

CS100 #05

# Boolean Expression Simplification

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# Recap: Boolean Expression Simplification

- Digital computers contain circuits that implement Boolean logic.
- The simpler that we can make a Boolean expression, the smaller the circuit that will result.
- With this in mind, we always want to reduce our Boolean expressions to their simplest form.
- There are a number of Boolean identities that help us to do this.

# Boolean Identities: Trivial

Logical Inverse	$0' = 1$	$1' = 0$
Involution	$A'' = A$	
Dominance	$A + 1 = 1$	$A \cdot 0 = 0$
Identity	$A + 0 = A$	$A \cdot 1 = A$
Idempotence	$A + A = A$	$A \cdot A = A$
Complementarity	$A + A' = 1$	$A \cdot A' = 0$
Commutativity	$A + B = B + A$	$A \cdot B = B \cdot A$
Associativity	$(A + B) + C = A + (B + C)$	$(A \cdot B) \cdot C = A \cdot (B \cdot C)$

# Boolean Identities: Non-Trivial

Distributivity	$A \cdot (B+C) = A \cdot B + A \cdot C$	$A+B \cdot C = (A+B) \cdot (A+C)$
Absorption	$A \cdot (A+B) = A$	$A + A \cdot B = A$
DeMorgan's	$A+B = (A' \cdot B')'$	$A \cdot B = (A'+B')'$
Unnamed	$A + A' \cdot B = A + B$	
This one is usefull in assignment	$XY + X'Z + YZ =$ $XY + X'Z$	

# Absorption 1

$$\begin{aligned}A + (A \cdot B) &= (A \cdot 1) + (A \cdot B) \\&= A \cdot (1 + B) \\&= A \cdot 1\end{aligned}$$

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

## Absorption 2

$$\begin{aligned}A \cdot (A + B) &= (A \cdot A) + (A \cdot B) \\&= A + (A \cdot B) \\&= (A \cdot 1) + (A \cdot B) \\&= A \cdot (1 + B) \\&= A \cdot 1 \\&= A\end{aligned}$$

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

# Chain Of Absorptions

- $A + AB + AC + AD + AE + \dots = A$

Let's prove last one

$$XY + X'Z + YZ = XY + X'Z$$

$$XY + X'Z + 1YZ \Rightarrow XY + X'Z + (X + X')YZ \Rightarrow$$

$$XY + X'Z + XYZ + X'YZ \Rightarrow (XY + XYZ) + (X'Z + X'YZ) \Rightarrow$$

$$XY + X'Z$$



# Example

$$AB + BC(B + C)$$

# Example

$$AB + BC(B + C)$$



Distributing terms

$$AB + BBC + BCC$$



Applying identity  $\mathbf{AA = A}$   
to 2nd and 3rd terms

$$AB + BC + BC$$



Applying identity  $\mathbf{A + A = A}$   
to 2nd and 3rd terms

$$AB + BC$$



Factoring **B** out of terms

$$B(A + C)$$

# Example

$$A + B(A + C) + AC$$

# Example

$$A + B(A + C) + AC$$



Distributing terms

$$A + AB + BC + AC$$



Applying rule  $A + AB = A$   
to 1st and 2nd terms

$$A + BC + AC$$



Applying rule  $A + AB = A$   
to 1st and 3rd terms

$$A + BC$$

# Example

$$\overline{A} + \overline{BC}$$

# Example

$$\overline{A + \overline{BC}}$$



$$\overline{A} \overline{\overline{BC}}$$



$$\overline{A}BC$$

Breaking longest bar  
(addition changes to multiplication)

Applying identity  $\overline{\overline{A}} = A$   
to  $\overline{\overline{BC}}$

