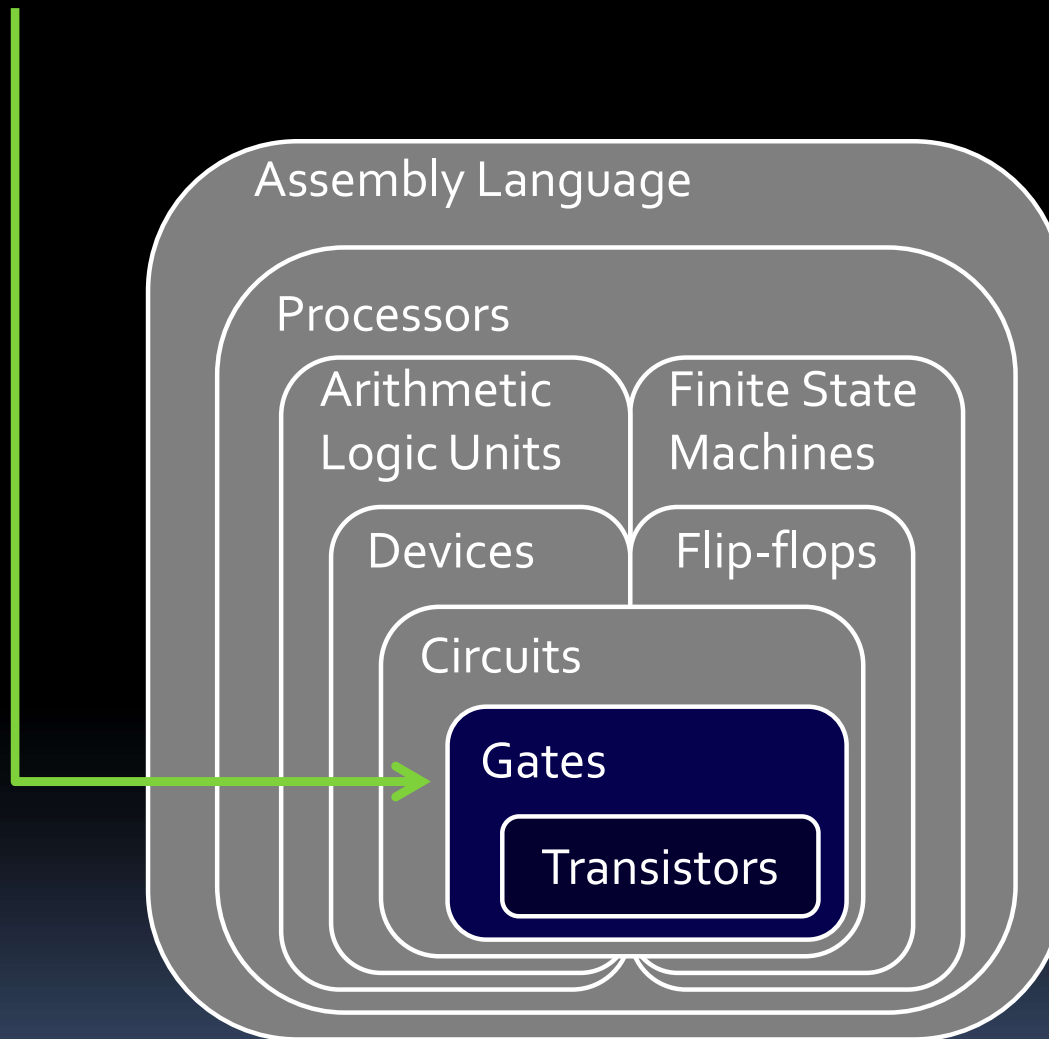





Circuit Creation

You are here





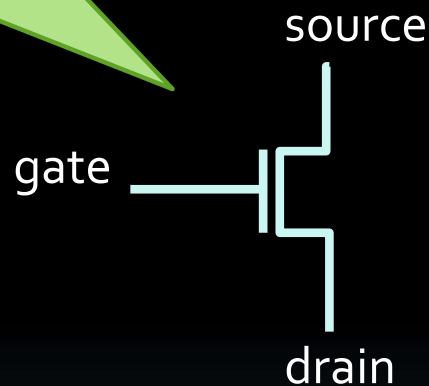
Circuit creation goals

- What does it mean to design a circuit?
 - Given a specified input/output behaviour, connect circuit components to produce this behaviour.
 - Secondary goal: Create the circuit with the lowest possible cost (that uses the fewest components)
 - We have seen this already in creating transistor circuits!
- 

Transistor Circuits

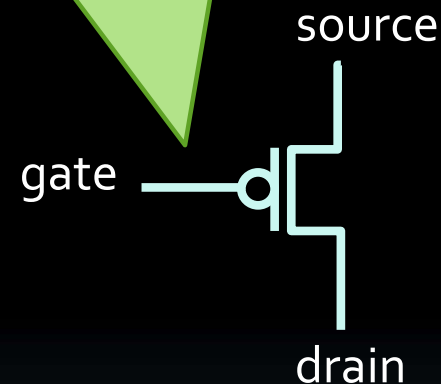
nMOS transistor:

Source and drain are connected when gate input is high (aka "1")



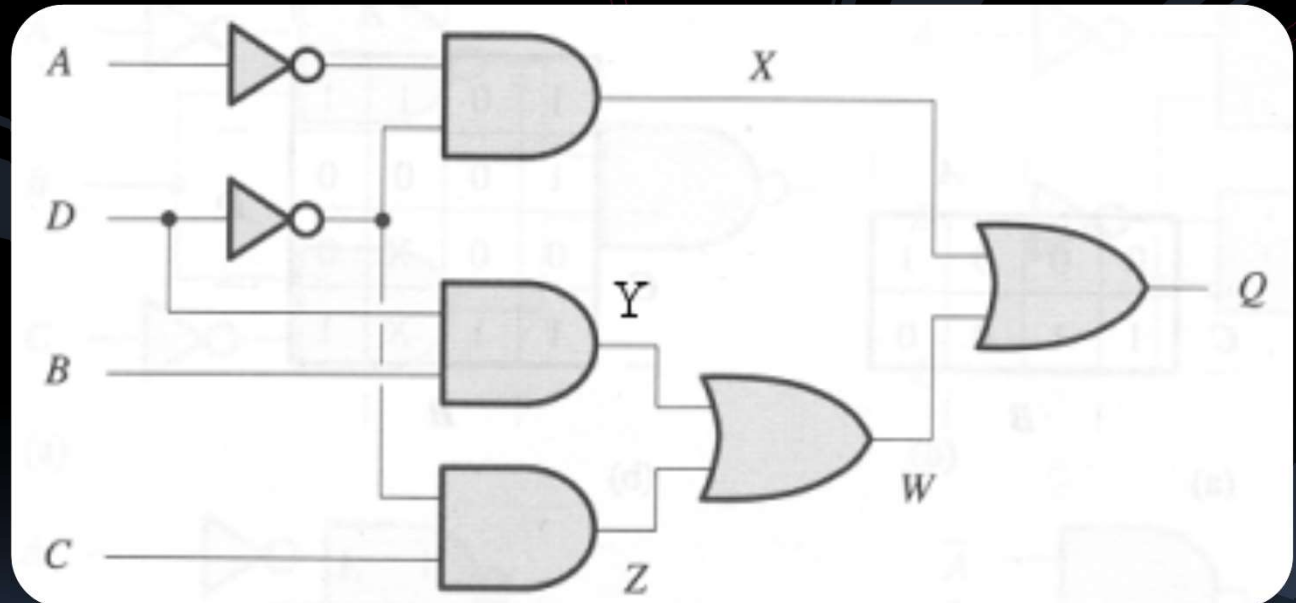
pMOS transistor:

