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UNSW
SYDNEY

COMP9020

Foundations of Computer Science

Lecture 12: Boolean Logic

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		[LLM]	[RW]	[Rosen]
Week 8	Boolean Logic	Ch. 3	Ch. 2, 10	Ch. 12
Week 8	Propositional Logic	Ch. 3	Ch. 2	Ch. 1

What is logic?

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Logic is about **formalizing reasoning** and **defining truth**

- Adding rigour
- Removing ambiguity
- Mechanizing the process of reasoning

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Loose history of logic

- (Ancient times): Logic exclusive to philosophy
- Mid-19th Century: Logical foundations of Mathematics (Boole, Jevons, Schröder, etc)
- 1910: Russell and Whitehead's Principia Mathematica
- 1928: Hilbert proposes *Entscheidungsproblem*
- 1931: Gödel's Incompleteness Theorem
- 1935: Church's Lambda calculus
- 1936: Turing's Machine-based approach
- 1930s: Shannon develops Circuit logic
- 1960s: Formal verification; Relational databases

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Computation = Calculation + Symbolic manipulation

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Computation = Calculation + Symbolic manipulation

Logic as 2-valued computation (Boolean logic):

- Circuit design
- Code optimization
- Boolean algebra
- Nand game

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Computation = Calculation + Symbolic manipulation

Logic as symbolic reasoning (Propositional logic, and beyond):

- Formal verification
- Proof assistance
- Knowledge Representation and Reasoning
- Automated reasoning
- Databases

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Outline

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Boolean Logic

Boolean Functions

Conjunctive and Disjunctive Normal Form

Karnaugh Maps

Boolean Algebras

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Boolean logic is about performing calculations in a “simple” mathematical structure.

- complex calculations can be built entirely from these simple ones
- can help identify simplifications that improve performance at the circuit level
- can help identify simplifications that improve presentation at the programming level

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The Boolean Algebra \mathbb{B}

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The (two-element) **Boolean algebra** is defined to be the set $\mathbb{B} = \{0, 1\}$, together with the functions $! : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, $\&\& : \mathbb{B}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, and $\| : \mathbb{B}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ defined as follows:

$$!x = (1 - x) \quad x \&\& y = \min\{x, y\} \quad x \| y = \max\{x, y\}$$

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The Boolean Algebra \mathbb{B} – Alternative definition

Definition

The (two-element) Boolean algebra is defined to be the set $\mathbb{B} = \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$, together with the functions $! : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, $\&\& : \mathbb{B}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, and $\parallel : \mathbb{B}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, defined as follows:

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		$x \quad y$		$x \&\& y$	$x \quad y$		$x \parallel y$
x	$!x$	false	false	false	false	false	false
false	true	false	true	false	false	true	true
true	false	true	false	false	true	false	true
		true	true	true	true	true	true

Alternative notation

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Commonly, the following alternative notation is used.

For \mathbb{B} : $\{F, T\}$

For $\neg x$: $\bar{x}, x', \sim x, \neg x$

For $x \&\& y$: $xy, x \wedge y$

For $x \parallel y$: $x + y, x \vee y$

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Properties

We observe that $!$, $\&\&$, and \parallel satisfy the following:

For all $x, y, z \in \mathbb{B}$:

Commutativity

$$\begin{aligned}x \parallel y &= y \parallel x \\x \&\& y &= y \&\& x\end{aligned}$$

Associativity

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

Distribution

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

Identity

$$\begin{aligned}x \parallel 0 &= x \\x \&\& 1 &= x\end{aligned}$$

Complementation

$$\begin{aligned}x \parallel (!x) &= 1 \\x \&\& (!x) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

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Examples

- Calculate $x \&\& x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{B}$
- Calculate $((1 \&\& 0) \parallel ((!1) \&\& (!0)))$

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Boolean Functions

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Definition

An **n -ary Boolean function** is a map $f : \mathbb{B}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$.

Question

How many unary Boolean functions are there?

How many binary functions?

n -ary?