# Example

*Incorrect step!*

$$\overline{A + \overline{BC}}$$



$$\overline{A} \overline{\overline{B}} + \overline{\overline{C}}$$

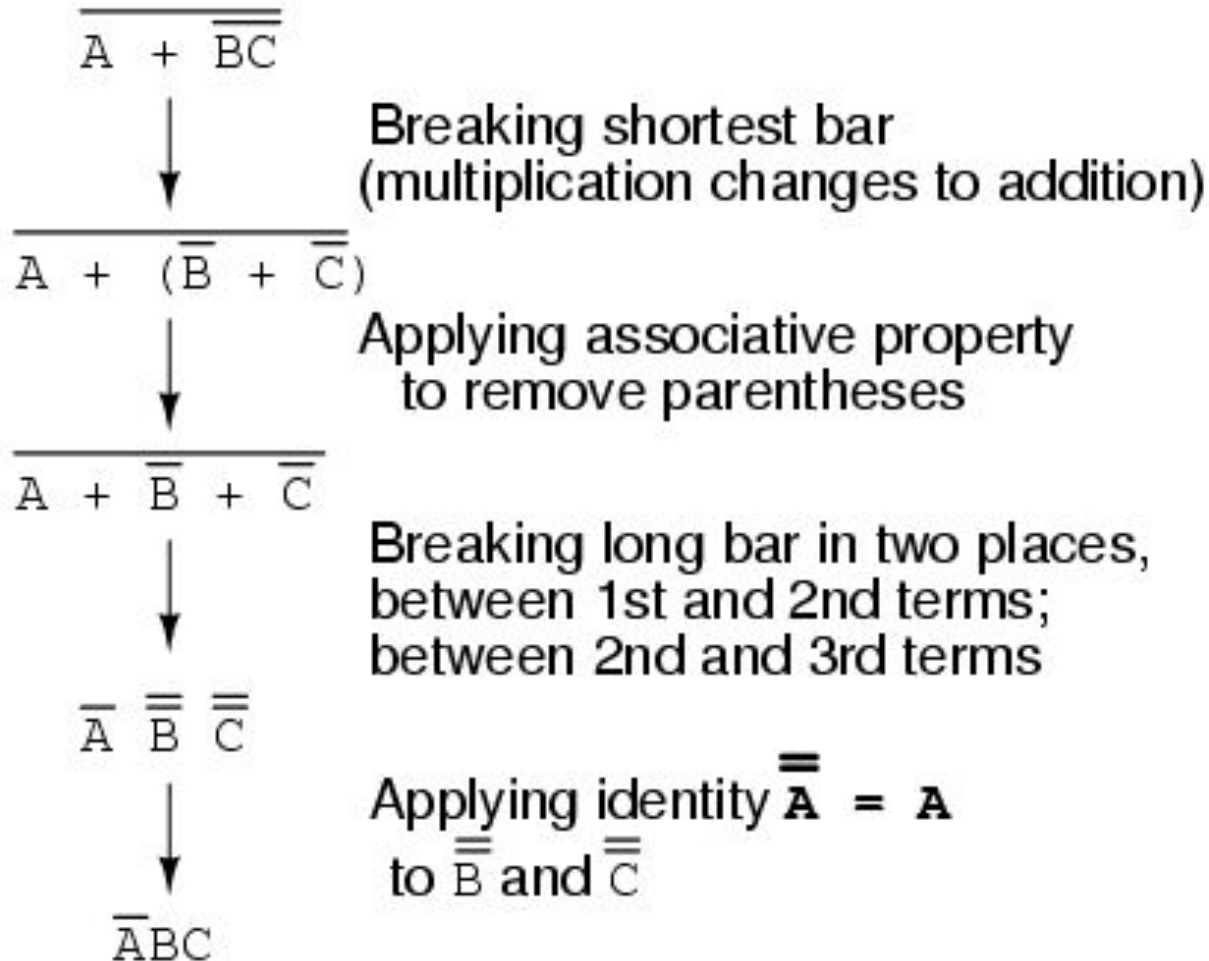


**Incorrect answer:**  $\overline{A}B + C$

Breaking long bar between A and B;  
Breaking both bars between B and C

Applying identity  $\overline{\overline{A}} = A$   
to  $\overline{\overline{B}}$  and  $\overline{\overline{C}}$

# Example





# Example

$$\overline{\overline{A + BC}} + \overline{\overline{AB}}$$

# Example

$$\overline{\overline{A + BC + \overline{\overline{AB}}}}$$

Breaking longest bar

$$\overline{\overline{(A + BC)}} \quad \overline{\overline{\overline{AB}}}$$

Applying identity  $\overline{\overline{A}} = A$  wherever double bars of equal length are found

$$(A + BC) (\overline{\overline{AB}})$$

Distributive property

$$A\overline{\overline{AB}} + BC\overline{\overline{AB}}$$

Applying identity  $AA = A$  to left term; applying identity  $\overline{\overline{AA}} = 0$  to B and  $\overline{\overline{B}}$  in right term

$$A\overline{\overline{B}} + 0$$

Applying identity  $A + 0 = A$

$$A\overline{\overline{B}}$$

# Example

$$\overline{A}BC + A\overline{B}C + AB\overline{C} + ABC$$

# Example

$$\overline{A}BC + A\overline{B}C + AB\overline{C} + ABC$$



Factoring **BC** out of 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> terms

$$BC(\overline{A} + A) + A\overline{B}C + AB\overline{C}$$



Applying identity **A +  $\overline{A}$  = 1**

$$BC(1) + A\overline{B}C + AB\overline{C}$$



Applying identity **1A = A**

$$BC + A\overline{B}C + AB\overline{C}$$



Factoring **B** out of 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> terms

$$B(C + A\overline{C}) + A\overline{B}C$$



Applying rule **A +  $\overline{A}B$  = A + B** to the C +  $A\overline{C}$  term

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# Example

$$B(C + A) + A\overline{B}C$$



$$BC + AB + A\overline{B}C$$



$$BC + A(B + \overline{B}C)$$



$$BC + A(B + C)$$



$$BC + AB + AC$$

*or*

$$AB + BC + AC$$

Distributing terms

Factoring **A** out of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> terms

Applying rule **A +  $\overline{A}B = A + B$**  to the **B +  $\overline{B}C$**  term

Distributing terms

Simplified result

# References

- <https://www.allaboutcircuits.com/textbook/digital/chpt-7/boolean-algebraic-identities/>