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TESKA, John Thomas, 1931-
A BINARY REPRESENTATION FOR FINITE BOOLEAN
FUNCTIONS.

The University of Oklahoma, Ph.D., 1970
Mathematics

University Microfilms, A XEROX Company, Ann Arbor, Michigan

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

GRADUATE COLLEGE

A BINARY REPRESENTATION FOR FINITE BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS

A DISSERTATION

SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE FACULTY

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the

degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

BY

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Norman, Oklahoma

1970

A BINARY REPRESENTATION FOR FINITE BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. Andree for his outstanding instruction, excellent advice, contagious enthusiasm, and especially for his interest in me. Equally, I fully recognize the outstanding instruction and the encouragement I have received from Drs. Brixey, Ewing, and Levy. I am grateful to Dr. Huffaker for his many helpful suggestions in the preparation of this dissertation.

I deeply appreciate Carol's understanding, typing, and the many sacrifices she has made to further my education. Thank you Janet, Tom, and Andy for making everything worthwhile.

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A BINARY REPRESENTATION FOR FINITE BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Finite Boolean algebras have been studied intensively since the discovery by Shannon [21] in 1938 that Boolean algebra can be applied to the analysis and synthesis of switching circuits. Many different mathematical methods have been used for representing Boolean functions. Among these methods are algebraic [2], [10], [12], [16], [17], and [18]; topological [19] and [23]; diagramatic [9] and [24]; and real analytic [3] and [14]. Harrison [6] provides an excellent exposition on all of the above methods. Descriptions of all of the methods except the last are given by Hu [7] and Miller [11].

In Chapter II of this paper, it is shown that the set of all Boolean functions of a finite Boolean algebra has the structure of a vector space over the field of integers modulo two, and that by a suitable change of basis, many structural properties of Boolean functions may be determined easily from the coordinates of functions. The structural properties of functions which are studied include symmetry, independence of a variable, self-duality, anti-self-duality, and linearity.

From an engineering viewpoint it is natural to call two Boolean functions "equivalent" if the two functions can be mechanized with the same switching circuit of a given type. Several different definitions

of equivalence are commonly used depending upon the type of switching circuits being considered. In Chapter III it is shown that a canonical representative may be assigned to each equivalence class of functions based on the coordinates introduced in Chapter II. For each of six definitions of equivalence, algorithms are developed for finding the canonical representatives of an arbitrary Boolean function.

The following definitions and theorems or their equivalents may be found in any of the references [4], [6], [7], [11], [14], and [22]. The theorems are stated here without proof. A Boolean algebra $\langle B, \vee, \cdot, ', 0, 1 \rangle$ is a set B with binary operations $\vee$ (logical sum, disjunction, or, join) and $\cdot$ (logical product, conjunction, and, meet), a unary operation $'$ (complement, negation, not), and distinguished elements 0 and 1 satisfying the following postulates essentially due to Huntington [8]:

- (1) For all $a, b \in B$, $a \vee b = b \vee a$.
- (2) For all $a, b \in B$, $ab = ba$.
- (3) For all $a \in B$, $a \vee 0 = a$.
- (4) For all $a \in B$, $a1 = a$.
- (5) For all $a, b, c \in B$, $a \vee bc = (a \vee b)(a \vee c)$.
- (6) For all $a, b, c \in B$, $a(b \vee c) = ab \vee ac$.
- (7) For all $a \in B$, $a \vee a' = 1$ and $aa' = 0$.

As usual $a \cdot b$ is written ab , $\cdot$ takes precedence over $\vee$ if parentheses are omitted, and $ab' = a(b')$.

Theorem 1.1. For all $a, b, c \in B$, $(a \vee b) \vee c = a \vee (b \vee c)$ and $(ab)c = a(bc)$.

Theorem 1.2. For all $a \in B$, $a \vee a = a$ and $aa = a$.

Theorem 1.3. For all $a \in B$, $a \vee 1 = 1$ and $a0 = 0$.

Theorem 1.4. For all $a \in B$, $(a')' = a$.

Theorem 1.5. For all $a, b \in B$, $(a \vee b)' = a'b'$ and $(ab)' = a' \vee b'$.

Theorem 1.6. $0' = 1$ and $1' = 0$.

Theorem 1.7. For all $a, b \in B$, $ab \vee ab' = a$.

Let $B_1 = \langle \{0,1\}, \vee, \cdot, ', 0, 1 \rangle$ where the operations are defined

by:

$$0 \vee 0 = 0$$

$$1 \cdot 1 = 1$$

$$0 \vee 1 = 1 \vee 0 = 1 \vee 1 = 1$$

$$0 \cdot 0 = 0 \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$0' = 1$$

$$1' = 0.$$

The symbol B_1 will be used to identify $\{0,1\}$ as well as the structure $\langle \{0,1\}, \vee, \cdot, ', 0, 1 \rangle$.

Theorem 1.8. B_1 is a Boolean algebra.

Let $B_n = \prod_{i=1}^n B_1$ be the n -fold direct product of B_1 , i.e., $\vee, \cdot, ', 0$, and 1 are defined by components on the set $B_n = \prod_{i=1}^n B_1$:

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n) \vee (b_1, \dots, b_n) = (a_1 \vee b_1, \dots, a_n \vee b_n)$$

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n) \cdot (b_1, \dots, b_n) = (a_1 b_1, \dots, a_n b_n)$$

$$(a_1, \dots, a_n)' = (a_1', \dots, a_n')$$

$$0 = (0, \dots, 0)$$

$$1 = (1, \dots, 1)$$

Theorem 1.9. B_n is a Boolean algebra.

Theorem 1.10. Every finite Boolean algebra is isomorphic to

B_n for some natural number n .

Theorem 1.11. B_n contains 2^n elements.

A Boolean function (switching function) of n variables is a mapping from B_n into B_1 . Let F_n be the set of all Boolean functions of n variables and let $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in B_n$. The operations $\vee$, $\cdot$, $'$ and distinguished elements 0 and 1 are defined in F_n by:

$$(f \vee g)(x) = f(x) \vee g(x)$$

$$(fg)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x)$$

$$f'(x) = (f(x))'$$

$$0(x) = 0$$

$$1(x) = 1$$

The symbol F_n will be used to identify $\langle F_n, \vee, \cdot, ', 0, 1 \rangle$.

A subset G of a Boolean algebra B is a set of generators for B if every element of B can be expressed as a logical sum of logical products of elements of G or elements whose complements are elements of G . A set G of generators for B is a set of free generators for B if every mapping of G into an arbitrary Boolean algebra C can be extended to a homomorphism of B into C . A Boolean algebra is free if it contains a set of free generators.

Theorem 1.12. F_n is a free Boolean algebra with n generators and 2^{2^n} elements.

Let i be an integer such that $0 \leq i \leq 2^n - 1$ and let $i_n \dots i_1$ be the binary number equivalent to i . The atom (minimal polynomial, minterm) $a_i \in F_n$ is defined by

$$a_i(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_1 = i_1, \dots, x_n = i_n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Theorem 1.13. There are 2^n atoms in F_n .

Theorem 1.14. If $i \neq j$, $a_i a_j = 0$.