Source and drain are connected when gate input is low (aka "0")



- Gates are built by constructing a circuit from nMOS and pMOS transistors.
 - What circuits can you make from these gates?

Logic Gate Circuits

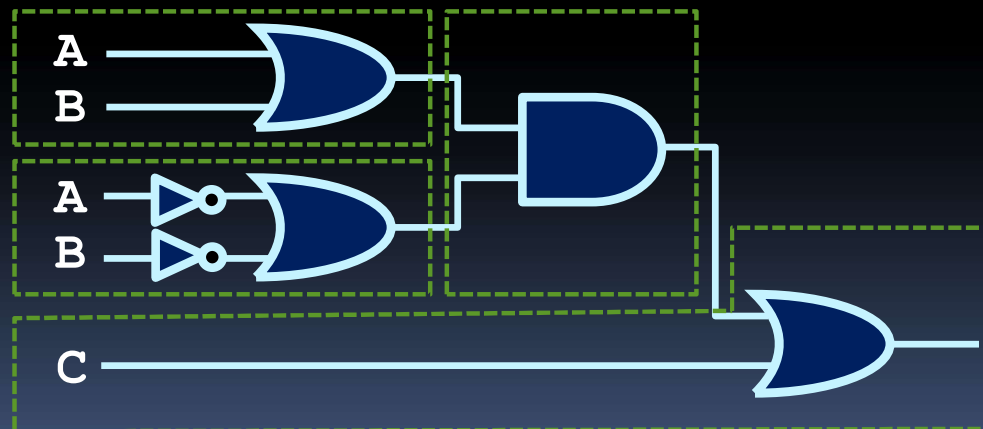


Boolean expressions

- For Lab 1, you need to represent boolean expressions using logic gates. For example:

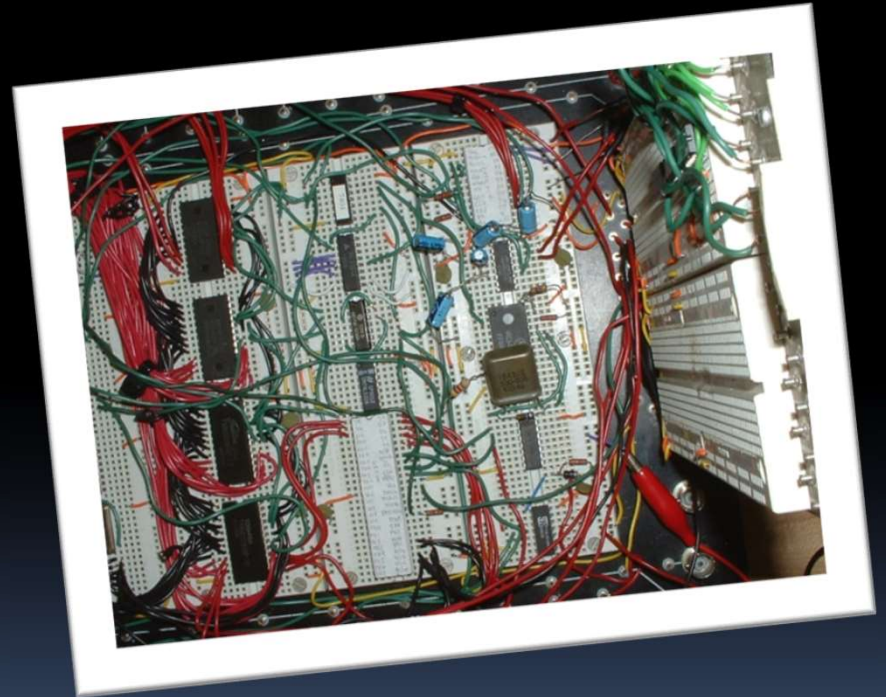
$$Y = (A \text{ or } B) \text{ and } (\text{not } A \text{ or } \text{not } B) \text{ or } C$$

- Like so:



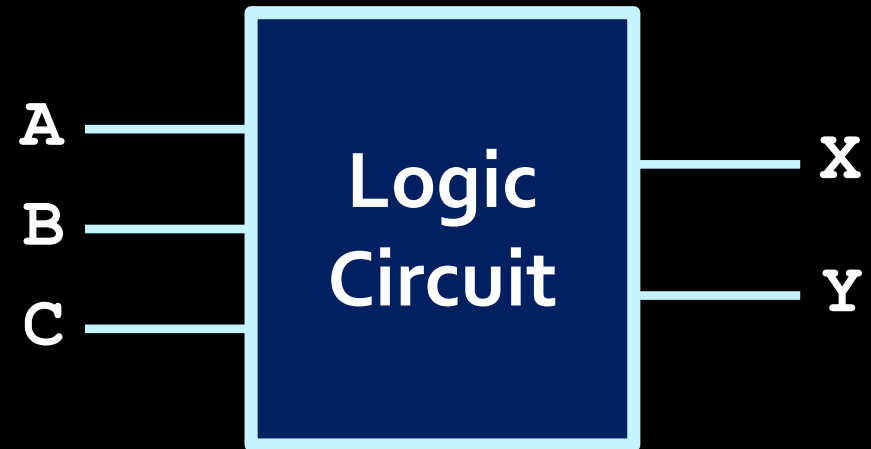
Creating complex circuits

- What do we do in the case of more complex circuits, with several inputs and more than one output?
 - If you're lucky, a truth table is provided to express the circuit.
 - Usually the behaviour of the circuit is expressed in words, and the first step involves creating a truth table that represents the described behaviour.



