

CS2100

COMPUTER ORGANISATION

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## Lecture #13

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# Boolean Algebra



**NUS**  
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# Lecture #13: Boolean Algebra

1. Digital Circuits
2. Boolean Algebra
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10. Standard Forms
11. Minterms and Maxterms
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Sum-of-Minterms and Product-of-Maxterms

# 1. Digital Circuits (1/2)

- Two voltage levels
  - High/true/1/asserted
  - Low/false/0/deasserted



*Signals in digital circuit*



*Signals in analog circuit*

- Advantages of digital circuits over analog circuits
  - More reliable (simpler circuits, less noise-prone )
  - Specified accuracy (determinable)
  - Abstraction can be applied using simple mathematical model
    - Boolean Algebra
  - Ease design, analysis and simplification of digital circuit – Digital Logic Design

# 1. Digital Circuits (2/2)

- **Combinational: no memory, output depends solely on the input**
  - Gates
  - Decoders, multiplexers
  - Adders, multipliers
- **Sequential: with memory, output depends on both input and current state**
  - Counters, registers
  - Memories

## 2. Boolean Algebra

### ■ Boolean values:

- True (T or **1**)
- False (F or **0**)

### ■ Connectives

- Conjunction (AND)
  - $A \cdot B$ ;  $A \wedge B$
- Disjunction (OR)
  - $A + B$ ;  $A \vee B$
- Negation (NOT)
  - $A'$ ;  $\bar{A}$ ;  $\neg A$

In CS2100, we use the symbols **1** for true, **0** for false,  $\cdot$  for AND,  $+$  for OR, and  $'$  for negation (you may use the accent bar). Please follow.

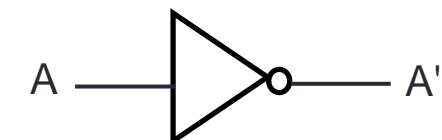
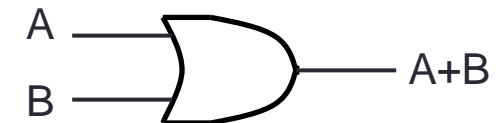
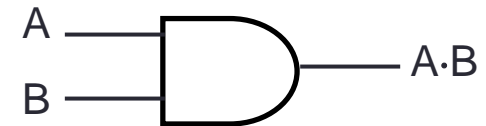
### ■ Truth tables

A	B	$A \cdot B$
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

A	B	$A + B$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

A	$A'$
0	1
1	0

### ■ Logic gates



## 2. Boolean Algebra: AND



- Do write the AND operator  $\cdot$  (instead of omitting it)
  - Example: Write  $a \cdot b$  instead of  $ab$
  - Why? Writing  $ab$  could mean that it is a 2-bit value.

### 3. Truth Table

- Provide a listing of every possible combination of inputs and its corresponding outputs.
  - Inputs are usually listed in binary sequence.
- Example
  - Truth table with 3 inputs  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$  and 2 outputs  $(y + z)$  and  $(x \cdot (y + z))$ .

$x$	$y$	$z$	$y + z$	$x \cdot (y + z)$
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	1	0
1	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

### 3. Proof using Truth Table

- **Prove:**  $x \cdot (y + z) = (x \cdot y) + (x \cdot z)$ 
  - Construct truth table for LHS and RHS

x	y	z	y + z	$x \cdot (y + z)$	$x \cdot y$	$x \cdot z$	$(x \cdot y) + (x \cdot z)$
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

- Check that column for LHS = column for RHS
- DLD page 59 Quick Review Questions Question 3-1.




## 4. Precedence of Operators

### ■ Precedence from highest to lowest

- Not (')
- And (·)
- Or (+)

Note the difference with CS1231/CS1231S. Here in CS2100, AND has higher precedence than OR.



### ■ Examples:

- $A \cdot B + C = (A \cdot B) + C$
- $X + Y' = X + (Y')$
- $P + Q' \cdot R = P + ((Q') \cdot R)$

Hence,  $A \cdot B + C$  is not ambiguous in CS2100.