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Examples

- $!$ is a unary Boolean function
- $\&\&$, \parallel are binary Boolean functions
- $f(x, y) = !(x \&\& y)$ is a binary Boolean function (NAND)
- $\text{AND}(x_0, x_1, \dots) = (\dots((x_0 \&\& x_1) \&\& x_2) \dots)$ is a (family) of Boolean functions
- $\text{OR}(x_0, x_1, \dots) = (\dots((x_0 \parallel x_1) \parallel x_2) \dots)$ is a (family) of Boolean functions

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Application: Adding two one-bit numbers

How can we implement:

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defined as

x	y	add(x,y)
0	0	00
0	1	01
1	0	01
1	1	10

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Use two Boolean functions!

NB

Digital circuits are just sequences of Boolean functions.

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Conjunctive and Disjunctive normal form

Definition

- A **literal** is a unary Boolean function.
- A **minterm** is a Boolean function of the form $\text{AND}(l_1(x_1), l_2(x_2), \dots, l_n(x_n))$ where the l_i are literals
- A **maxterm** is a Boolean function of the form $\text{OR}(l_1(x_1), l_2(x_2), \dots, l_n(x_n))$ where the l_i are literals
- A **CNF Boolean function** is a function of the form $\text{AND}(m_1, m_2, \dots)$ where the m_i are maxterms.
- A **DNF Boolean function** is a function of the form $\text{OR}(m_1, m_2, \dots)$, where the m_i are minterms.

Examples

Examples

- $f(x, y, z) = (x \&\& (\bar{y}) \&\& z) \vee (x \&\& (!y) \&\& (!z)) = x \bar{y} z + x \bar{y} \bar{z}$: DNF, but not CNF
- $g(x, y, z) = (x \vee (!y) \vee z) \&\& (x \vee (!y) \vee (!z)) = (x + \bar{y} + z)(x + \bar{y} + \bar{z})$: CNF function, but not DNF
- $h(x, y, z) = (x \&\& (!y) \&\& z) = x \bar{y} z$: both CNF and DNF
- $j(x, y, z) = x + y(z + x)$: Neither CNF nor DNF

NB

CNF: product of sums; DNF: sum of products

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Theorem

Every Boolean function can be written as a function in DNF/CNF

Proof...

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Canonical DNF

Given an n -ary boolean function $f : \mathbb{B}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ we construct an equivalent DNF boolean function as follows:

For each $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n) \in \mathbb{B}^n$ we define the minterm

$$m_{\mathbf{b}} = \text{AND}(l_1(x_1), l_2(x_2), \dots, l_n(x_n))$$

where

$$l_i(x_i) = \begin{cases} x_i & \text{if } b_i = 1 \\ \neg x_i & \text{if } b_i = 0 \end{cases}$$

We then define the DNF formula:

$$f_{\text{DNF}} = \sum_{f(\mathbf{b})=1} m_{\mathbf{b}},$$

that is, f_{DNF} is the disjunction (or) over all minterms corresponding to elements $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{B}$ where $f(\mathbf{b}) = 1$.

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Theorem

f and f_{DNF} are the same function.

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Exercises

RW: 10.2.3 Find the canonical DNF form of each of the following expressions in variables x, y, z

- xy

- \bar{z}

- $xy + \bar{z}$

- $f(x, y, z) = 1$

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Karnaugh Maps

For up to four variables (propositional symbols) a diagrammatic method of simplification called **Karnaugh maps** works quite well. For every propositional function of $n = 2, 3, 4$ variables we construct a rectangular array of 2^n cells. We mark the squares corresponding to the value true with eg “+” and try to cover these squares with as few rectangles with sides 1 or 2 or 4 as possible.

Example

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

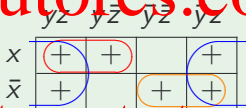
For optimisation, the idea is to cover the + squares with the minimum number of rectangles. One *cannot* cover any empty cells.

- The rectangles can go 'around the corner' / the actual map should be seen as a *torus*.
- Rectangles must have sides of 1, 2 or 4 squares (three adjacent cells are useless).

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Example

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$$E = (\textcolor{red}{x}\textcolor{red}{y}) \vee (\textcolor{brown}{\bar{x}}\textcolor{brown}{\bar{y}}) \vee \textcolor{blue}{z}$$

Canonical form would consist of writing all cells separately (6 clauses).