Circuit example

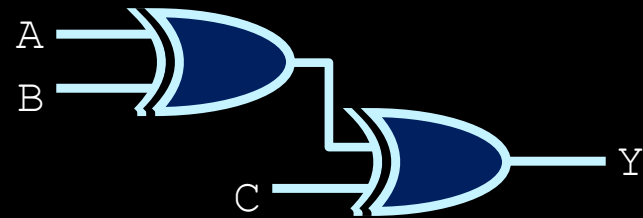
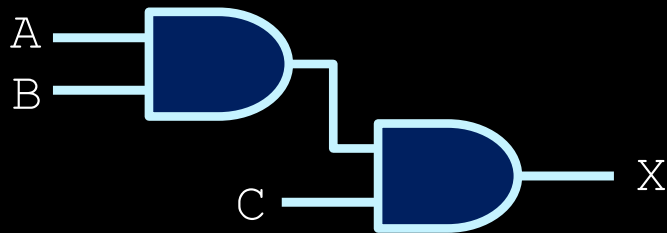
- The circuit on the right has three inputs (A, B and C) and two outputs (X and Y).



- *What logic is needed to set X high when all three inputs are high?*
- *What logic is needed to set Y high when the number of high inputs is odd?*

Combinational circuits

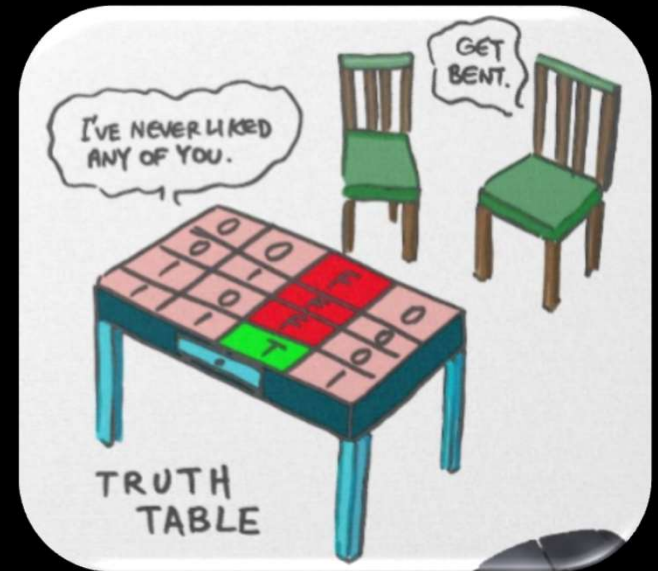
- Small problems can be solved easily.



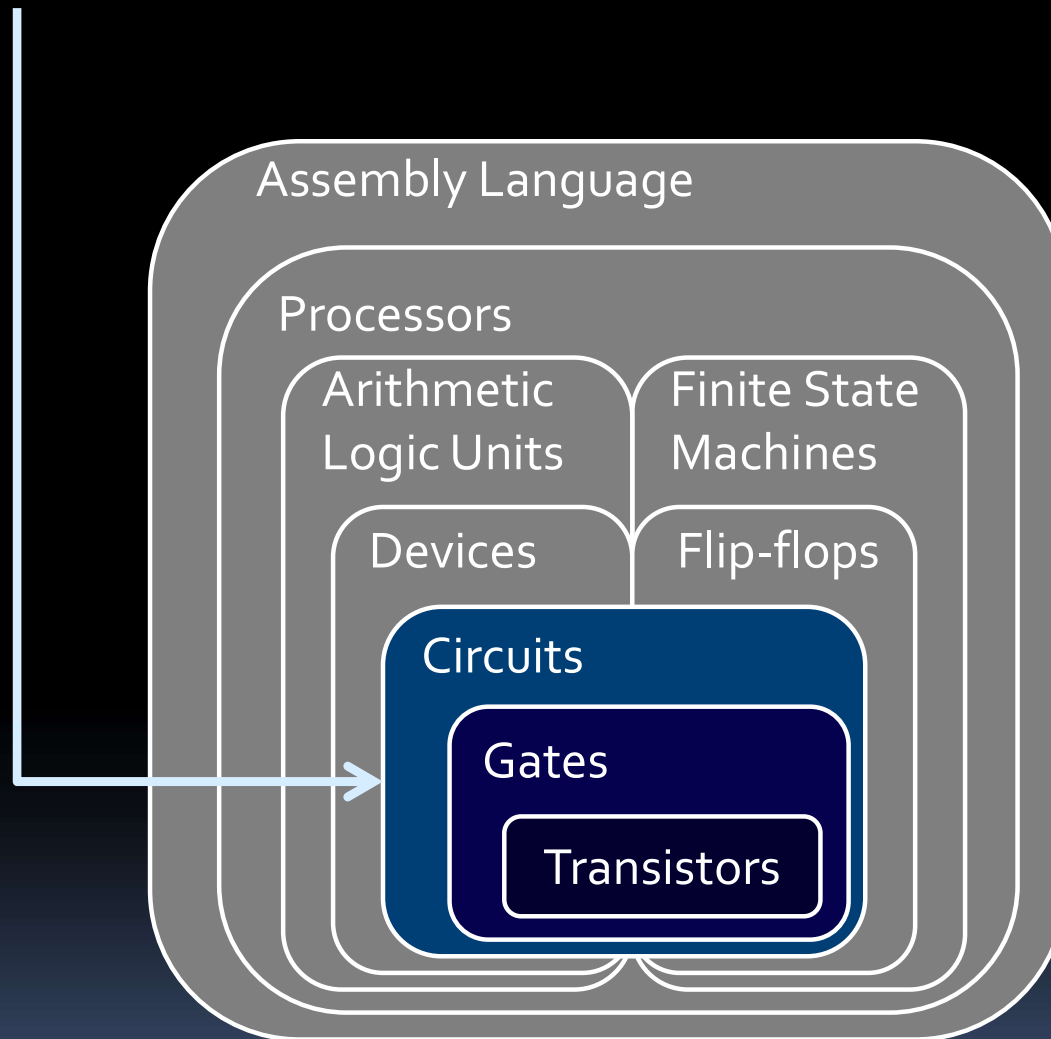
- Larger problems require a more systematic approach.
 - Example: “Given three inputs A , B , and C , make output Y high in the case where all of the inputs are low, or when A and B are low and C is high, or when A and C are low but B is high, or when A is low and B and C are high.”

Creating complex logic

- How do we approach problems like these (and circuit problems in general)?
- Basic steps:
 1. Create truth tables.
 2. Express truth table behaviour as a boolean expression.
 3. Convert this expression into gates.
- The key to an efficient design?
 - Spending extra time on Step #2.



Now you are here





Lecture Goals

- After this lecture, you should be able to:
 - Create a truth table that represents the behaviour of a circuit you want to create.
 - Translate the rows in a circuit's truth table into gates that implement that circuit.
 - Use Karnaugh maps to reduce the circuit to the minimal number of gates.