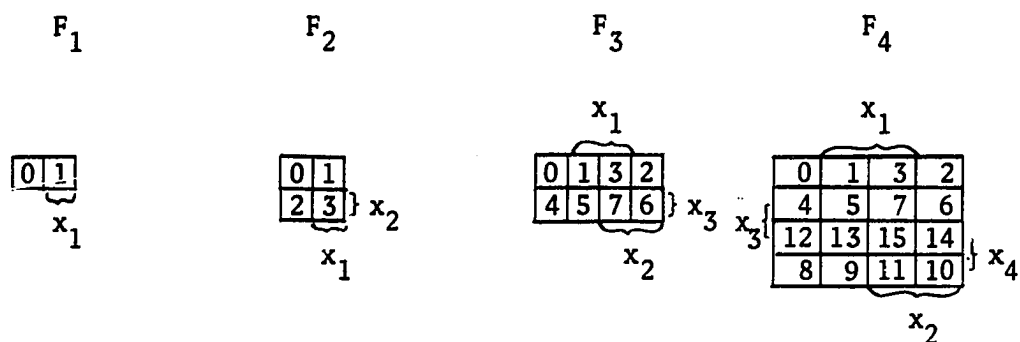
Theorem 1.15. Each $f \in F_n$, can be expressed uniquely as a logical sum of atoms.

If m is an integer such that $1 \leq m \leq n$, the symbol x_m may be interpreted as one of the components (variables) of $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ or as a function $x_m \in F_n$ defined by $x_m(x) = 1$ if the variable $x_m = 1$ and $x_m(x) = 0$ if the variable $x_m = 0$. The symbol x_m' denotes the complement of the function x_m . The functions x_m and x_m' are called literals. If $i_m \in \{0, 1\}$, the literal $x_m^{i_m}$ is defined by $x_m^1 = x_m$ and $x_m^0 = x_m'$. If $\{i_1, \dots, i_m\} \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $j_k \in \{0, 1\}$ for $k = 1, \dots, m$, the logical product $x_{i_1}^{j_1} \dots x_{i_m}^{j_m} \in F_n$ is called a fundamental product. The 1-function is considered to be the fundamental product corresponding to $\{i_1, \dots, i_m\} = \emptyset$.

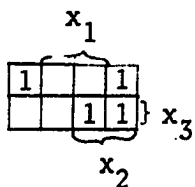
Theorem 1.16. If $a_i = a_{i_n \dots i_1}$ is an atom of F_n , $a_{i_n \dots i_1} = x_n^{i_n} \dots x_1^{i_1}$.

If a_i and a_j are atoms of F_n , $a_{i_n \dots i_1}$ is adjacent to $a_{j_n \dots j_1}$, provided there is exactly one integer $m \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $i_m \neq j_m$. If a_i and a_j are adjacent atoms in F_n , the function $a_i \vee a_j$ can be expressed as a fundamental product of $n - 1$ literals using Theorems 1.16 and 1.7.

One of the most useful methods of representing Boolean functions utilizes modified Venn diagrams called Veitch diagrams [24] or Karnaugh maps [9]. Veitch diagrams for representing functions in F_1, F_2, F_3 , and F_4 are given below:



The Veitch diagram for F_n is divided into 2^n squares corresponding to the 2^n atoms of F_n . The integer i appearing in a square of a diagram identifies that square with the atom a_i . If $x_i \in F_n$, one-half of the atoms of F_n are dominated by x_i and the other half of the atoms are dominated by x_i' . The braces and symbols x_i appearing at the edges of each diagram indicate those atoms dominated by x_i . In view of Theorem 1.15, a Boolean function $f \in F_n$ may be represented by a Veitch diagram in which 1 appears in the square corresponding to a_i iff f dominates the atom a_i , i.e., $fa_i = 1$. For example, the function $f \in F_3$ given by $f = a_0 \vee a_2 \vee a_6 \vee a_7 = a_{000} \vee a_{010} \vee a_{110} \vee a_{111}$ is represented by the Veitch diagram:



A major feature of Veitch diagrams is the connection between physical adjacency of squares and adjacency of atoms defined on p. 5. In the diagram for F_3 consider the left and right edges to be identified so that square 0 is adjacent to square 2 and square 4 is adjacent to square 6. In the diagram for F_4 consider the left and right edges

to be identified and the top and bottom to be identified so that square 0 is adjacent to squares 2 and 8, etc. Then it is easy to see that the atoms a_i and a_j are adjacent iff squares i and j are adjacent. Veitch diagrams are particularly useful in finding minimal algebraic expressions for functions as a logical sum of fundamental products where minimal is defined in the sense of fewest literals. For example, the minimal expression for the function given in the preceding Veitch diagram is

$$f = x_3'x_1' \vee x_3x_2.$$

Veitch diagrams may be extended readily to functions of more than four variables by using the appropriate number of copies of the diagram for four variables. For example, the diagram for functions in F_5 consists of one copy of the F_4 diagram with squares labeled 0 through 15 and a second copy of the F_4 diagram with squares labeled 16 through 31. In the case of F_5 , squares in the same relative position of the two F_4 diagrams are considered to be adjacent.

All theorems, corollaries, lemmas, and algorithms appearing in Chapters II and III are believed to be original with two exceptions. Theorem 2.1 is essentially the same as problem 6, p. 61 of Harrison's book [6], and Corollary 2.9 is a well-known result (p. 173, [6]).

CHAPTER II

THE FUNDAMENTAL REPRESENTATION OF BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS

In $B_1 = \{0,1\}$, the binary operation $\oplus$ (modulo two addition, exclusive or) is defined by $0 \oplus 0 = 1 \oplus 1 = 0$ and $0 \oplus 1 = 1 \oplus 0 = 1$. Obviously $\langle B_1, \oplus, 0 \rangle$ is an abelian group with identity 0. If $\oplus$ is extended in the standard manner to B_n and F_n , it is clear that $\langle B_n, \oplus, 0 \rangle$ and $\langle F_n, \oplus, 0 \rangle$ are abelian groups with identities $0 = (0, \dots, 0)$ and the 0-function, respectively. Let Z_2 be the field of integers modulo two and define scalar product by $0f = 0$ and $1f = f$ for all $f \in F_n$. Then clearly F_n has the structure of a vector space over Z_2 . Note that $0f$ and $1f$ may be interpreted as scalar multiples of f or as logical products of the 0-function with f and the 1-function with f , respectively. However, with either interpretation $0f = 0$ and $1f = f$.