### ■ Use parenthesis to overwrite precedence. Examples:

- $A \cdot (B + C)$  [ Without parenthesis, it means  $A \cdot B + C$  or  $(A \cdot B) + C$  ]
- $(P + Q)' \cdot R$  [ Without parenthesis, it means  $P + Q' \cdot R$  or  $P + (Q' \cdot R)$  ]

## 5. Laws of Boolean Algebra

### Identity laws

$$A + 0 = 0 + A = A$$

$$A \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot A = A$$

### Inverse/complement laws

$$A + A' = A' + A = 1$$

$$A \cdot A' = A' \cdot A = 0$$

### Commutative laws

$$A + B = B + A$$

$$A \cdot B = B \cdot A$$

### Associative laws \*

$$A + (B + C) = (A + B) + C$$

$$A \cdot (B \cdot C) = (A \cdot B) \cdot C$$

### Distributive laws

$$A \cdot (B + C) = (A \cdot B) + (A \cdot C)$$

$$A + (B \cdot C) = (A + B) \cdot (A + C)$$

\* Due to the associative laws,  $A + B + C$  is unambiguous. It may be evaluated as  $A + (B + C)$  or  $(A + B) + C$ . Likewise for  $A \cdot B \cdot C$ .

## 6. Duality

- If the AND/OR operators and identity elements 0/1 in a **Boolean equation** are interchanged, it remains valid.
- Example:
  - The dual equation of  $a+(b \cdot c)=(a+b) \cdot (a+c)$  is  $a \cdot (b+c)=(a \cdot b)+(a \cdot c)$ .
- Duality gives free theorems – “two for the price of one”, as a Boolean equation is logically equivalent to its dual. So, you prove one theorem and the other comes for free!
- Examples:
  - If  $(x+y+z)' = x' \cdot y' \cdot z'$  is valid, then its dual  $(x \cdot y \cdot z)' = x' + y' + z'$  is also valid.
  - If  $x+1 = 1$  is valid, then its dual  $x \cdot 0 = 0$  is also valid.



Do not confuse duality with negation!

# 7. Theorems

## Idempotency

$$X + X = X$$

$$X \cdot X = X$$

## One element / Zero element

$$X + 1 = 1 + X = 1$$

$$X \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot X = 0$$

## Involution

$$(X')' = X$$

## Absorption 1

$$X + X \cdot Y = X$$

$$X \cdot (X + Y) = X$$

## Absorption 2

$$X + X' \cdot Y = X + Y$$

$$X \cdot (X' + Y) = X \cdot Y$$

## DeMorgans' (can be generalised to more than 2 variables)

$$(X + Y)' = X' \cdot Y'$$

$$(X \cdot Y)' = X' + Y'$$

## Consensus

$$X \cdot Y + X' \cdot Z + Y \cdot Z = X \cdot Y + X' \cdot Z$$

$$(X+Y) \cdot (X'+Z) \cdot (Y+Z) = (X+Y) \cdot (X'+Z)$$

## 7. Proving a Theorem

- Theorems can be proved using truth table, or by algebraic manipulation using other theorems/laws.

- Example: Prove absorption theorem  $X + X \cdot Y = X$

$$\begin{aligned} X + X \cdot Y &= X \cdot 1 + X \cdot Y \text{ (by identity law)} \\ &= X \cdot (1 + Y) \text{ (by distributivity)} \\ &= X \cdot 1 \text{ (by one element law)} \\ &= X \text{ (by identity law)} \end{aligned}$$

- By the principle of duality, we may also cite (without proof) that  $X \cdot (X + Y) = X$ .

## 8. Boolean Functions

- Examples of Boolean functions (logic equations):

$$F1(x,y,z) = x \cdot y \cdot z'$$

$$F2(x,y,z) = x + y' \cdot z$$

$$F3(x,y,z) = x' \cdot y' \cdot z + x' \cdot y \cdot z + x \cdot y'$$

$$F4(x,y,z) = x \cdot y' + x' \cdot z$$

x	y	z	F1	F2	F3	F4
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	0	1	0	0

From the truth table,  $F3 = F4$ .

Can you prove  $F3 = F4$  by using Boolean Algebra?

