GATE EC 2009-39

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Two products are sold from a vending machine, which has two push buttons P_1 and P_2 . When a button is pressed, the price of the corresponding product is displayed in a 7-segment display.

- If no buttons are pressed, '0' is displayed, signifying Rs. 0.
- If only P_1 is pressed, '2' is displayed, signifying Rs. 2.
- If only P_2 is pressed, '5' is displayed, signifying Rs. 5.
- If both P_1 and P_2 are pressed, 'E' is displayed, signifying "Error".

The names of the segments in the 7-segment display and the glow of the display for '0', '2', '5' and 'E' are shown below:

	a	0	2	5	 E
f	g				
e	c d				

Consider:

- (i) Push button pressed / not pressed is equivalent to logic 1 / 0 respectively.
- (ii) A segment glowing / not glowing in the display is equivalent to logic 1 / 0 respectively.

Q.60 What are the minimum numbers of NOT gates and 2-input OR gates required to design the logic of the driver for this 7-segment display?

- (A) 3 NOT and 4 OR
- (B) 2 NOT and 4 OR
- (C) 1 NOT and 3 OR
- (D) 2 NOT and 3 OR

Answer: (D) 2 NOT and 3 OR

Explanation:

From the previous question (Q59), the simplified logic expressions for the required segments were:

- $g = \overline{P_1} \cdot P_2$
- d = c + e
- e = b + c

We analyze gate usage:

• To implement $g=\overline{P_1}\cdot P_2$ using only NOT and OR gates, apply DeMorgan's Theorem:

$$g = \overline{P_1} \cdot P_2 = \overline{(\overline{\overline{P_1}} + \overline{P_2})}$$

This form needs 2 NOTs and 1 OR.

- e = b + c requires 1 **OR** gate.
- d = c + e requires another 1 **OR** gate.

Total:

- NOT gates: 2
- OR gates: 3

Therefore, the correct answer is (D).