

1 Digit Bases

$(N)_p$ is used to indicate that the number N is expressed in base p . For example, $(N)_2$ means that we are working in base 2 and $(N)_{10}$ means N is expressed in base 10, or decimal digits. For example,

- $(245)_{10} = 2 \times 10^2 + 4 \times 10^1 + 5 \times 10^0$
- $(11010)_2 = 1 \times 2^4 + 1 \times 2^3 + 0 \times 2^2 + 1 \times 2^1 + 0 \times 2^0$

2 Boolean Algebra

In Boolean algebra, *true* statements are denoted 1 and *false* statements are denoted 0. A Boolean function acts on a set of these Boolean values and outputs a set of Boolean values (usually just one). The most common Boolean operators used are **NOT**, **AND**, **OR** and **XOR**.

2.1 NOT

NOT is a Boolean function that takes in one Boolean value and outputs its negation. Let x be a Boolean variable. **NOT**(x) is denoted as \bar{x} . The truth table of **NOT** is,

x	\bar{x}
0	1
1	0

2.2 AND

AND is a Boolean function that takes in two Boolean values and outputs 1 if both the values are true. Let x and y be two Boolean variables. **AND**(x, y) is denoted as $x \cdot y$. The truth table of **AND** is,

x	y	$x \cdot y$
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

2.3 OR

OR is a Boolean function that takes in two Boolean values and outputs 1 if at least one of the values are true. Let x and y be two Boolean variables. **OR**(x, y) is denoted as $x + y$. The truth table of **OR** is,

x	y	$x + y$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

2.4 XOR

XOR is a Boolean function that takes in two Boolean values and outputs 1 if exactly one of the values is true. Let x and y be two Boolean variables. **XOR**(x, y) is denoted as $x \oplus y$. The truth table of **XOR** is,

x	y	$x \oplus y$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

3 De Morgan's Law

De Morgan's Law is stated as follows. Let x and y be two Boolean variables. Then,

$$\overline{(x \cdot y)} = \bar{x} + \bar{y}$$

$$\overline{(x + y)} = \bar{x} \cdot \bar{y}$$

4 Boolean Formulae and Natural Numbers

We can represent natural numbers with a Boolean function that evaluates to 1 if and only if its inputs match the binary representation of that numbers. For example, say we want to find a binary function f that returns true if the input is $(11)_{10}$. The first thing to note is that $(11)_{10} = (1011)_2$. Then, define $f(b_3, b_2, b_1, b_0)$, where b_3, b_2, b_1, b_0 are Boolean variables such that b_i represents the i^{th} digit in binary representation, as follows.

$$f(b_3, b_2, b_1, b_0) = b_3 \cdot (\bar{b}_2) \cdot b_1 \cdot b_0$$

Note that f is true if the input is $(11)_{10}$ in base 2.

5 Transistor Introduction

Transistors (as presented in this course) are 3 terminal, voltage controlled switches. What this means is that, when a transistor is "on" it connects the Source (S) and Drain (D) terminals via a low resistance path (short circuit). When a transistor is "off" the Source and Drain terminals are disconnected (open circuit).

Two common types of transistors are NMOS and PMOS transistors. Their states (shorted or open) are determined by the voltage difference across Gate (G) and Source (S) terminals, compared to a "threshold

voltage.” Transistors are extremely useful in digital logic design, since we can implement Boolean logic operators using switches.

Given that V_{tn} and V_{tp} are the threshold voltages for the NMOS and PMOS transistors, respectively, the figures below depict the closing conditions for these “switches.”



Figure 1: nMOS Transistor



Figure 2: pMOS Transistor

Transistors can be strung together to perform boolean algebra. For example, the following circuit is called an "inverter" and represents a NOT gate.

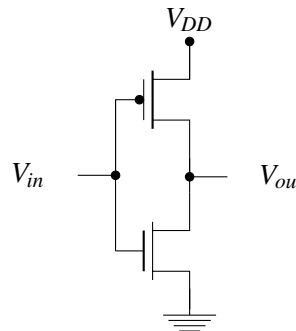


Figure 3: CMOS Inverter

When the input is high ($V_{in} \geq V_{tn}$, $V_{in} \geq V_{DD} + V_{tp}$), then the NMOS transistor is on, the PMOS transistor is off, and the $V_{out} = 0$. When the input is low ($V_{in} \leq V_{tn}$, $V_{in} \leq V_{DD} + V_{tp}$), the NMOS transistor is off, the PMOS transistor is on, and $V_{out} = V_{DD}$. When working with digital circuits like the one above, we usually only consider the values of $V_{in} = 0, V_{DD}$. This yields the following truth table.

V_{in}	V_{out}	NMOS	PMOS
V_{DD}	0	on	off
0	V_{DD}	off	on

If you think of V_{DD} being a logical 1, and 0V being a logical 0, we have just created the most elementary logical operation using transistor circuits!

1. Digit Bases

- (a) Express $(10)_{10}$ with binary encoding (or in base 2).
- (b) Given k binary digits, what is the biggest number you can express?

2. Boolean Formulae And Natural Numbers

- (a) Express an integer, $(1)_{10}$, with a Boolean formula f , which includes only one Boolean variable b_0 .
- (b) Express an integer $(0)_{10}$ with a Boolean formula g , which includes only one Boolean variable b_0 .
- (c) Express an integer $(17)_{10}$, with a Boolean formula h , with 5 Boolean variables, B_0, B_1, B_2, B_3 and B_4 .
- (d) Given a natural number $(N)_{10}$, how many Boolean variables do we need? How do we express it in terms of a Boolean formula?

3. De Morgan's laws

- (a) Write the truth table for $C = A \cdot B$.
- (b) Flip all the Boolean values in the truth table you just made. What is the resulting Boolean expression represented by the flipped truth table? Do you need an **AND** to represent this?
- (c) Now, let's similarly convert $S = A \oplus B$. First, write out $A \oplus B$ using only **NOTs**, **ORs**, and **ANDs**.
- (d) From the expression you just made, use the rule you learned in part (b) to remove the **ANDs**.
- (e) Was there something special about **OR** vs **AND**? Using only **NOTs** and **ANDs**, rewrite the expression $S = A \oplus B$.

4. Transistor introduction

- (a) Assume that the voltage range is from ground to VDD. If Source of an NMOS is connected to VDD, would the switch ever close? What if it is connected to ground?
- (b) Assume that the voltage range is from ground to VDD. If the Source of a PMOS is connected to VDD, would the switch ever turn on? What if it is connected to ground?

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