## 9. Complement Functions

- Given a Boolean function  $F$ , the **complement** of  $F$ , denoted as  $F'$ , is obtained by interchanging 1 with 0 in the function's output values.
- Example:  $F1 = x \cdot y \cdot z'$
- What is  $F1'$  ?
  - $F1' = (x \cdot y \cdot z')'$   
 $= x' + y' + (z')'$  (DeMorgan's)  
 $= x' + y' + z$  (Involution)

x	y	z	F1	F1'
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	1	0
1	1	1	0	1

## 10. Standard Forms (1/2)

- Certain types of Boolean expressions lead to circuits that are desirable from an implementation viewpoint.
- Two standard forms:
  - Sum-of-Products (SOP)
  - Product-of-Sums (POS)
- Literals
  - A Boolean variable on its own or in its complemented form
  - Examples: (1)  $x$ , (2)  $x'$ , (3)  $y$ , (4)  $y'$
- Product term
  - A single literal or a logical product (AND) of several literals
  - Examples: (1)  $x$ , (2)  $x \cdot y \cdot z'$ , (3)  $A' \cdot B$ , (4)  $A \cdot B$ , (5)  $d \cdot g' \cdot v \cdot w$



## 10. Standard Forms (2/2)

- **Sum term**
  - A single literal or a logical sum (OR) of several literals
  - Examples: (1)  $x$ , (2)  $x+y+z'$ , (3)  $A'+B$ , (4)  $A+B$ , (5)  $c+d+h'+j$
- **Sum-of-Products (SOP) expression**
  - A product term or a logical sum (OR) of several product terms
  - Examples: (1)  $x$ , (2)  $x + y \cdot z'$ , (3)  $x \cdot y' + x' \cdot y \cdot z$ , (4)  $A \cdot B + A' \cdot B'$ ,  
(5)  $A + B' \cdot C + A \cdot C' + C \cdot D$
- **Product-of-Sums (POS) expression**
  - A sum term or a logical product (AND) of several sum terms
  - Examples: (1)  $x$ , (2)  $x \cdot (y+z')$ , (3)  $(x+y') \cdot (x'+y+z)$ ,  
(4)  $(A+B) \cdot (A'+B')$ , (5)  $(A+B+C) \cdot D' \cdot (B'+D+E')$
- **Every Boolean expression can be expressed in SOP or POS form.**
  - DLD page 59 Quick Review Questions Questions 3-2 to 3-5.

# Quiz Time!

**SOP** expr: A product term or a logical sum (OR) of several product terms.

**POS** expr: A sum term or a logical product (AND) of several sum terms.

- Put the right ticks in the following table.

	<i>Expression</i>	<i>SOP?</i>	<i>POS?</i>
(1)	$X' \cdot Y + X \cdot Y' + X \cdot Y \cdot Z$	✓	✗
(2)	$(X+Y') \cdot (X'+Y) \cdot (X'+Z')$	✗	✓
(3)	$X' + Y + Z$	✓	✓
(4)	$X \cdot (W' + Y \cdot Z)$	✗	✗
(5)	$X \cdot Y \cdot Z'$	✓	✓
(6)	$W \cdot X' \cdot Y + V \cdot (X \cdot Z + W')$	✗	✗

# 11. Minterms and Maxterms (1/2)

- A **minterm** of  $n$  variables is a product term that contains  $n$  literals from all the variables.
  - Example: On 2 variables  $x$  and  $y$ , the minterms are:  
 $x' \cdot y'$ ,  $x' \cdot y$ ,  $x \cdot y'$  and  $x \cdot y$
- A **maxterm** of  $n$  variables is a sum term that contains  $n$  literals from all the variables.
  - Example: On 2 variables  $x$  and  $y$ , the maxterms are:  
 $x' + y'$ ,  $x' + y$ ,  $x + y'$  and  $x + y$
- In general, with  $n$  variables we have up to  $2^n$  minterms and  $2^n$  maxterms.