Each of the 2^n atoms of F_n may be represented as a 2^n -tuple with a single 1 and the remaining positions 0. For $i = 0, \dots, 2^n - 1$, let $a_i = a_{i_n} \dots a_{i_1}$ be the 2^n -tuple with 1 in position $i + 1$ from the left so that $a_0 = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$, $a_1 = (0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$, $\dots$, $a_{2^n-1} = (0, \dots, 0, 1)$. Then the ordered set $A_n = \{a_i : i = 0, \dots, 2^n-1\}$ is the standard basis for F_n as a vector space over Z_2 so F_n has dimension 2^n . If $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_m \in F_n$, let

$$\sum_{i=1}^m g_i = g_1 \vee g_2 \vee \dots \vee g_m$$

and let

$$\bigoplus_{i=1}^m g_i = g_1 \oplus g_2 \oplus \dots \oplus g_m.$$

By Theorem 1.15, each $f \in F_n$ has unique representation $f = \sum_{i=0}^{2^n-1} f_i a_i$ where $f_i = f a_i$. By Theorem 1.14, $a_i a_j = 0$ if $i \neq j$. Hence

$$a_i \otimes a_j = a_i \vee a_j \text{ if } i \neq j.$$

Hence

$$f = \sum_{i=0}^{2^n-1} f_i a_i = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{2^n-1} f_i a_i.$$

The ordered set, set A_n will be called the atomic basis for F_n ,

$$\bigoplus_{i=0}^{2^n-1} f_i a_i$$

will be called the atomic representation of f , and f_i , $i = 0, \dots, 2^n-1$

will be called the atomic coordinates of f . The atomic representation

$$\bigoplus_{i=0}^{2^n-1} f_i a_i$$

of f also may be written as the vector $(f_i) = (f_0, \dots, f_{2^n-1})$. If

$f = (f_i)$ and $g = (g_i)$, then $f \otimes g = (f_i \otimes g_i)$ and $f' = 1 \otimes f =$

$(1) \otimes (f_i) = (1 \otimes f_i)$.

Let $a_i = a_{i_n \dots i_1}$ be a fixed atom and let $c_j^i = c_{j_n \dots j_1}^{i_n \dots i_1}$ be the fundamental product $(x_n)_{j_n}^{i_n} \dots (x_1)_{j_1}^{i_1}$ where

$$(x_k)_0^{i_k} = 1, (x_k)_1^0 = x_k', \text{ and } (x_k)_1^1 = x_k.$$

Then $C_n^i = \{c_j^i : j = 0, \dots, 2^n-1\}$ is the set of all fundamental products which include the atom a_i . Let $a_k = a_{k_n \dots k_1}$ be an atom. Then

$$c_{j_n \dots j_1}^{i_n \dots i_1} = 1$$

for the atom a_k iff for each $m = 1, \dots, n$ either $j_m = 0$ or $k_m = i_m$. Let

$$c_{j,k}^i = c_{j_n \dots j_1, k_n \dots k_1}^{i_n \dots i_1}$$

be the k 'th atomic coordinate of c_j^i . Then $c_{j,k}^i = 1$ iff for each $m = 1, \dots, n$ either $j_m = 0$ or $k_m = i_m$. For example C_3^5 is the set of all fundamental products of three variables which include the atom $a_5 = a_{101} = (0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0)$. The elements of C_3^5 are:

$$\begin{aligned} c_0^5 &= c_{000}^{101} = 1 &= (1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1) \\ c_1^5 &= c_{001}^{101} = x_1 &= (0,1,0,1,0,1,0,1) \\ c_2^5 &= c_{010}^{101} = x_2' &= (1,1,0,0,1,1,0,0) \\ c_3^5 &= c_{011}^{101} = x_2'x_1 &= (0,1,0,0,0,1,0,0) \\ c_4^5 &= c_{100}^{101} = x_3 &= (0,0,0,0,1,1,1,1) \\ c_5^5 &= c_{101}^{101} = x_3x_1 &= (0,0,0,0,0,1,0,1) \\ c_6^5 &= c_{110}^{101} = x_3x_2' &= (0,0,0,0,1,1,0,0) \\ c_7^5 &= c_{111}^{101} = x_3x_2'x_1 &= (0,0,0,0,0,1,0,0) \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2.1. The ordered set $C_n^{2^n-1} = \{c_j^{2^n-1} : j = 0, 1, \dots, 2^n-1\}$ is a basis for F_n . Let T_n be the matrix of the coordinate transformation from the $C_n^{2^n-1}$ basis to the A_n basis. Then

$$T_n^{-1} = T_n = \begin{bmatrix} T_{n-1} & T_{n-1} \\ 0 & T_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

where $T_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Proof. That $C_n^{2^n-1}$ is a basis for F_n will follow immediately if T_n can be shown to have an inverse. Let $T_n = [t_{ij}]$. Then t_{ij} is the j 'th coefficient in the atomic representation of $c_i^{2^n-1}$. The structure of T_n can be shown by induction. The ordered set

$$C_1^1 = \{1, x_1\} = \{(1,1), (0,1)\}.$$

Hence

$$T_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$T_1 T_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

so

$$T_1^{-1} = T_1.$$

Assume that $T_k^{-1} = T_k$. From the definition of

$$C_{k+1}^{2^{k+1}-1} = \{c_j^{2^{k+1}-1} : j = j_{k+1} \dots j_1 = 0, \dots, 2^{k+1}-1\},$$

the first 2^k elements of $C_{k+1}^{2^{k+1}-1}$ do not contain x_{k+1} or x_{k+1}' as a factor since $j_{k+1} = 0$. Hence the first 2^k coordinates in atomic representation for each $c_j^{2^{k+1}-1}$, $j = 0, \dots, 2^k-1$, are the same as the coordinates of $c_j^{2^k-1}$. The second 2^k coordinates of $c_j^{2^{k+1}-1}$ are ordered duplicates of the first 2^k coordinates. Hence

$$T_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} T_k & T_k \\ A & B \end{bmatrix}$$

where the second 2^k rows of T_{k+1} (the blocks A and B) have yet to be determined. For $j = 2^k, \dots, 2^{k+1}-1$, $j_{k+1} = 1$ so $c_j^{2^{k+1}-1}$ has x_{k+1} as a factor and the first 2^k coordinates of $c_j^{2^{k+1}-1}$ are 0. The second 2^k

coordinates of $c_j^{2^{k+1}-1}$ are the coordinates of $c_j^{2^k-1}$. Hence the blocks A and B are 0 and T_k , respectively. Finally,

$$T_{k+1}T_{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} T_k & T_k \\ 0 & T_k \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} T_k & T_k \\ 0 & T_k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_k T_k & T_k T_k \oplus T_k T_k \\ 0 & T_k T_k \end{bmatrix}.$$

By the induction hypothesis $T_k T_k = I$, and $I \oplus I = 0$. Hence $T_{k+1}^{-1} = T_{k+1}$.

Let $a_i = a_{i_n \dots i_1}$ be an atom and let P_i be the $2^n \times 2^n$ permutation matrix obtained by interchanging rows of the $2^n \times 2^n$ identity matrix according to the following rule: row $k = k_n \dots k_1$ is interchanged with row $h = h_n \dots h_1$ provided $k_m = h_m$ if $i_m = 1$ and $k_m = h'_m$ if $i_m = 0$ for $m = 1, \dots, n$.

Theorem 2.2. Let $a_i = a_{i_n \dots i_1}$ be an atom. The ordered set $C_n^i = \{c_j^i : j = 0, \dots, 2^n - 1\}$ is a basis for F_n and the matrix T_n^i of the coordinate transformation from the C_n^i basis to the A_n basis is $T_n P_i$.

