

## CSE2353 - BOOLEAN ALGEBRA OUTLINE

- What is a Boolean Algebra?
- Relationship to Sets and Propositions
- Boolean Functions
- Minterms/Maxterms
- Boolean Algebra in Computer Science

## INTRODUCTION

 $(\{0,1\}, +, *, ^-, 0, 1)$ 

+	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1

*	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

b	$\bar{b}$
0	1
1	0

 $(P(\{x\}), \cup, \cap, ^-, \emptyset, \{x\})$ 

$\cup$	$\emptyset$	$\{x\}$
$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\{x\}$
$\{x\}$	$\{x\}$	$\{x\}$

$\cap$	$\emptyset$	$\{x\}$
$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
$\{x\}$	$\emptyset$	$\{x\}$

b	$\bar{b}$
$\emptyset$	$\{x\}$
$\{x\}$	$\emptyset$

 $(\{f, t\}, \vee, \wedge, ^-, f, t)$ 

$\vee$	f	t
f	f	t
t	t	t

$\wedge$	f	t
f	f	f
t	f	t

b	$\bar{b}$
f	t
t	f

## WHAT IS A BOOLEAN ALGEBRA?

- $(B, +, *, \bar{\phantom{x}}, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$
- Binary Operator  $+$  (Sum)
- Binary Operator  $*$  (Product)
- Unary Operator  $\bar{\phantom{x}}$  (Complement)
- $\mathbf{0}$  (Identity):  $\forall b \in B, b + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} + b = b$
- $\mathbf{1}$  (Identity):  $\forall b \in B, b * \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{1} * b = b$
- $+$  and  $*$  are Associative
- $+$  and  $*$  are Commutative
- $+$  Distributes over  $*$
- $*$  Distributes over  $+$
- $\forall b \in B, b + \bar{b} = \mathbf{1}$
- $\forall b \in B, b * \bar{b} = \mathbf{0}$

## BOOLEAN ALGEBRA PROPERTIES

- Dual - Change Binary operators and Identities
- The dual of a Boolean algebra theorem is a Boolean algebra theorem
- The identity elements are unique
- The complement of an element is unique
- $\forall b \in B, b + b = b$  and  $b * b = b$
- $\forall b \in B, \mathbf{1} + b = \mathbf{1}$  and  
 $\mathbf{0} * b = \mathbf{0}$
- Absorption:  $\forall b_1, b_2 \in B, b_1 + (b_1 * b_2) = b_1$   
and  $b_1 * (b_1 + b_2) = b_1$
- Involution:  $\forall b \in B, \overline{\overline{b}} = b$
- DeMorgan's Laws:  $\forall b_1, b_2 \in B, \overline{(b_1 + b_2)} = \overline{b_1} * \overline{b_2}$   
and  $\overline{(b_1 * b_2)} = \overline{b_1} + \overline{b_2}$

## BOOLEAN EXPRESSIONS

- Given  $(B, +, *, -, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1})$ , a Boolean Variable is a variable over the set  $B$
- A Literal is a Boolean variable,  $x$ , or its complement  $\bar{x}$
- Boolean Expressions
  - Identity Elements  $\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1}$
  - Boolean Variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$
  - $(X + Y), (X * Y), \bar{X}$  where  $X$  and  $Y$  are Boolean Expressions
- Two Boolean expressions are equivalent (equal) if one can be obtained from the other by a finite sequence of applications of the Boolean algebra axioms

## BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS

- A Boolean Function  $f: B^n \rightarrow B$  such that  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is a Boolean expression
- Examples:  $f_1(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2$ ;  $f_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \overline{x_1} * (x_2 + \overline{x_3})$
- Notation: Use  $x_1x_2$  to mean  $x_1 * x_2$
- Precedence Order: Complement, Product, Sum, Left to Right