# 11. Minterms and Maxterms (2/2)

- The **minterms** and **maxterms** on 2 variables are denoted by **m0 to m3** and **M0 to M3** respectively.

x	y	Minterms		Maxterms	
		Term	Notation	Term	Notation
0	0	$x' \cdot y'$	m0	$x+y$	M0
0	1	$x' \cdot y$	m1	$x+y'$	M1
1	0	$x \cdot y'$	m2	$x'+y$	M2
1	1	$x \cdot y$	m3	$x'+y'$	M3

- Important fact:** Each minterm is the complement of its corresponding maxterm. Likewise, each maxterm is the complement of its corresponding minterm.
  - Example:  $m2 = x \cdot y'$   
 $m2' = (x \cdot y')' = x' + (y')' = x' + y = M2$

# Quiz Time Again!

- Ability to convert minterms and maxterms from its Boolean expression to its notation (and vice versa) is important.
- Test yourself with the following quiz, assuming that you are given a Boolean function on 4 variables A, B, C, D.

## Minterm

	<i><b>Boolean expression</b></i>	<i><b>Minterm notation</b></i>
(1)	$A' \cdot B' \cdot C \cdot D$	m3
(2)	$A \cdot B' \cdot C \cdot D'$	m10
(3)	$A \cdot B' \cdot C \cdot D$	m11
(4)	$A \cdot B \cdot C \cdot D'$	<b>m14</b>
(5)	$A \cdot B' \cdot C' \cdot D$	<b>m9</b>

## Maxterm

	<i><b>Boolean expression</b></i>	<i><b>Maxterm notation</b></i>
(1)	$A+B+C'+D'$	M3
(2)	$A'+B'+C+D'$	M13
(3)	$A+B+C+D$	M0
(4)	$A+B+C'+D$	<b>M2</b>
(5)	$A'+B+C+D'$	<b>M9</b>

## 12. Canonical Forms

- **Canonical/normal form:** a unique form of representation.
  - Sum-of-minterms = Canonical sum-of-products
  - Product-of-maxterms = Canonical product-of-sums

# 12.1 Sum-of-Minterms

- Given a truth table, example:
- Obtain **sum-of-minterms** expression by gathering the minterms of the function (where output is 1).

x	y	z	F1	F2	F3
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0
1	1	1	0	1	0

$$F1 = x \cdot y \cdot z' = m6$$

$$\begin{aligned} F2 &= x' \cdot y' \cdot z + x' \cdot y' \cdot z' + x \cdot y' \cdot z + x \cdot y' \cdot z' + x \cdot y \cdot z \\ &= m1 + m4 + m5 + m6 + m7 = \Sigma m(1,4,5,6,7) \text{ or } \Sigma m(1,4 - 7) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F3 &= x' \cdot y' \cdot z + x' \cdot y \cdot z + x \cdot y' \cdot z' + x \cdot y' \cdot z \\ &= m1 + m3 + m4 + m5 = \Sigma m(1,3,4,5) \text{ or } \Sigma m(1,3 - 5) \end{aligned}$$

## 12.2 Product-of-Maxterms

- Given a truth table, example:
- Obtain **product-of-maxterms** expression by gathering the maxterms of the function (where output is 0).

x	y	z	F1	F2	F3
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1
1	0	0	0	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0
1	1	1	0	1	0

$$\begin{aligned}
 F2 &= (x+y+z) \cdot (x+y'+z) \cdot (x+y'+z') \\
 &= M0 \cdot M2 \cdot M3 = \prod M(0,2,3)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 F3 &= (x+y+z) \cdot (x+y'+z) \cdot (x'+y'+z) \cdot (x'+y'+z') \\
 &= M0 \cdot M2 \cdot M6 \cdot M7 = \prod M(0,2,6,7)
 \end{aligned}$$



## 12.3 Conversion of Standard Forms

- We can convert between **sum-of-minterms** and **product-of-maxterms** easily
- Example:  $F2 = \Sigma m(1,4,5,6,7) = \Pi M(0,2,3)$
- Why? See  $F2'$  in truth table.

x	y	z	F2	F2'
0	0	0	0	1
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	1	0
1	1	0	1	0
1	1	1	1	0

- $F2' = m0 + m2 + m3$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 F2 &= (m0 + m2 + m3)' \\
 &= m0' \cdot m2' \cdot m3' \text{ (by DeMorgan's)} \\
 &= M0 \cdot M2 \cdot M3 \text{ (as } mx' = Mx)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Read up DLD section 3.4, pg 57 – 58.
- Quick Review Questions: pg 60 – 61, Q3-6 to 3-13.

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