Proof. Let $T_n^i = [t_{jk}^i]$. Then t_{jk}^i is the k 'th coordinate of c_j^i expressed relative to the A_n basis. Recall that $c_{j_n \dots j_1}^{i_n \dots i_1} = 1$ for the atom $a_{k_n \dots k_1}$ iff for each $m = 1, \dots, n$ $j_m = 0$ or $k_m = i_m$. Hence the atomic coordinates of $c_{j_n \dots j_1}^{i_n \dots i_1}$ are a permutation of the atomic coordinates of $c_{j_n \dots j_1}^{1 \dots 1}$ according to the following rule: the coordinate in position $k_n \dots k_1$ of $c_{j_n \dots j_1}^{i_n \dots i_1}$ is interchanged with the coordinate in position $h_n \dots h_1$ provided $k_m = h_m$ if $i_m = 1$ and $k_m = h'_m$ if $i_m = 0$ for $m = 1, \dots, n$. By the definition of P_i , multiplication of T_n on the right by P_i effects an interchange of columns of $T_n = T_n^{2^n-1}$ according to the preceding rule. Since $|T_n| = 1$ and $|P_i| = 1$, it follows that $|T_n^i| = |T_n| \cdot |P_i| = 1$ so C_n^i is a basis for F_n .

Each $f \in F_n$ may be represented as

$$f = \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} f_j^i c_j^i$$

or as a vector (f_j^i) of length 2^n relative to the ordered basis C_n^i .

The ordered basis C_n^i will be called the fundamental basis for F_n relative to a_i and the f_j^i will be called the fundamental coordinates (coefficients) of f relative to a_i .

Theorem 2.3. Let $f = (f_j^i)$ and let $g = (g_j^i)$. Then $f \otimes g = (f_j^i \otimes g_j^i)$ and $f' = (1 \otimes f_0^i, f_1^i, \dots, f_{2^n-1}^i)$.

Proof.

$$f \otimes g = \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} f_j^i c_j^i \otimes \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} g_j^i c_j^i = \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} (f_j^i \otimes g_j^i) c_j^i.$$

Note that $f' = 1 \otimes f$ and $c_0^i = 1$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} f' &= 1 \otimes f = 1 \otimes \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} f_j^i c_j^i = 1 \otimes f_0^i c_0^i \otimes \sum_{j=1}^{2^n-1} f_j^i c_j^i = \\ &= (1 \otimes f_0^i) c_0^i \otimes \sum_{j=1}^{2^n-1} f_j^i c_j^i. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose f is given in atomic coordinates by $f = (f_j)$ and in fundamental coordinates relative to a_i by $f = (f_j^i)$. Then $(f_j) = (f_j^i) T_n^i$ and

$$(f_j^i) = (f_j) [T_n^i]^{-1} = (f_j) [T_n P_i]^{-1} = (f_j) P_i^{-1} T_n.$$

The group of all permutation matrices of dimension 2^n under multiplication is isomorphic to the symmetric group S_{2^n} [1]. Since P_i is obtained

from I by simple interchanges of rows, the image of P_i in S_{2^n} is a product of disjoint cycles of length two. Hence $P_i^{-1} = P_i$ and $(f_j^i) = (f_j) P_i T_n$. Hence $[T_n^i]^{-1}$ may be obtained from T_n by interchanging row $k_n \dots k_1$ with row $h_n \dots h_1$ provided $k_m = h_m$ if $i_m = 1$ and $k_m = h'_m$ if $i_m = 0$ for $m = 1, \dots, n$. It is important to note that $[T_n^i]^{-1} = T_n^i$ and that T_n^i has a very convenient block form only if $i = 2^n - 1$. In particular, $(f_j) = (f_j^{2^n-1}) T_n$ and $(f_j^{2^n-1}) = (f_j) T_n$. Let $T_n = [t_{jk}]$. Then

$$t_{jk} = c_{j,k}^{2^n-1}$$

which is the k 'th atomic coordinate of $c_j^{2^n-1}$. Hence $t_{jk} = 1$ iff $j_m = 0$ or $k_m = 1$. Hence

$$f_k^{2^n-1} = \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} f_j t_{jk} = \sum_{j \in J_k} f_j$$

where

$$J_k = \{j = j_n \dots j_1 : j_m = 0 \text{ or } k_m = 1, m = 1, \dots, n\}.$$

For example in case $n = 3$:

$J_{000} = \{000\}$	$f_0^7 = f_{000}$
$J_{001} = \{000, 001\}$	$f_1^7 = f_{000} \oplus f_{001}$
$J_{010} = \{000, 010\}$	$f_2^7 = f_{000} \oplus f_{010}$
$J_{011} = \{000, 001, 010, 011\}$	$f_3^7 = f_{000} \oplus f_{001} \oplus f_{010} \oplus f_{011}$
$J_{100} = \{000, 100\}$	$f_4^7 = f_{000} \oplus f_{100}$
$J_{101} = \{000, 001, 100, 101\}$	$f_5^7 = f_{000} \oplus f_{001} \oplus f_{100} \oplus f_{101}$
$J_{110} = \{000, 010, 100, 110\}$	$f_6^7 = f_{000} \oplus f_{010} \oplus f_{100} \oplus f_{110}$
$J_{111} = \{000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 101, 110, 111\}$	$f_7^7 = \sum_{j=0}^7 f_j$

Let $[T_n^i]^{-1} = [u_{jk}^i] = P_i[t_{jk}]$. Then $u_{jk}^i = 1$ iff $j_m = i_m'$ or $k_m = 1$ for $m = 1, \dots, n$. Hence

$$f_k^i = \sum_{j=0}^{2^n-1} f_j u_{jk}^i = \sum_{j \in J_k^i} f_j$$

where

$$J_k^i = \{j = j_n \dots j_1 : j_m = i_m' \text{ or } k_m = 1, m = 1, \dots, n\}.$$

Note that

$$J_k = J_k^{2^n-1}.$$

Let

$$M_k^i = \sum_{j \in J_k^i} a_j.$$

Then $f_k^i = 0(1)$ iff $f \equiv 1$ for an even (odd) number of atoms in M_k^i .

From the structure of J_k^i it can be seen that M_k^i may be written as the fundamental product

$$(x_n)_{k_n}^{i_n'} \dots (x_1)_{k_1}^{i_1'},$$

where

$$(x_m)_{1'}^{i_m'} = (x_m)_0^{i_m'} = 1, (x_m)_{0'}^0 = (x_m)_1^1 = x_m,$$

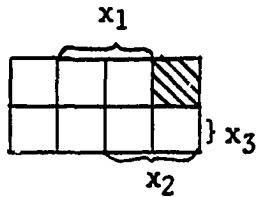
and

$$(x_m)_{0'}^1 = (x_m)_1^0 = x_m' \text{ for } m = 1, \dots, n.$$

Note that $\{M_k^i : k = 0, \dots, 2^n-1\}$ is the set of all fundamental products which include the atom $a_{i_n'} \dots a_{i_1'}$. In terms of Veitch diagrams, each M_k^i can be drawn as a mask with shading in those areas for which $M_k^i = 1$. If f is given by a Veitch diagram, $f_k^i = 1$ iff f has an odd number of "ones" in the shaded region of M_k^i .