Circuits as truth tables

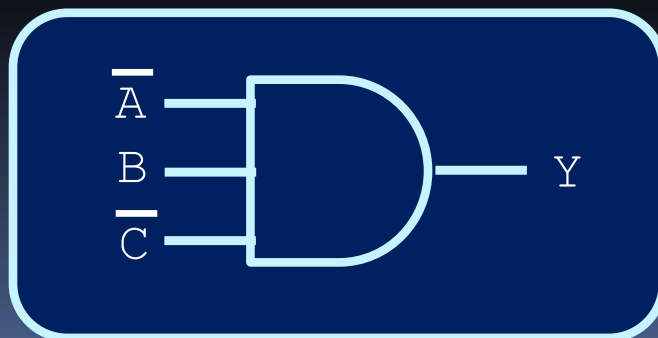
- Consider the following example:
 - *"Given three inputs A , B , and C , make output Y high wherever any of the inputs are low, except when all three are low or when A and C are high."*
- This leads to the truth table on the right.
 - Is there a better way to describe the cases when the circuit's output is high?

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

A simpler truth table

- What about the simpler truth table on the right?
- The output only goes high in one case, where $A=0$, $B=1$ and $C=0$.
- Translates easily into gates:

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



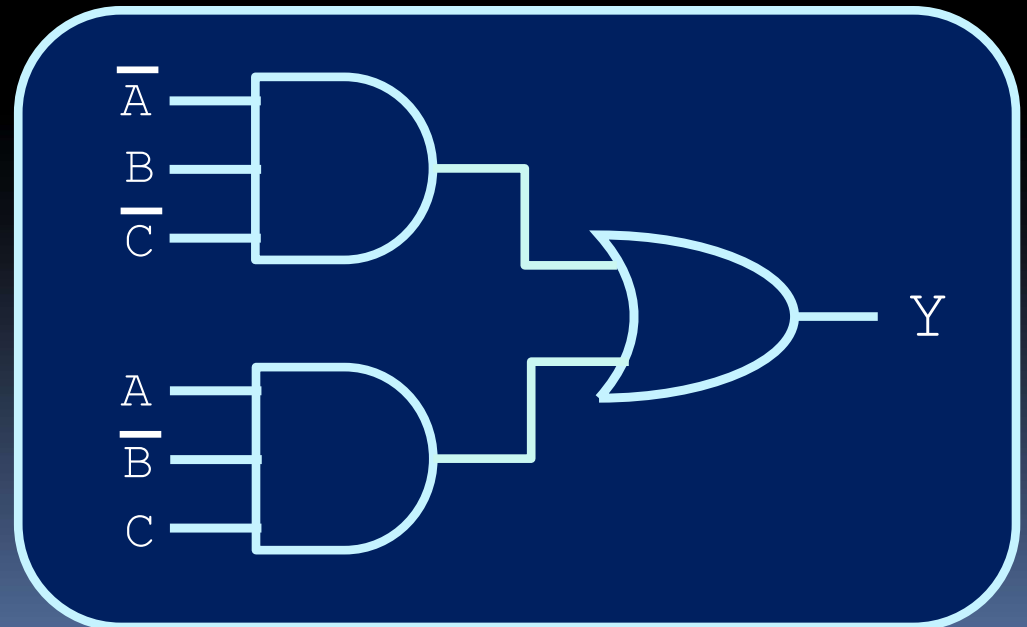
$$Y = \bar{A} \cdot B \cdot \bar{C}$$

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

A less simple truth table

- What about the truth table below?
 - The output now goes high in two cases (rows in table):
 - When $A=0$, $B=1$ and $C=0$.
 - When $A=1$, $B=0$ and $C=1$.
- Each case/row can be expressed as a single AND gate:
 - Overall circuit is implemented by combining these AND gates.

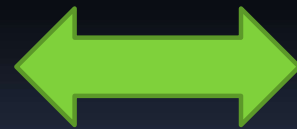
A	B	C	Y
0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0
0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0
1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0
1	1	1	0



Minterms

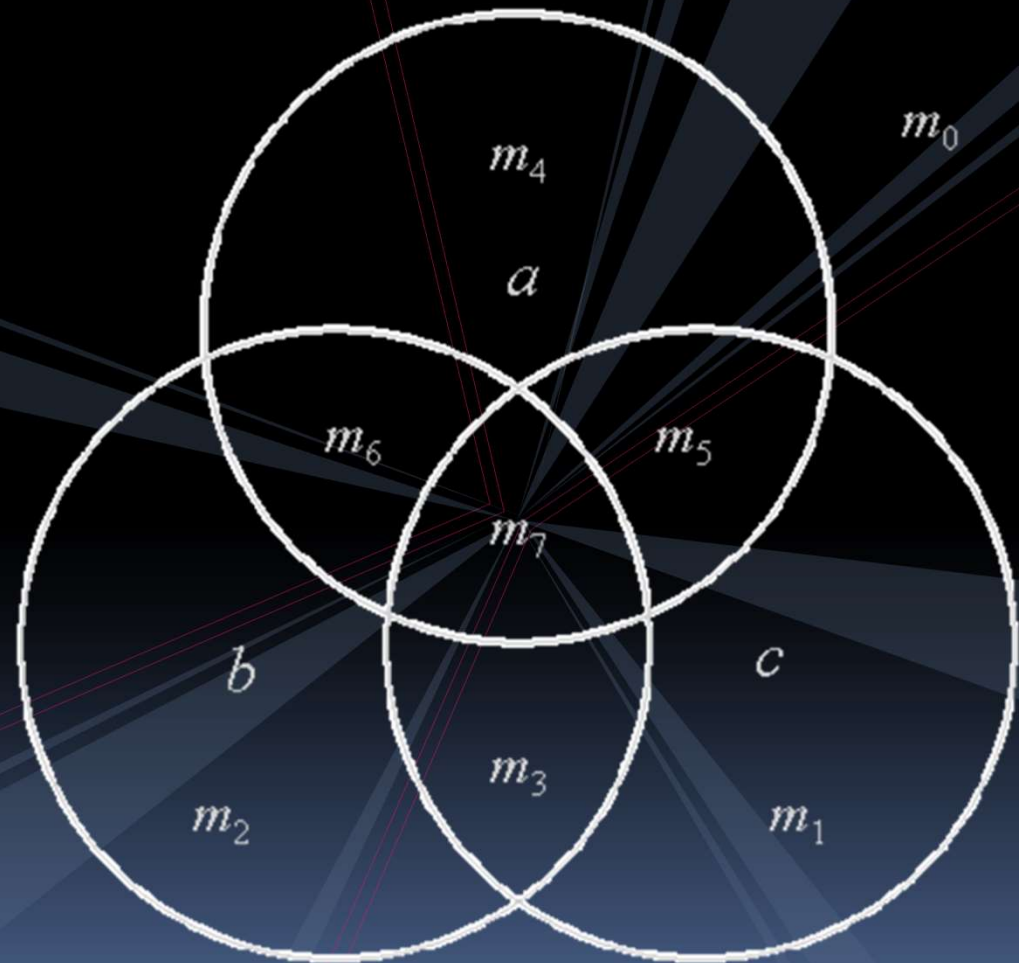
- This method of expressing circuit behaviour assumes the **standard truth table format**, then specifies which input rows cause high output.
 - The logical expression of these truth table rows (such as $A \cdot \bar{B} \cdot C$) are called **minterms**.

