

Homework

- Update on website issue
- Reading: Chapter 7
- Homework: All exercises at end of Chapter 7
- Due 9/26

COS 140: Foundations of Computer Science

Karnaugh Maps

Fall 2018

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The problem

- Given a circuit specification, how can we make the best circuit possible?
- What constitutes “better” for circuits?
 - Reduce the number of gates
 - Reduce the number of inputs (pins)
- May also have to use only a particular set of gates
 - Some chips have only one type of gate, and may have that chip
 - NAND and NOR are cheaper to make
 - Must be in a **functionally complete** set to be able to realize all functions, e.g.: {AND, OR, NOT}, {NAND}, {NOR}

Equivalence

- Recall: two circuits are equivalent if they perform the same function, without regard for the gates used, the way the circuit is constructed, etc.
- Equivalence is also a more general concept
 - Basically, two entities are equivalent if, for all possible inputs, they have the same output
 - Equivalence allows computer scientists to use “the right tool for the job” by choosing the entity that best suits their needs

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Boolean Approach

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An insight

- Given a Boolean circuit specification—say, an SOP—how would you proceed?
- Suppose two terms differ only by the “sign” of a variable – one has the variable, the other the complement (negation):

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

- Can replace via laws of Boolean algebra:
 - $\dots + (A + \overline{A})BC + \dots$ (Distributive Law)
 - $\dots + BC + \dots$ (Inverse Law)
- In other words, the value of the variable doesn't matter, and it can be eliminated from that pair
- The pair is replaced by a new term having one fewer variable
- Process is repeated until minimal expression found

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Difficulty with Boolean approach

- Problem: Can be difficult to see which terms to combine, in what order

$$\begin{aligned} &\bar{A}\bar{B}\bar{C}D + ABCD + \bar{A}BCD + AB\bar{C}D \\ &+ ABC\bar{D} + \bar{A}\bar{B}C\bar{D} + \bar{A}\bar{B}C\bar{D} \end{aligned}$$

- It would be better if there was some way to see which terms can be combined

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Karnaugh Maps

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Karnaugh Maps

- A Karnaugh Map is a visual representation of a Boolean SOP expression
- Each term is represented by a cell in a table (map)
- Adjacent cells differ in the “sign” of only one variable
- E.g., ABC would be adjacent to $ABC\bar{C}$, also $\bar{A}BC$, ...
- So how to draw the map?

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Example: The magic of Karnaugh Maps

Suppose you want to create a circuit for the majority function

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

and you want to minimize the circuit, keeping it an SOP.

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Example: The magic of Karnaugh Maps

Create a Karnaugh Map for the number of variables that you have in the expression.

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

		AB			
		00	01	11	10
C	0				
	1				

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Example: The magic of Karnaugh Maps

Put a 1 in squares that correspond to the terms in the expression.

- Term \Leftrightarrow square:
 - 1 if variable occurs in the term, 0 if complement occurs
 - E.g.: $\overline{A}B\overline{C} \Leftrightarrow$ square 010
- For truth tables:
 - Match the input pattern for rows where output is 1 to the square's label
 - E.g.: $0 \ 0 \ 1 \mid 1 \Leftrightarrow$ square 001

	AB			
	00	01	11	10
0				
1				

Example: The magic of Karnaugh Maps

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

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

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

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

	AB			
	00	01	11	10
0				
1				

(Fill in during lecture.)

Example: The magic of Karnaugh Maps

Circle groups of powers of 2 $\geq 2^1$ (2, 4, 8, etc.) until all ones have been circled. Circle the largest groups possible.

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

		AB			
		00	01	11	10
C	0			1	
	1		1	1	1

(Circle the groups.)

Example: The magic of Karnaugh Maps

Read the terms from the circled items, leaving out variables that have different values within the group.

		AB			
		00	01	11	10
C	0			1	
	1		1	1	1

		AB			
		00	01	11	10
C	0			1	
	1		1	1	1

BC

		AB			
		00	01	11	10
C	0			1	
	1		1	1	1

BC + AB

(Because B is same, C is same, but A = both 1 & 0)

		AB			
		00	01	11	10
C	0			1	
	1		1	1	1

BC + AB + AC

(Because A is same, B is same, but C = both 1 & 0)

(Because A is same, C is same, but B = both 1 & 0)

Another Look at the Map

Values for variables are listed so that only one change of value occurs between neighbors. (“Gray code”)

AB

	00	01	11	10
0				
1				

With 4 variables \Rightarrow 4 rows, 4 columns.

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What to Circle

- Circle: groups of size 2^n , $n > 0$
- Don't have to circle groups of 1
 - implicit circles
 - must remember to include them in minimized expression, though!
- Circle largest group possible to cover each 1
 - Larger groups \Rightarrow fewer terms
 - Group of 2^n : n inputs are eliminated
- A 1 can be in > 1 group:
 - May be needed to increase size of multiple groups
 - Each group: must have at least one 1 not in any other group
- Circles can “wrap around” map:
 - side to side, top to bottom
 - all 4 corners

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Example: Another Karnaugh Map

Design a minimal circuit for the following expression:

$$\begin{aligned} &\overline{A}\overline{B}\overline{C}D + ABCD + \overline{A}BCD + AB\overline{C}D \\ &+ ABC\overline{D} + \overline{A}BC\overline{D} + \overline{A}\overline{B}C\overline{D} \end{aligned}$$

Draw the Karnaugh map and add the values:

	AB			
	00	01	11	10
00				1
01		1	1	
11		1	1	
10			1	1

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Example: Another Karnaugh Map

Circle the groups and read the terms for the minimal circuit.

	AB			
	00	01	11	10
00				1
01		1	1	
11		1	1	
10			1	1

	AB			
	00	01	11	10
00				1
01		1	1	
11		1	1	
10			1	1

$$BD + \overline{A}\overline{B}\overline{D} + AC\overline{D}$$

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Including Don’t Cares

- Put “Don’t Cares” in Karnaugh Map as D
- Include them only in circles if it helps

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Example					AB			
A	B	C	D	F				
0	0	0	0	1				
0	0	0	1	0				
0	0	1	0	0				
0	0	1	1	0				
0	1	0	0	0				
0	1	0	1	0				
0	1	1	0	1				
0	1	1	1	1				
1	0	0	0	–				
1	0	0	1	0				
1	0	1	0	0				
1	0	1	1	0				
1	1	0	0	0				
1	1	0	1	–				
1	1	1	0	1				
1	1	1	1	D				

		AB			
		00	01	11	10
CD	00	1			D
	01			D	
	11		1	D	
	10		1	1	

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Advantages and Limitations of Karnaugh Maps

- Pros:
 - Easy to work with
 - Handles don't cares – no need to manipulate algebraic expression (as some other methods do)
- Cons:
 - Not meant for automation
 - Difficult to use with > 4 variables
 - ▷ 5 or 6 variables: map is cube
 - ▷ Handle by overlaying tables, but hard to visualize
 - ▷ > 6 : hypercube

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More about Karnaugh Maps and Minimizing Circuits

- Can be used for functions other than SOPs – map is read differently
- Other methods exist that can be automated:
 - Work with more variables
 - E.g., Quine-McKluskey Method
 - But QM is NP-hard (i.e., intractable for many-variable functions)

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