For example let $n = 3$ and $i = 5$. The masks M_k^5 are:

$$M_0^5 = x_3'x_2x_1'$$



$$M_1^5 = x_3'x_2$$



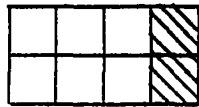
$$M_2^5 = x_3'x_1'$$



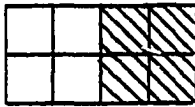
$$M_3^5 = x_3'$$



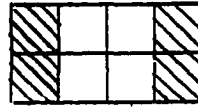
$$M_4^5 = x_2x_1'$$



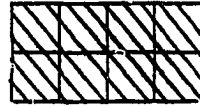
$$M_5^5 = x_2$$



$$M_6^5 = x_1'$$



$$M_7^5 = 1$$



Let $f(x_3, x_2, x_1) = x_1'(x_2 \vee x_3') \vee x_3x_2x_1$. As a sum of minimal polynomials $f(x_3, x_2, x_1) = x_3'x_2'x_1' \vee x_3'x_2x_1' \vee x_3x_2x_1' \vee x_3x_2x_1$ and in atomic form $f = a_{000} \oplus a_{010} \oplus a_{110} \oplus a_{111}$ so $(f_j) = (1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1)$.

The Veitch diagram for f is:

1			1
		1	1

Comparing the Veitch diagram for f to the masks M_0^5 through M_7^5 yields $(f_k^5) = (1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0)$. The fundamental coordinates of f relative to a_5 also could be obtained by multiplying (f_j) on the right by $[T_3^5]^{-1} = P_5T_3$:

$$[T_3^5]^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(f_k^5) = (1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1) \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = (1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0)$$

The rows of $[T_3^5]^{-1}$ are the fundamental coordinates of the atoms relative to a_5 . Since f is the modulo two sum of the atoms dominated by f , Theorem 2.3 may be used to compute (f_k^5) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (f_k^5) &= (0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1) \\ &\oplus (1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1) \\ &\oplus (0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1) \\ &\oplus (0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1) \\ &= (1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Also by Theorem 2.3, the fundamental coordinates of f' relative to a_5 are given by $(f_k^5)' = (0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0)$.

Theorem 2.4. Let $\tau_m : F_n \rightarrow F_n$ be defined by

$$\tau_m(f(x_n, \dots, x_m, \dots, x_1)) = f(x_n, \dots, x_m', \dots, x_1),$$

i.e., τ_m complements variable x_m of f . Then

$$(\tau_m(f))_k^i = \begin{cases} f_k^i & \text{if } k_m = 1 \\ f_k^i \oplus f_{k_n \dots k_m' \dots k_1}^i & \text{if } k_m = 0. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Complementing x_m has the effect of changing the fundamental basis from

$$C_n^{i_n \dots i_m \dots i_1} \text{ to } C_n^{i_n \dots i_m' \dots i_1}.$$

Hence

$$(\tau_m(f))_k^{i_n \dots i_m \dots i_1} = f_k^{i_n \dots i_m' \dots i_1}.$$

Recall that $f_k^i = 1$ iff $f = 1$ for an odd number of atoms of

$$M_k^i = (x_n)_{k_n}^{i_n'} \dots (x_1)_{k_1}^{i_1'},$$

where

$$(x_m)_{1'}^{i_m'} = 1, (x_m)_{0'}^{0'} = x_m,$$

and

$$(x_m)_{0'}^{1'} = x_m'.$$

Hence $(\tau_m(f))_k^i = 1$ iff $f = 1$ for an odd number of atoms of $M_k^{i_n \dots i_m' \dots i_1}$.

If $k_m = 1$,

$$M_k^{i_n \dots i_m' \dots i_1} = M_k^{i_n \dots i_m \dots i_1}$$

so

$$(\tau_m(f))_k^i = f_k^i.$$

If $k_m = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} M_{k_n \dots k_m \dots k_1}^{i_n \dots i_m' \dots i_1} &= (x_n)_{k_n}^{i_n'} \dots (x_m)_{0'}^{i_m'} \dots (x_1)_{k_1}^{i_1'} \\ &= (x_n)_{k_n}^{i_n'} \dots (x_m)_{0'}^{i_m'} \dots (x_1)_{k_1}^{i_1'} \\ &\oplus (x_n)_{k_n}^{i_n'} \dots (x_m)_{1'}^{i_m'} \dots (x_1)_{k_1}^{i_1'} \end{aligned}$$

$$= M_{k_n \dots k_m \dots k_1}^{i_n \dots i_m \dots i_1} \oplus M_{k_n \dots k_m' \dots k_1}^{i_n \dots i_m \dots i_1}.$$

$$\text{Hence } (\tau_m(f))_k^i = f_k^i \oplus f_{k_n \dots k_m' \dots k_1}^i.$$

As an example of the application of Theorem 2.4, consider the function of the previous example:

$$\begin{aligned} (f_k^5) &= (f_{000}^{101}, f_{001}^{101}, f_{010}^{101}, f_{011}^{101}, f_{100}^{101}, f_{101}^{101}, f_{110}^{101}, f_{111}^{101}) \\ &= (1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0). \end{aligned}$$

Complementing x_1 produces

$$(\tau_1(f))_{k_3 k_2}^{101} = f_{k_3 k_2}^{101} \text{ and } (\tau_1(f))_{k_3 k_2}^{100} = f_{k_3 k_2}^{101} \oplus f_{k_3 k_2}^{101}.$$

Hence the fundamental coordinates of $\tau_1(f)$ relative to a_5 are

$$((\tau_1(f))_k^5 = (0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0). \text{ Note that } (\tau_1(f))_k^5 = f_k^4.$$

A function $f \in F_n$ is said to be independent of x_m if there is an algebraic expression for f as logical sum of fundamental products which include neither x_m nor x_m' as a factor.

Theorem 2.5. The function f is independent of x_m iff $f_k^i = 0$ for all $k = k_n \dots k_m \dots k_1$ with $k_m = 1$.

Proof. Clearly f is independent of x_m iff $\tau_m(f) = f$. Hence f is independent of x_m iff $(\tau_m(f))_k^i = f_k^i$ for $k = 0, \dots, 2^n - 1$. Hence by Theorem 2.4 f is independent of x_m iff $f_k^i = 0$ for all k such that $k_m = 1$.

The dual f^D of a function f is defined by $f^D(x_1, \dots, x_n) = f'(x_1', \dots, x_n')$. A function f is said to be self-dual if $f^D = f$ and anti-self-dual if $f^D = f'$.

Theorem 2.6. The function f is anti-self-dual iff $f_k^0 = f_k^{2^n-1}$ for $k = 0, \dots, 2^n-1$; f is self-dual iff $f_0^0 = 1 \oplus f_0^{2^n-1}$ and $f_k^0 = f_k^{2^n-1}$ for $k = 1, \dots, 2^n-1$.

Proof. Complementing all variables has the effect of changing the fundamental basis C_n^0 to $C_n^{2^n-1}$. Hence f is anti-self-dual iff $f_k^0 = f_k^{2^n-1}$ for all k . By Theorem 2.3, complementing f changes the fundamental coordinates of f relative to a_i only by changing f_0^i to $1 \oplus f_0^i$. Hence f is self-dual iff $f_0^0 = 1 \oplus f_0^{2^n-1}$ and $f_k^0 = f_k^{2^n-1}$ for $k = 1, \dots, 2^n-1$.