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



Minterm	Y
m_0	0
m_1	1
m_2	1
m_3	1
m_4	1
m_5	0
m_6	1
m_7	0

Minterms and Maxterms



Minterms and maxterms

- A more formal description:
 - **Minterm** = an AND expression with every input present in true or complemented form.
 - **Maxterm** = an OR expression with every input present in true or complemented form.
 - For example, given four inputs (A, B, C, D):
 - Valid minterms:
 - $A \cdot \bar{B} \cdot C \cdot D, \bar{A} \cdot B \cdot \bar{C} \cdot D, A \cdot B \cdot C \cdot D$
 - Valid maxterms:
 - $A + \bar{B} + C + D, \bar{A} + B + \bar{C} + D, A + B + C + D$
 - Neither minterm nor maxterm:
 - $A \cdot B + C \cdot D, A \cdot B \cdot D, A + B$

Boolean expression notation

- A quick aside about notation:
 - AND operations are denoted in these expressions by the multiplication symbol.
 - e.g. $A \cdot B \cdot C$ or $A * B * C \approx A \wedge B \wedge C$
 - OR operations are denoted by the addition symbol.
 - e.g. $A + B + C \approx A \vee B \vee C$
 - NOT is denoted by multiple symbols.
 - e.g. $\neg A$ or A' or \bar{A}
 - XOR occurs rarely in circuit expressions.
 - e.g. $A \oplus B$

The intuition behind minterms

- To clarify what a minterm means, consider how this expression behaves:

$$m_{15} = A \cdot B \cdot C \cdot D$$

- How do you describe the logical expression above?
- m_{15} describes the case where the output is low at all times, except when $A=1, B=1, C=1$ and $D=1$.

A	B	C	D	m_{15}
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	1	0
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1

The intuition behind maxterms

- Similarly, consider the following maxterm expression:

$$M_0 = A+B+C+D$$

- What is this behaviour?
 - M_0 is always high, except in the one case where all four input values are low.
- Try it with other input combinations!

A	B	C	D	M_0
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	1
0	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1
0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1
1	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1	1

Minterm & maxterm notation

- Circuits are often described using minterms or maxterms, as a form of logic shorthand.
 - Given n inputs, there are 2^n minterms and maxterms possible (same as the # of rows in the truth table).
 - Naming scheme:
 - **Minterms** are labeled as m_x , **maxterms** are labeled as M_x
 - The x subscript indicates the row in the truth table.
 - x starts at 0 (when all inputs are low), and ends with $2^n - 1$.
 - Example: Given 3 inputs –
 - Minterms are $m_0 (\bar{A} \cdot \bar{B} \cdot \bar{C})$ to $m_7 (A \cdot B \cdot C)$
 - Maxterms are $M_0 (A+B+C)$ to $M_7 (\bar{A}+\bar{B}+\bar{C})$

Minterm & maxterm intuition

- A minterm specifies a row in the truth table where the input values of that row set the output high.
 - Consider: What expression results in a high output for only the first row of the truth table (when inputs are all zero)?

$$Y = \overline{A} \cdot \overline{B} \cdot \overline{C} = m_0$$

Convert this into a binary # to get the minterm subscript!

- A maxterm specifies a row in the truth table where the input values of that row set the output low.
 - Consider: What expression results in a low output for only the first row of the truth table (when inputs are all zero)?

$$Y = A+B+C = M_0$$

Quick Exercises

- Given 4 inputs A, B, C and D write:

- m_9
- m_{15}
- m_{16}
- M_2

- Which minterm is this?

- $\bar{A} \cdot B \cdot \bar{C} \cdot \bar{D}$

- Which maxterm is this?

- $A+B+C+\bar{D}$

Minterms into circuits

- How are minterms used for circuits?
 - A single minterm indicates a set of inputs that will make the output go high.
 - Example: m_2
 - Output only goes high in the third line of this truth table (assuming 4 inputs).

A	B	C	D	m_2
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	1	0
1	1	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	0

Minterms into circuits

- What if we want to combine minterms?
 - Use an OR operation!
 - The result is an output that goes high in both minterm cases.
 - Example: Consider $m_2 + m_8$
 - The third and ninth lines of this truth table result in high output.

A	B	C	D	m_2	m_8	$m_2 + m_8$
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	1	0	0	0
0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	1	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	0	0

Combining minterms & maxterms

- Two canonical forms of boolean expressions:
 - **Sum-of-Minterms** (SOM):
 - Since each minterm corresponds to a single high output in the truth table, the combined high outputs are a **union** of these minterm expressions.
 - Expressed in “**Sum-of-Products**” form.
 - **Product-of-Maxterms** (POM):
 - Since each maxterm only produces a single low output in the truth table, the combined low outputs are an **intersection** of these maxterm expressions.
 - Expressed in “**Product-of-Sums**” form.

$$Y = m_2 + m_6 + m_7 + m_{10} \quad (\text{SOM})$$

A	B	C	D	m_2	m_6	m_7	m_{10}	Y
0	0	0	0					
0	0	0	1					
0	0	1	0					
0	0	1	1					
0	1	0	0					
0	1	0	1					
0	1	1	0					
0	1	1	1					
1	0	0	0					
1	0	0	1					
1	0	1	0					
1	0	1	1					
1	1	0	0					
1	1	0	1					
1	1	1	0					
1	1	1	1					

Using Sum-of-Minterms

- Sum-of-Minterms is a way of expressing which inputs cause the output to go high.
 - Assumes that the truth table columns list the inputs according to some logical or natural order.
- Minterm and maxterm expressions are used for efficiency reasons:
 - More compact than displaying entire truth tables.
 - Sum-of-minterms are useful in cases with very few input combinations that produce high output.
 - Product-of-maxterms useful when expressing truth tables that have very few low output cases...

