* hold the input for the time that is given by the *clock*. This is nothing but the implementation of the *Delay* block in Fig. 1. The hardware cost of the system is given by

$$\text{No. of D Flip-Flops} = \lceil \log_2 (\text{No. of States}) \rceil \quad (13)$$

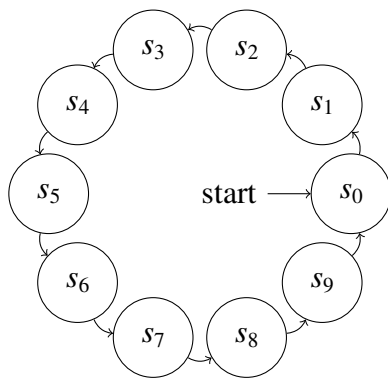


Fig. 10: FSM for the decade counter.

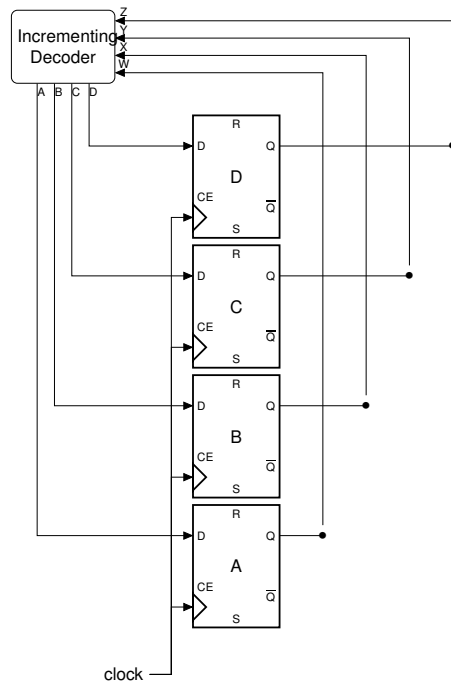


Fig. 11: Decade counter FSM implementation using D-Flip Flops.

For the FSM in Fig. 10, the number of states is 9, hence the number flipflops required = 4.

**Problem 8.** Design a decade down counter (counts from 9 to 0 repeatedly) using an FSM.