Let σ be a permutation on $\{1, \dots, n\}$. Then σ may also be considered to be a permutation of the digits $k_n \dots k_1$, or as a mapping of F_n into F_n which permutes the variables of a function f . As indicated by the following theorem, the fundamental bases relative to a_0 and a_{2^n-1} are especially convenient for considering the effects of permuting the variables of a function.

Theorem 2.7. If σ is a permutation on $\{1, \dots, n\}$ then

$$(\sigma(f))_{k_n \dots k_1}^0 = f_{\sigma(k_n \dots k_1)}^0 \quad \text{and} \quad (\sigma(f))_{k_n \dots k_1}^{2^n-1} = f_{\sigma(k_n \dots k_1)}^{2^n-1}.$$

Proof. The elements of the fundamental basis C_n^0 are given by $c_k^0 = (x_n)_{k_n}^0 \dots (x_1)_{k_1}^0$ where $(x_m)_0^0 = 1$ and $(x_m)_1^0 = x_m'$. Hence each variable which appears in the fundamental product c_k^0 is complemented.

Hence permuting the variables of f by σ simply reorders the elements of C_n^0 by mapping

$$c_{k_n \dots k_1}^0 \text{ to } c_{\sigma(k_n \dots k_1)}^0.$$

Hence

$$(\sigma f)_{k_n \dots k_1}^0 = f_{\sigma(k_n \dots k_1)}^0.$$

Similarly, each variable which appears in the fundamental product $c_k^{2^n-1}$ is uncomplemented so

$$(\sigma f)_{k_n \dots k_1}^{2^n-1} = f_{\sigma(k_n \dots k_1)}^{2^n-1}.$$

The binary number $k_n \dots k_1$ is said to be of length m if exactly m of the binary digits $k_n, \dots, k_1$ are 1. The fundamental product c_k^i or the coordinate f_k^i is of length m provided $k = k_n \dots k_1$ is of length m . Evidently there are $\binom{n}{m}$ fundamental products or coordinates of length m for $m = 0, \dots, n$. In investigating the structure of functions it is convenient to arrange the c_k^i and the f_k^i in descending order of length, and within groups of fundamental products or coordinates of the same length, in decreasing values of k . For example the elements of C_3^5 are ordered as follows:

$$c_{111}^{101} \quad c_{110}^{101} \quad c_{101}^{101} \quad c_{011}^{101} \quad c_{100}^{101} \quad c_{010}^{101} \quad c_{001}^{101} \quad c_{000}^{101}.$$

A function $f \in F_n$ is said to be symmetric if f is invariant under all permutations of variables.

Theorem 2.8. The function f is symmetric iff all coordinates f_k^0 of the same length have the same value; f is symmetric iff all $f_k^{2^n-1}$ of the same length have the same value.

Proof. Each permutation σ on $\{1, \dots, n\}$ when applied to $k_n \dots k_1$ does not change the length of $k_n \dots k_1$. Hence by Theorem 2.7, f is symmetric iff all f_k^0 (or $f_k^{2^n-1}$) of the same length have the same value.

Theorem 2.8 provides a simple proof of a well-known result [6] on the number symmetric functions:

Corollary 2.9. There are 2^{n+1} symmetric functions of n variables.

Proof. For n variables there are $n + 1$ possible lengths for k ($0, 1, \dots, n$) and all coordinates of each length may be either 0 or 1 for a symmetric function.

A function $f \in F_n$ is said to be linear if it is of the form

$$f = e_0 \oplus e_1 x_1 \oplus \dots \oplus e_n x_n = \sum_{m=0}^n e_m x_m$$

where $e_m = 0$ or 1 for $m = 0, 1, \dots, n$ and $x_0 = 1$. A linear function f is said to be even (odd) if $e_0 = 0$ (1).

Theorem 2.10. A function is linear iff $f_k^0 = 0$ ($f_k^{2^n-1} = 0$) for all k of length greater than one. A linear function is even iff $f_0^{2^n-1} = 0$.

Proof. The fundamental coordinates of the 0 function are all 0 relative to any atom, i.e., $0_k^i = 0$ for $k = 0, \dots, 2^n-1$. Hence by Theorem 2.3 the fundamental coordinates of the 1 function are $1_0^i = 1$ and $1_k^i = 0$ for $k = 1, \dots, 2^n-1$. Hence $(e_0)_k^i = 0$ for $k = 1, \dots, 2^n-1$. Note that $c_{2^m-1}^0 = x_m'$ and $c_{2^m-1}^{2^n-1} = x_m$ for $m = 1, \dots, n$. Hence the fundamental coordinates of the function $e_m x_m$ are

$$(e_m x_m)_k^0 = \begin{cases} e_m & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ or } 2^m-1 \\ 0 & \text{if } k \neq 0 \text{ and } k \neq 2^m-1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$(e_m x_m)_k^{2^n-1} = \begin{cases} e_m & \text{if } k = 2^m-1 \\ 0 & \text{if } k \neq 2^m-1 \end{cases} \quad \text{for } m = 1, \dots, n.$$

By Theorem 2.3, the fundamental coordinates of the linear function

$$f = \sum_{m=0}^n e_m x_m$$

are given by

$$f_k^0 = \sum_{m=0}^n (e_m x_m)_k^0 \quad \text{and} \quad f_k^{2^n-1} = \sum_{m=0}^n (e_m x_m)_k^{2^n-1}.$$

If $k = 0$, k has length 0, and $k = 2^{m-1}$ has length 1. Hence

$$(e_m x_m)_k^0 = (e_m x_m)_k^{2^n-1} = 0$$

provided k has length greater than one. Hence the conditions $f_k^0 = 0$

and $f_k^{2^n-1} = 0$ for all k of length greater than one are

necessary for linearity. From the definition of a linear function

it is clear that there are 2^{n+1} linear functions of n variables. Since

there are $n + 1$ coordinate positions of length 0 or 1, all linear

functions are accounted for under the described conditions so these con-

ditions are also sufficient for linearity. Finally, $(e_m x_m)_0^{2^n-1} = 1$ iff

$m = 0$ and $e_0 = 1$. Hence a linear function f is even iff $f_0^{2^n-1} = 0$.

CHAPTER III

EQUIVALENCE CLASSES OF FUNCTIONS AND CANONICAL REPRESENTATIVES

There are 2^{2^n} Boolean functions of n variables which may be partitioned into equivalence classes with respect to several important equivalence relations on F_n . The following equivalence relations are discussed by Harrison [6] : Assume $f, g \in F_n$, then

- (1) f is P-equivalent to g if there is a permutation σ on $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ such that $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = g(\sigma(x_1, \dots, x_n))$;
- (2) f is N-equivalent to g if there is a complementation operator τ on $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ (τ complements each variable in some subset of $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$) such that $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = g(\tau(x_1, \dots, x_n))$;
- (3) f is PN-equivalent to g if f is P-equivalent to some $h \in F_n$ such that h is N-equivalent to g ;
- (4) f is NP-equivalent to g if f is P-equivalent to g or g' ;
- (5) f is NN-equivalent to g if f is N-equivalent to g or g' ;
- (6) f is NPN-equivalent to g if f is PN-equivalent to g or g' .