$$Y = M_3 \cdot M_5 \cdot M_7 \cdot M_{10} \cdot M_{14} \quad (\text{POM})$$

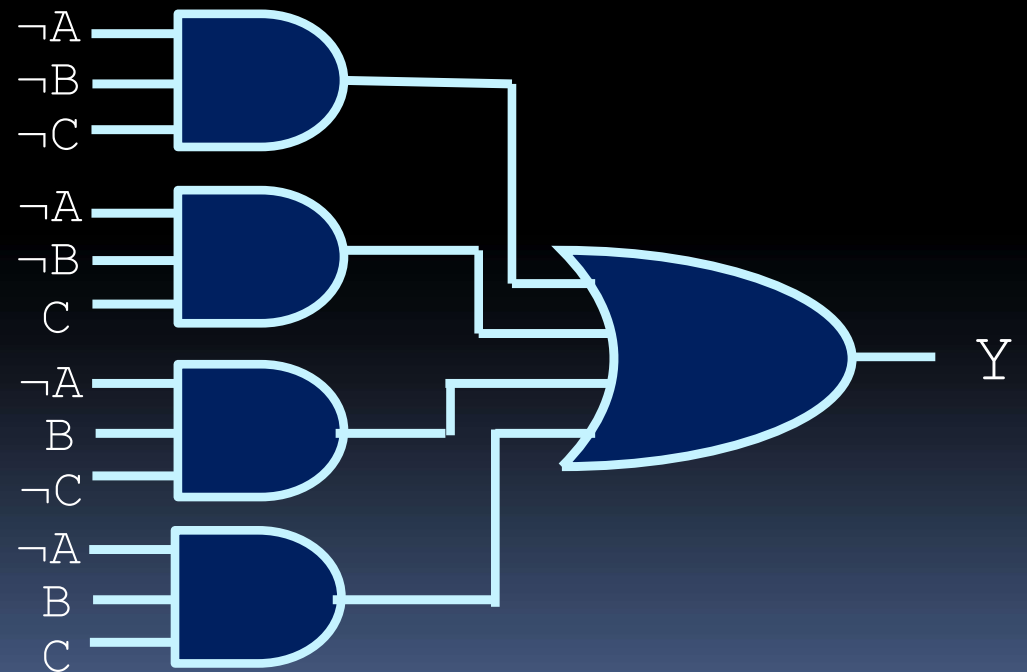
A	B	C	D	M_3	M_5	M_7	M_{10}	M_{14}	Y
0	0	0	0						
0	0	0	1						
0	0	1	0						
0	0	1	1						
0	1	0	0						
0	1	0	1						
0	1	1	0						
0	1	1	1						
1	0	0	0						
1	0	0	1						
1	0	1	0						
1	0	1	1						
1	1	0	0						
1	1	0	1						
1	1	1	0						
1	1	1	1						

Converting SOM to gates

- Once you have a Sum-of-Minterms expression, it is easy to convert this to the equivalent combination of gates:

$$m_0 + m_1 + m_2 + m_3 =$$

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

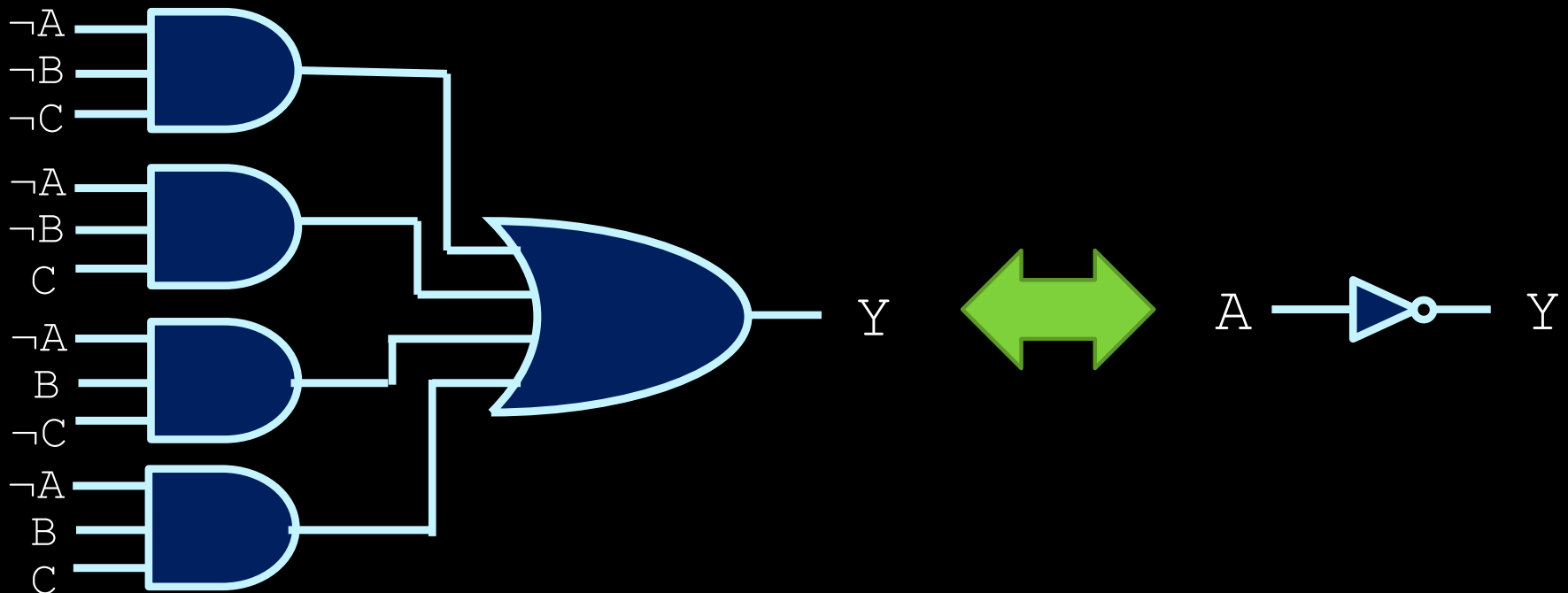




Reducing circuits



Reasons for reducing circuits



- Note example of Sum-of-Minterms circuit design.
- To minimize the number of gates, we want to reduce the boolean expression as much as possible from a collection of minterms to something smaller.
- This is where CSC165 skills come in handy 😊

Boolean algebra review

- Axioms:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 0 \cdot 0 = 0 & 0 \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot 0 = 0 \\ 1 \cdot 1 = 1 & \text{if } x = 1, \overline{x} = 0 \end{array}$$

- From this, we can extrapolate:

If one input of a 2-input AND gate is 1, then the output is whatever value the other input is.

$$\begin{array}{ll} x \cdot 0 = & \\ x \cdot 1 = & \\ x \cdot x = & \\ x \cdot \overline{x} = & \\ \overline{\overline{x}} = & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ll} x+1 = & \\ x+0 = & \\ x+x = & \\ x+\overline{x} = & \end{array}$$

If one input of a 2-input OR gate is 0, then the output is whatever value the other input is.

Other Boolean identities

- Commutative Law:

$$x \cdot y = y \cdot x \qquad x + y = y + x$$

- Associative Law:

$$\begin{aligned} x \cdot (y \cdot z) &= (x \cdot y) \cdot z \\ x + (y + z) &= (x + y) + z \end{aligned}$$

- Distributive Law:

$$\begin{aligned} x \cdot (y + z) &= x \cdot y + x \cdot z \\ x + (y \cdot z) &= (x + y) \cdot (x + z) \end{aligned}$$

Does this hold in conventional algebra?

