## Circuits \& Boolean algebra



## Overview

- Digital circuits
- How a switch works
- Building basic gates from switches
- Boolean algebra
- Sum-of-products notation
- Rules of Boolean algebra
- Minimization


## Digital circuits

- Building blocks:
- Wires
- Propagate an ON/OFF value
- 1 = connected to power
- 0 = not connect to power
- Any wire connected to a wire that is on is also on
- Switches
- Controls propagation of an ON/OFF value through a wire


## Controlled switch

- Building a switch
- 3 connections: input, output, control
- control = OFF, input connected to output


Anatomy of a relay (controlled switch)

## Switch types



Transistor


Vacuum tube


Pass transistor

## Logic gates

- Build NOT, OR, AND gates from switches



## Logic gates

AND $=x y$

| $x$ | $y$ | AND |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 |



## Inverted gate variants

| NOR(x,y) | $x$ | $y$ | NOR |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
|  | 0 | 1 | 0 |
|  | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|  | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| NAND(x,y) | $x$ | $y$ | NAND |
|  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 |  |
|  | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 |  |
| XNOR(x,y) | $x$ | $y$ | XNOR |
|  | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 |  |
| 1 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 1 | 1 | 1 |  |



## Boolean algebra

- Boolean algebra
- Every variable is either 0 or 1
- Functions whose inputs and outputs are 0 or 1
- Relationship to circuits:
- Boolean variable $=$ signal (ON/OFF)
- Boolean function = circuit made of gates \& wires
- Relationship to truth tables:
- Systematic way to represent any Boolean function
- One row for any input combination


## 2 variable truth tables

- Given 2 variables, how many possible Boolean functions?

| $x$ | $y$ | function 1 | function 2 | $\ldots$ | function <br> N |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

## All 2 variable Boolean functions

| $x$ | $y$ | ZERO | AND |  | $x$ |  | $y$ | XOR | OR |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |


| $x$ | $y$ | NOR | EQ | $y^{\prime}$ |  | $x^{\prime}$ |  | NAND | ONE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

## 3 variables truth tables

- Given 3 variables, how many total possible Boolean functions?
$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}\hline x & y & z & \text { function } \\ \hline 1\end{array} \begin{array}{l}\text { function } \\ 2\end{array}\right)$


## Representing Boolean functions

- $16=2^{4}$ Boolean functions of 2 variables
- $256=2^{8}$ Boolean functions of 3 variables
- $65536=2^{16}$ Boolean functions of 4 variables
- $2^{2^{n}}$ Boolean functions of $n$ variables!
- We need a more compact representation


## Sum-of-products

- Universality: any Boolean function can be expressed using \{AND, OR, NOT\}
- Also universal:

> \{AND, NOT\}, \{OR, NOT\}, \{NAND\}, \{NOR\}

- Sum-of-products
- Create Boolean expression from truth table
- Form AND term for each 1 in table
- OR terms together


## Sum-of-products: XOR

$X O R=x \oplus y$


- Form AND term for each 1 in table
- OR terms together
- Easy to convert to circuit using only AND, OR, NOT


## Sum-of-products: XOR

$X O R=x \oplus y$

| $x$ | $y$ | XOR |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 |



$$
X O R(x, y)=x^{\prime} y+x y^{\prime}
$$



## Majority function

- Majority function
- 1 if majority of bits are 1,0 otherwise

| $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | MAJ $(x, y, z)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

## Majority function

| $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | MAJ $(x, y, z)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

$\operatorname{MAJ}(x, y, z)=x^{\prime} y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y z{ }^{\prime}+x y z$

Can we do better?