Exercise

Exercise

RW: 10.6.6(c)

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	yz	$y\bar{z}$	$\bar{y}\bar{z}$	$\bar{y}z$
wx	+	+		+
$w\bar{x}$	+	+	+	+
$\bar{w}\bar{x}$			+	+
$\bar{w}x$	+			+

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Definition: Boolean Algebra

Definition

A **Boolean algebra** is a structure $(T, \vee, \wedge, ', 0, 1)$ where

- $0, 1 \in T$
- $\vee, \wedge : T \times T \rightarrow T$ (called **join** and **meet** respectively)
- $' : T \rightarrow T$ (called **complementation**)

and the following laws hold for all $x, y, z \in T$:

Commutativity: $x \vee y = y \vee x, \quad x \wedge y = y \wedge x$

Associativity: $(x \vee y) \vee z = x \vee (y \vee z)$

$(x \wedge y) \wedge z = x \wedge (y \wedge z)$

Distributivity: $x \vee (y \wedge z) = (x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee z)$

$x \wedge (y \vee z) = (x \wedge y) \vee (x \wedge z)$

Identity: $x \vee 0 = x, \quad x \wedge 1 = x$

Complementation: $x \vee x' = 1, \quad x \wedge x' = 0$

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Examples of Boolean Algebras

Example

The set of subsets of a set X :

$$T : \text{Pow}(X)$$

$$\vee \text{ (join)} : \cup$$

$$\wedge \text{ (meet)} : \cap$$

$$(\text{complement}) : \cdot^c$$

$$0 : \emptyset$$

$$1 : X \quad (\mathcal{U})$$

The Laws of Boolean algebra follow from the Laws of Set Operations.

Examples of Boolean Algebras

Example

The two element Boolean Algebra :

$$\mathbb{B} = (\{\text{true}, \text{false}\}, ||, \&\&, !, \text{false}, \text{true})$$

where $!$, $\&\&$, $||$ are defined as:

- $!\text{true} = \text{false}; !\text{false} = \text{true},$
- $\text{true} \&\& \text{true} = \text{true}; \dots$
- $\text{true} || \text{true} = \text{true}; \dots$

Examples of Boolean Algebras

Example

Cartesian products of \mathbb{B} , that is n-tuples of 0's and 1's with Boolean operations, e.g. \mathbb{B}^4 :

$$\text{join: } (1, 0, 0, 1) \vee (1, 1, 0, 0) = (1, 1, 0, 1)$$

$$\text{meet: } (1, 0, 0, 1) \wedge (1, 1, 0, 0) = (1, 0, 0, 0)$$

$$\text{complement: } (1, 0, 0, 1)' = (0, 1, 1, 0)$$

$$0: (0, 0, 0, 0)$$

$$1: (1, 1, 1, 1).$$

Examples of Boolean Algebras

Example

Functions from any set S to \mathbb{B} ; that is, \mathbb{B}^S

If $f, g : S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ then

$(f \vee g) : S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ defined by $s \mapsto f(s) \vee g(s)$

$(f \wedge g) : S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ defined by $s \mapsto f(s) \wedge g(s)$

$f' : S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ defined by $s \mapsto !f(s)$

$0 : S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ is the function $s \mapsto 0$

$1 : S \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$ is the function $s \mapsto 1$

Proofs in Boolean Algebras

Show an identity holds using the laws of Boolean Algebra, then that identity holds **in all Boolean Algebras**.

Example

In all Boolean Algebras

$$x \wedge x = x$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{B}$.

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= x \wedge 1 && \text{[Identity]} \\ &= x \wedge (x \vee x') && \text{[Complement]} \\ &= (x \wedge x) \vee (x \wedge x') && \text{[Distributivity]} \\ &= (x \wedge x) \vee 0 && \text{[Complement]} \\ &= (x \wedge x) && \text{[Identity]} \end{aligned}$$

Duality

Definition

If E is an expression defined using variables (x, y, z , etc), constants (0 and 1), and the operations of Boolean Algebra (\wedge, \vee , and $'$) then $\text{dual}(E)$ is the expression obtained by replacing \wedge with \vee (and vice-versa) and 0 with 1 (and vice-versa).

Definition

If $(T, \vee, \wedge, ', 0, 1)$ is a Boolean Algebra, then $(T, \wedge, \vee, ', 1, 0)$ is also a Boolean algebra, known as the **dual** Boolean algebra.

Theorem (Principle of duality)

If you can show $E_1 = E_2$ using the laws of Boolean Algebra, then $\text{dual}(E_1) = \text{dual}(E_2)$.

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Example

We have shown $x \wedge x = x$.

By duality: $x \vee x = x$.

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