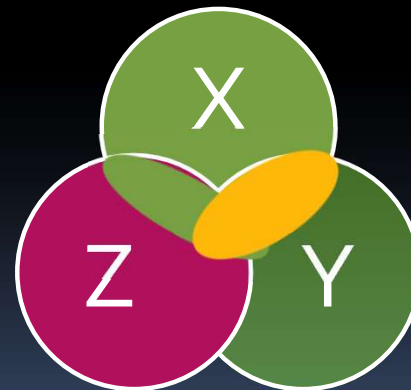
Consensus Law (via Venn diagram)

- Consensus Law:

$$x \cdot y + \bar{x} \cdot z + y \cdot z = x \cdot y + \bar{x} \cdot z$$

- Proof by Venn diagram:

- $x \cdot y$
- $\bar{x} \cdot z$
- $y \cdot z$
 - Already covered!



Other boolean identities

- Absorption Law:

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

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

- De Morgan's Laws:

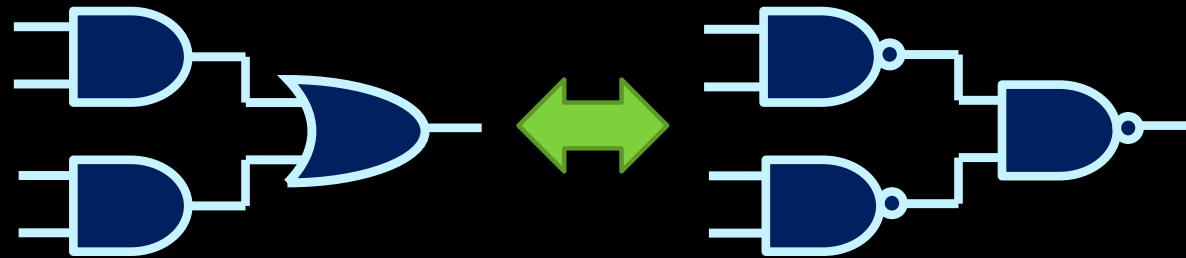
$$\overline{x} \cdot \overline{y} = \overline{x + y}$$

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

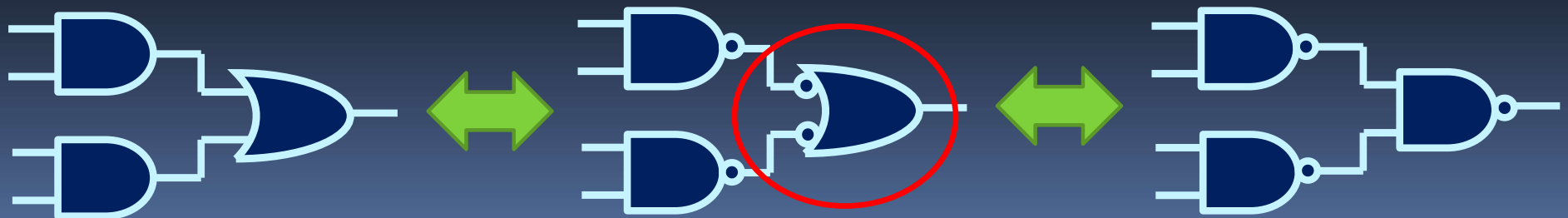


Converting to NAND gates

- De Morgan's Law is important because out of all the gates, NANDs are the cheapest to fabricate.
 - ▣ a Sum-of-Products circuit could be converted into an equivalent circuit of NAND gates:



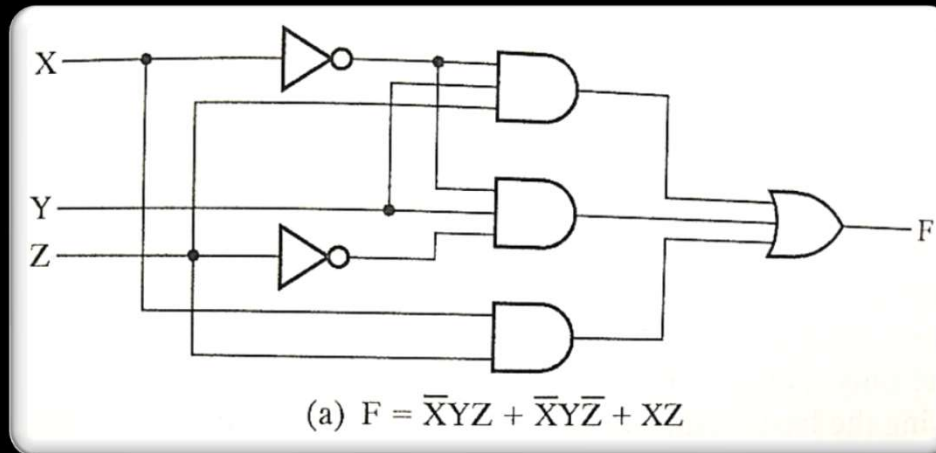
- This is all based on de Morgan's Law:



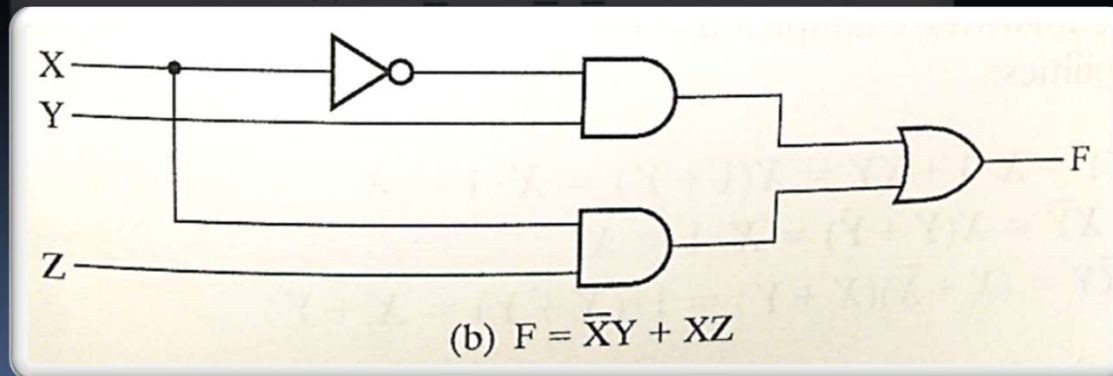
Reduction goal: gate cost

- If these two circuits perform the same operation, which implementation do you prefer? Why?

A.