## Minimizing $\operatorname{MAJ}(x, y, z)$

$\operatorname{MAJ}(x, y, z)=x^{\prime} y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y z^{\prime}+x y z=x y+y z+x z$


4, 3-input AND gates
3, NOT gates
1, 4-input OR gate


3, 2-input AND gates
1, 3 -input OR gate

## Products-of-sums

- Products-of-sums
- Create Boolean expression from truth table
- Form OR term for each 0 in table
- Use $X$ in OR term if $X=0, X^{\prime}$ is $X=1$
- AND terms together


## Product of sums: Majority

| $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | MAJ $(x, y, z)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

$\operatorname{MAJ}(x, y, z)=(x+y+z)\left(x+y+z^{\prime}\right)\left(x+y^{\prime}+z\right)\left(x^{\prime}+y+z\right)$

## Comparing POS vs. SOP

- Products-of-sums (POS)
- Create Boolean expression from truth table
- Form OR term for each 0 in table
- Use $X$ in OR term if $X=0, X^{\prime}$ is $X=1$
- AND terms together
- Sum-of-products (SOP)
- Create Boolean expression from truth table
- Form AND term for each 1 in table
- Use $X$ in AND term if $X=1$, use $X^{\prime}$ if $X=0$
- OR terms together


## Rules of Boolean algebra

|  | $(a)$ | $(b)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. Commutative law | $x+y=y+x$ | $x y=y x$ |
| 2. Associate law | $(x+y)+z=x+(y+z)$ | $(x y) z=x(y z)$ |
| 3. Distributive law | $x(y+z)=x y+x z$ | $(x+y)(x+z)=x+y z$ |
| 4. Identity law | $x+x=x$ | $x x=x$ |
| 5. | $x y+x y^{\prime}=x$ | $(x+y)\left(x+y^{\prime}\right)=x$ |
| 6. Redundance law | $x+x y=x$ | $x(x+y)=x$ |
| 7. | $0+x=x$ | $0 x=0$ |
| 8. | $1+x=1$ | $1 x=x$ |
| 9. | $x^{\prime}+x=1$ | $x^{\prime} x=0$ |
| 10. | $x+x^{\prime} y=x+y$ | $x\left(x^{\prime}+y\right)=x y$ |
| 11. De Morgan's Theorem | $(x+y)^{\prime}=x^{\prime} y^{\prime}$ | $(x y)^{\prime}=x^{\prime}+y^{\prime}$ |

## Minimizing $\operatorname{MAJ}(x, y, z)$

$$
\begin{align*}
\operatorname{MAJ}(x, y, z) & =x^{\prime} y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y z^{\prime}+x y z \\
& =x^{\prime} y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y\left(z^{\prime}+z\right) \\
& =x^{\prime} y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y \\
& =x^{\prime} y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y(1+z) \\
& =x^{\prime} y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y+x y z \\
& =y z\left(x^{\prime}+x\right)+x y^{\prime} z+x y \\
& =y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y  \tag{9a}\\
& =y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y(1+z) \\
& =y z+x y^{\prime} z+x y+x y z \\
& =y z+x z\left(y^{\prime}+y\right)+x y \\
& =y z+x z+x y
\end{align*}
$$

[3a] distributive [9a]
[3a] distributive [3a] distributive
[8a]
[3a] distributive [3a] distributive [9a]

## Problem 1: Odd parity function

- Odd parity
-1 if odd number of bits are 1
- Find sum-of-products
- Draw the circuit

| $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | ODD $(x, y, z)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

## Problem 2: Absolute value

- 3-bit number in two's complement
- Bits = xyz
- Create a truth table for $\operatorname{ABS}(x, y, z)>=2$
$-A B S()$ is 1 if and only if absolute value is 2 or more
- Find sum-of-products
- Minimize the Boolean expression
- Draw the circuit


## Problem 3:

- Show that \{NAND\} is universal
- Hint: show you can build AND, OR, NOT from 1-3 NAND gates
- Show that $\{N O R\}$ is universal
- Show that \{AND, NOT\} is universal
- Hint: Use De Morgan's on sum-of-products to eliminate OR
- Show that \{OR, NOT\} is universal
- Hint: Use De Morgan's on products-of-sums to eliminate AND


## Summary

- Wires + switches $\rightarrow$ gates \{AND, OR, NOT $\}$
- Truth table $\rightarrow$ sum-of-products Boolean expression
- Sum-of-products $\rightarrow$ circuit
- Simplification via rules of Boolean algebra