## BOOLEAN FUNCTION ON ONE VARIABLE

- $f(x)=\mathbf{1}$ ,  $g(x)=x$
- Examine  $f(x)+f(x)$ ,  $f(x)+g(x)$ ,  $f(x)g(x)$ ,  $g(x)+g(x)$ ,  $g(x)g(x)$ ,  
 $\overline{f(x)}$ ,  $\overline{g(x)}$ ,  $\overline{f(x)}$
- Any function  $f(x)$  can be written as  $f(x)=f(\mathbf{0})x+f(\mathbf{1})\bar{x}$ .
- $\mathbf{0}x+\mathbf{0}\bar{x} = \mathbf{0}$
- $\mathbf{0}x+\mathbf{1}\bar{x} = \bar{x}$
- $\mathbf{1}x+\mathbf{0}\bar{x} = x$
- $\mathbf{1}x+\mathbf{1}\bar{x} = x+\bar{x} = \mathbf{1}$

## MINTERMS & MAXTERMS

- One variable:  $x, \bar{x}$
- Two variables:  $x_1x_2, x_1\bar{x}_2, \bar{x}_1x_2, \bar{x}_1\bar{x}_2$
- Minterm on  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is a Boolean expression which has the form of the product of each Boolean variable or its complement.
- Two minterms on one variable, four on two, eight on 3, and  $2^n$  on  $n$ .
- Notation:  $x^0 = \bar{x}$  and  $x^1 = x$ .
- $m_{e_1e_2\dots e_n} = x_1^{e_1}x_2^{e_2}\dots x_n^{e_n}$
- Examples:  $m_{11} = x_1x_2, m_{10} = x_1\bar{x}_2, m_{01} = \bar{x}_1x_2, m_{00} = \bar{x}_1\bar{x}_2$
- Maxterm on  $n$  variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is a Boolean expression which has the form of the sum of each Boolean variable or its complement.
- Examples:  $M_{11} = x_1 + x_2, M_{10} = x_1 + \bar{x}_2, M_{01} = \bar{x}_1 + x_2, M_{00} = \bar{x}_1 + \bar{x}_2$

## CANONICAL FORMS OF BOOLEAN EXPRESSIONS

- Any Boolean expression can be written as the sum of minterms  
(or product of maxterms)
- Disjunctive Normal Form - Boolean expression written as sum of minterms
- Conjunctive Normal Form - Boolean expression written as product of maxterms
- We will normally use DNF
- To convert a Boolean expression,  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  into DNF, we need to determine the values for the constant prefixes (That is the  $f(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n)$ ).
- Example: Convert  $x_1 + x_2$  into DNF

## CONVERTING TO CANONICAL FORM

## • Algorithm:

1. Create table showing values of  $f(e_1, \dots, e_n)$
2. Rewrite  $f$  using the output values shown as the prefixes  
for the corresponding terms

## • Example:

$e_1$	$e_2$	$f(e_1, e_2)$
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## GENERAL BOOLEAN ALGEBRAS

- The Power Set for any finite set can be used to define a Boolean Algebra
- Example: Look at  $A=\{x,y\}$
- The cardinality of a finite Boolean algebra is a power of 2
- In Computer Science we are primarily interested in the Boolean algebra of cardinality 2

## BOOLEAN ALGEBRA IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

- Switching Circuits
- Logic Networks
- Karnaugh Maps

## SWITCHING CIRCUITS

- Two-state Device: On or Off (1 or 0; T or F)
- Switch - Open (No current) or Closed (Current)
- Switches Can be combined:
  - Parallel - Boolean algebra +
  - Series - Boolean algebra \*
  - If S denotes a switch then  $\bar{S}$  denotes a switch which always has the opposite state
- Switching functions can be created to represent any Boolean function
- Switches can be mechanical or electronic

## LOGIC NETWORKS

- Switching circuits either conduct (switch closed) or do not conduct (switch open) electricity. For example voltage-operated circuits could define **1** as a signal with  $\geq 3$  volts and **0** with 0 volts and an acceptable tolerance
- Gate - hardware that implements logic operations of AND, OR, NOT (inverter)
- Linking gates together creates a logic network
- Adders