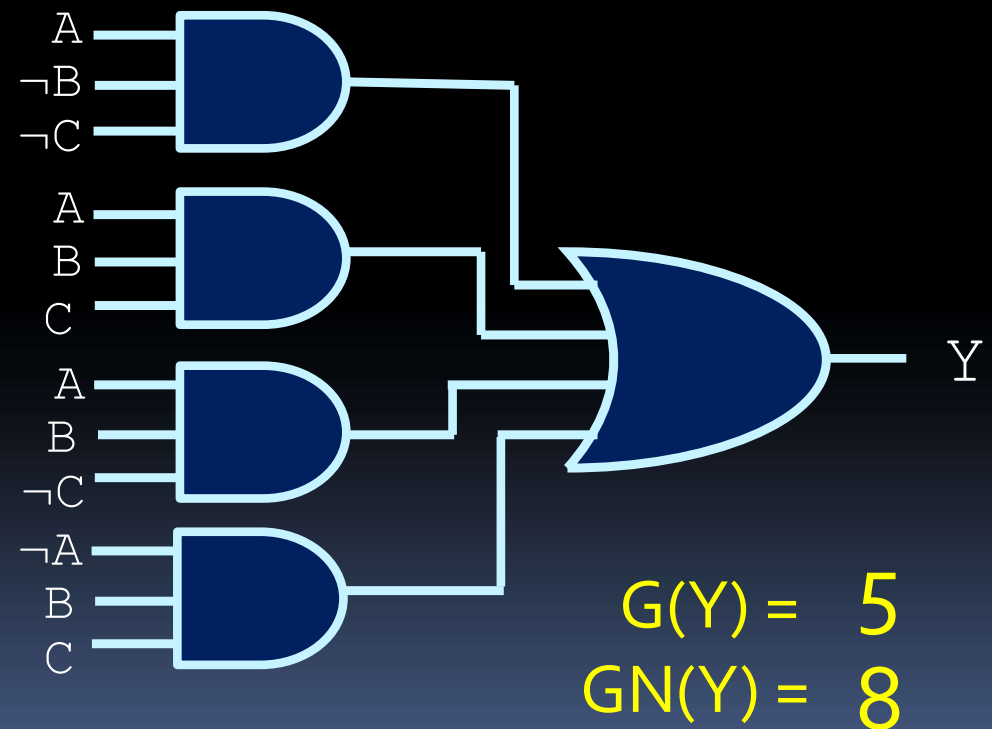


B.



Measuring gate cost

- How do we measure the “simplest” expression?
 - In this case, “simple” denotes the lowest **gate cost** (G) or the lowest **gate cost with NOTs** (GN).
 - To calculate the gate cost, simply add all the gates together (as well as the cost of the NOT gates, in the case of the GN cost).



Reducing boolean expressions

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

- Assuming logic specs at left, we get the following:

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

- Now start combining terms, like the last two:

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

Reducing boolean expressions

- Different final expressions possible, depending on what terms you combine.
- For instance, given the previous example:

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

- But if you combine the end and middle terms...

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

- This reduces the number of gates and inputs 😊
 - But how do we know which terms to combine?



Karnaugh maps

0	0	1	1
0	0	1	1
0	0	0	1
0	1	1	1

Reducing boolean expressions

- In this truth table, what rows could we combine with m_0 ?
 - ▣ $m_0 + m_1 \rightarrow \overline{A} \cdot \overline{B}$
 - ▣ $m_0 + m_2 \rightarrow \overline{A} \cdot \overline{C}$
 - ▣ $m_0 + m_4 \rightarrow \overline{B} \cdot \overline{C}$
 - ▣ $m_0 + m_1 + m_4 + m_5 \rightarrow \overline{B}$
- It's not always clear by looking at the truth table, which rows can be combined.
- What if we represent this truth table in a different way?

A	B	C	Y
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

Reducing boolean expressions

- **Karnaugh maps** (K-maps for short) represent the same information as a truth table, but in a format that helps us see what minterms can be combined.
 - Karnaugh maps are a 2D grid of minterms (see below), arranged so that adjacent minterms in the grid differ by a single literal.
 - Values in the grid are the output for that minterm.

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

Karnaugh maps

- Karnaugh maps can be of any size, and have any number of inputs.

- i.e. the 4-input example here.

- Since adjacent minterms only differ by a single value, they can be grouped into a single term that omits that value.

	$\bar{C} \cdot \bar{D}$	$\bar{C} \cdot D$	$C \cdot D$	$C \cdot \bar{D}$
$\bar{A} \cdot \bar{B}$	m_0	m_1	m_3	m_2
$\bar{A} \cdot B$	m_4	m_5	m_7	m_6
$A \cdot B$	m_{12}	m_{13}	m_{15}	m_{14}
$A \cdot \bar{B}$	m_8	m_9	m_{11}	m_{10}

Using Karnaugh maps

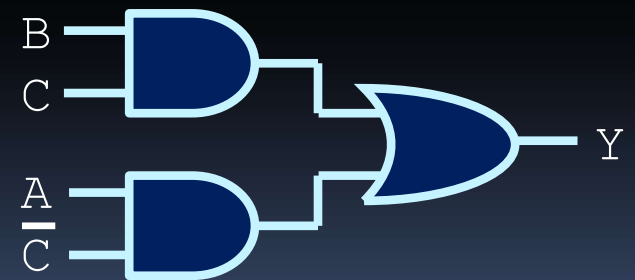
- Once Karnaugh maps are created, draw boxes over groups of high output values.
 - Boxes must be rectangular, and aligned with map.
 - Number of values contained within each box must be a power of 2.
 - Boxes may overlap with each other.
 - Boxes may wrap across edges of map.

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

Using Karnaugh maps

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

- Once you find the minimal number of boxes that cover all the high outputs, create boolean expressions from the inputs that are common to all elements in the box.
- For this example:
 - Vertical box: $B \cdot C$
 - Horizontal box: $A \cdot \overline{C}$
 - Overall equation: $Y = B \cdot C + A \cdot \overline{C}$



Karnaugh maps and maxterms

- Can also use this technique to group maxterms together as well.
- Karnaugh maps with maxterms involves grouping the zero entries together, instead of grouping the entries with one values.

	$C+D$	$C+\bar{D}$	$\bar{C}+\bar{D}$	$\bar{C}+D$
$A+B$	M_0	M_1	M_3	M_2
$A+\bar{B}$	M_4	M_5	M_7	M_6
$\bar{A}+\bar{B}$	M_{12}	M_{13}	M_{15}	M_{14}
$\bar{A}+B$	M_8	M_9	M_{11}	M_{10}

Quick Exercise

	$\bar{C}\bar{D}$	$\bar{C}D$	CD	$C\bar{D}$
$\bar{A}\bar{B}$	0	0	1	1
$\bar{A}B$	1	1	0	0
AB	1	1	0	0
$A\bar{B}$	0	0	0	0

$$F = B \cdot \bar{C} + \bar{A} \cdot \bar{B} \cdot C$$