Equivalence in F_n was first studied systematically by Pólya [15]. Using the theory of group characters, Pólya was able to determine the number of PN-equivalence classes for 1, 2, 3, and 4 variables (there are 402 classes for 4 variables). Pólya's method was refined by Slepian

[10] who determined the number of PN-equivalence classes for 5 and 6 variables. The problem of counting the number of classes for equivalence relations other than PN has been studied by Ninomiya [13], Harrison [5], and others. Harrison [6] lists the number of equivalence classes for the six types of equivalence defined above for $n \leq 6$ variables.

Golomb [3] and Ninomiya [14] independently developed methods for assigning a canonical representative function to each NPN-equivalence class and procedures for determining the canonical representative corresponding to an arbitrary function. Using either method requires the assignment of an ordered set of 2^n integers to each function or equivalence class of functions of n variables. These integers are called "invariants" by Golomb and "coordinates" by Ninomiya. Ninomiya [14] lists tables of coordinates for the canonical representatives of the 14 NPN-equivalence classes of functions of 3 variables and the 222 NPN-equivalence classes of functions of 4 variables. Ninomiya [14] has also developed tables of minimal switching networks including minimal relay networks, diode circuits, vacuum tube circuits, and transistor circuits for the 402 PN-equivalence classes of functions of 4 variables. The minimal diode circuits are given algebraically as minimal logical sums of fundamental products. Harrison [6] uses tables of the "invariants" of Golomb with Ninomiya's tables of minimal switching networks to reduce the problem of optimum design to a table look-up procedure for functions of up to 4 variables.

It is the purpose of this chapter to show that the fundamental coordinates for functions developed in Chapter II may be used in place of Golomb's "invariants" and Ninomiya's "coordinates" for the purposes

described above. The use of fundamental coordinates has the following advantages over the other methods:

- (1) The fundamental coordinates of a function of n variables are 2^n binary digits instead of 2^n integers. (Each "invariant" is a non-negative integer $\leq 2^n$, and each "coordinate" is an integer with absolute value $\leq 2^{n-1}$.) Hence fundamental coordinates provide a more compact notation better suited for automatic computation.
- (2) Every ordered set of 2^n binary digits form the fundamental coordinates of some function of n variables. Golomb [3] was not able to determine sufficient conditions for an ordered set of 2^n integers to be the "invariants" of a function. Ninomiya [14] gives a test requiring 2^n steps which will determine whether or not a given ordered set of 2^n integers form the "coordinates" of a function.
- (3) The algorithms for determining the canonical representative corresponding to an arbitrary given function are, in general, easier to apply using fundamental coordinates than either of the other methods.

The fundamental coordinates $(f_k^{2^n-1}) = (f_{k_n \dots k_1}^{1 \dots 1})$ of a function $f \in F_n$ will be ordered as indicated in the discussion following Theorem 2.7, i.e., $f_{k_n \dots k_1}^{1 \dots 1}$ precedes $f_{h_n \dots h_1}^{1 \dots 1}$ if length $k >$ length h or if length $k =$ length h , $f_k^{2^n-1}$ precedes $f_h^{2^n-1}$ if $k > h$. Note that fundamental coordinates relative to the atom a_{2^n-1} are to be used. For convenience, $f_{2^n-1}^{2^n-1}$ will be relabeled f_0 and if $k \neq 2^n-1$, $f_{k_n \dots k_1}^{2^n-1}$ will be relabeled

$$f_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}$$

where i_1 is the least integer m such that $k_m = 0$, i_2 is the second least integer m such that $k_m = 0$, etc. For example the coordinates

$$(f_{k_3 k_2 k_1}^{2^n - 1})$$

are ordered and relabeled as follows:

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} f_{111}^{111} & f_{110}^{111} & f_{101}^{111} & f_{011}^{111} & f_{100}^{111} & f_{010}^{111} & f_{001}^{111} & f_{000}^{111} \\ f_0 & f_1 & f_2 & f_3 & f_{12} & f_{13} & f_{23} & f_{123} \end{array}$$

Note that the length of $f_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}$ is $n - m$. From the definition of M_k^i in Chapter II,

$$M_k^{2^n - 1} = (x_n')_{k_n} \dots (x_1')_{k_1},$$

where $(x_m')_{1'} = 1$ and $(x_m')_{0'} = x_m'$. Hence

$$f_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m} = 1$$

iff $f = 1$ for an odd number of atoms in the fundamental product

$(x_{i_1}') (x_{i_2}') \dots (x_{i_m}')$ and $f_0 = 1$ iff $f = 1$ for an odd number of atoms.

One simple method of obtaining the fundamental coordinates of a function f is to form the modulo two sum of the fundamental coordinates of the atoms dominated by f (see Theorem 2.3). The fundamental coordinates of the atoms for $n = 1, 2, 3$, and 4 are given in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1. Fundamental Coordinates of Atoms.

n = 1		f_0	f_1				
	a_0	1	1				
	a_1	1	0				
n = 2		f_0	$f_1 f_2$	f_{12}			
	a_0	1	1 1	1			
	a_1	1	0 1	0			
	a_2	1	1 0	0			
	a_3	1	0 0	0			
n = 3		f_0	$f_1 f_2 f_3$	$f_{12} f_{13} f_{23}$	f_{123}		
	a_0	1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1		
	a_1	1	0 1 1	0 0 1	0		
	a_2	1	1 0 1	0 1 0	0		
	a_3	1	0 0 1	0 0 0	0		
	a_4	1	1 1 0	1 0 0	0		
	a_5	1	0 1 0	0 0 0	0		
	a_6	1	1 0 0	0 0 0	0		
	a_7	1	0 0 0	0 0 0	0		

[illegible]

Let R be one of the six equivalence relations defined above.

If $f \in F_n$, let $[f]_R$ be the R -equivalence class containing f . The canonical representative f^R of $[f]_R$ is defined to be that function $f^R \in [f]_R$ whose ordered fundamental coordinates $(f_{i_1}^R \dots i_m)$ are minimum as a binary number.

The fundamental coordinates of all functions of 1, 2, and 3 variables are listed in Tables 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4, respectively. A Veitch diagram is given for each function and each function is paired with its complement. The functions are grouped in PN-equivalence classes with a space between PN classes. Within each PN class, the functions are grouped in P-equivalence classes. If f dominates r atoms, then f' dominates $2^n - r$ atoms. Each equivalence class $[f]_R$ of functions whose members dominate $< 2^{n-1}$ atoms is assigned an integer m and the symbol m' is assigned to the class $[f']_R$. If $n \leq 3$ and f dominates exactly 2^{n-1} atoms, $f' \in [f]_N$ and $f' \in [f]_{PN}$, but $f' \notin [f]_P$ (see Ninomiya [14]). Hence if f dominates 2^{n-1} atoms, an integer is assigned to $[f]_N = [f']_N$ and an integer is assigned to $[f]_{PN} = [f']_{PN}$. If f dominates 2^{n-1} atoms and $f_{1\dots n} = 0$, an integer m is assigned to $[f]_P$ and m' is assigned to $[f']_P$. The equivalence class number of the canonical representative of each class is underlined and a double underline denotes the representative of an NP, NN, or NPN class.

Algorithms now may be developed for determining the canonical representative for an arbitrary function. Let S be the set of all permutations σ on $\{1, \dots, n\}$. The ordered fundamental coordinates

$$f_{12\dots m} f_{13\dots(m+1)} \dots f_{(n-m+1)(n-m+2)\dots n}$$

Table 3.2. Functions of One Variable.

Veitch Diagram	Fundamental Coordinates		Equivalence Class								
	f_0	f_1	P	N	PN	f_0	f_1	P	N	PN	
01 x_1											
	0	0	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	11	0	1	<u>1'</u>	<u>1'</u>	<u>1'</u>
1	1	0	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	1	1	1	<u>2'</u>	2	2

Table 3.3. Functions of Two Variables.

Veitch Diagram	Fundamental Coordinates			Equivalence Class																	
x_2 <table><tr><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr></table> x_1	0	1	2	3	f_0	$f_1 f_2$	f_{12}	P	N	PN		f_0	$f_1 f_2$	f_{12}	P	N	PN				
0	1																				
2	3																				
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TABLE 3.4. FUNCTIONS OF THREE VARIABLES

Veitch Diagram	Fundamental Coordinates	Equivalence Class																				
0 1 3 2 4 5 7 6 x₁ x₂ x₃	1 112 2 0 123 233 3 P N PN	1 112 2 0 123 233 3 P N PN																				
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of length $n - m$ may be considered as a binary number m_f . Each $\sigma \in S$ may be considered as a permutation of the digits of m_f which maps the digit in position $f_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_m}$ to position $f_{\sigma(i_1) \sigma(i_2) \dots \sigma(i_m)}$. A sequence $S_1, \dots, S_{n-1}$ of subsets of S may be defined recursively as follows:

$$(1) \quad S_1 = \{\sigma \in S : \sigma(l_f) = \sigma(f_1 \dots f_n) \text{ is minimum}\}.$$

$$(2) \quad S_m = \{\sigma \in S_{m-1} : \sigma(m_f) \text{ is minimum}\}.$$

Algorithm 3.1. Let f^P be the canonical representative of the P -equivalence class containing the function f . The fundamental coordinates of f^P are given by $f_0, \sigma(f_1 \dots f_n), \sigma(f_{12} \dots f_{(n-1)n}), \dots, f_{1 \dots n}$ where σ is any permutation in S_{n-1} .

Proof. By Theorem 2.7 and the definition of length following the proof of this theorem, it is evident that each $\sigma \in S$ permutes only coordinates of the same length. The choice of the sequence $S_1, \dots, S_{n-1}$ insures that the coordinates of f^P will be minimum as required for the canonical representative. A symmetry of f (and $[f]_P$) is indicated by the presence of more than one element in S_{n-1} .

As an example of the application of Algorithm 3.1, consider the function given in Chapter II: $f = a_0 \oplus a_2 \oplus a_6 \oplus a_7$. The fundamental coordinates of f may be calculated from Table 3.1 using Theorem 2.3:

$$f = (1, 111, 111, 1)$$

$$\oplus (1, 101, 010, 0)$$

$$\oplus (1, 100, 000, 0)$$

$$\oplus (1, 000, 000, 0)$$

$$= (0, 110, 101, 1)$$

The fundamental coordinates of length two form the binary number

$f_1 f_2 f_3 = 110$. Hence $S_1 = \{(13), (12)(13)\}$. In tabular form:

0	1	2	3	1 1 2	2 3 3	1 2
0	1	1	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	1	1	0	1
0	0	1	1	0	1	1

$\sigma_1 = (13)$
 $\sigma_2 = (12)(13)$

From the above table, $S_2 = \{(12)(13)\}$ so the fundamental coordinates of f^P are $(0, 011, 011, 1)$. Note that $f^P = \sigma_2(f)$ so in atomic form $f^P = \sigma_2(a_{000} \oplus a_{010} \oplus a_{110} \oplus a_{111}) = a_{000} \oplus a_{100} \oplus a_{101} \oplus a_{111}$ ($a_k = a_{k_3 k_2 k_1}$).

If $\{i_1, \dots, i_m\} \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$, the complementation operator $[i_1, \dots, i_m]$ is defined to be a mapping from F_n into F_n which complements variables $i_1, \dots, i_m$ and leaves the other variables fixed.

Clearly

$$[i_j, i_k](f) = ([i_j][i_k])(f) = [i_j]([i_k](f)) = [i_k]([i_j](f)).$$

If $f \in F_n^*$, the problem of finding the canonical representative f^N of $[f]_N$ consists of finding a complementation operator $[i_1, \dots, i_m]$ such that the binary number formed from the fundamental coordinates of $[i_1, \dots, i_m](f)$ is minimum. If $i_1 \dots i_m$ is the subscript of a fundamental coordinate and $i_p \in \{i_1, \dots, i_m\}$, let $(i_1 \dots i_m) * i_p$ be the subscript obtained by deleting i_p from $i_1 \dots i_m$ with the convention that $(i_m) * i_m = 0$. Then Theorem 2.4 may be stated in terms of the relabeled

fundamental coordinates by the following equation:

$$([i_p](f))_{i_1 \dots i_m} = \begin{cases} f_{i_1 \dots i_m} & \text{if } i_p \notin \{i_1, \dots, i_m\} \\ f_{i_1 \dots i_m} \oplus f_{(i_1 \dots i_m) * i_p} & \text{if } i_p \in \{i_1, \dots, i_m\}. \end{cases} \quad (3.1)$$

If $f_0 = 1$, the fundamental coordinates of f^N are very easy to determine. Clearly $([i_1, \dots, i_m](f))_0 = 1$ for every complementation operator $[i_1, \dots, i_m]$. By Eq. (3.1), the fundamental coordinates of $[i_p](f)$ of length $n-1$ are given by

$$([i_p](f))_{i_m} = \begin{cases} f_{i_m} & \text{if } i_p \neq i_m \\ f_{i_m} \oplus 1 & \text{if } i_p = i_m \end{cases}$$

Let $[j_1, \dots, j_q]$ be the complementation operator obtained by including $j_p \in \{j_1, \dots, j_q\}$ iff $f_{j_p} = 1$. Then all coordinates of length $n-1$ of $[j_1, \dots, j_q](f)$ are zero and if $[i_1, \dots, i_m] \neq [j_1, \dots, j_q]$, at least one coordinate of length $n-1$ of $[i_1, \dots, i_m](f)$ is one. Hence

$$f_0^N = [j_1, \dots, j_q](f), \quad f_0^N = 1, \quad f_1^N = f_2^N = \dots = f_n^N = 0,$$

and the remaining coordinates of f^N may be found by application of Eq. (3.1).

If $f_0 = 0$, finding the coordinates of f^N is usually more difficult. If f is the 0-function or the 1-function, $f^N = f$. If f is not the 0-function or the 1-function, let p be the least integer m such that the coordinates $f_{i_1 \dots i_m}$ of length $n-m$ are not all zero. Then

$1 \leq p \leq n - 1$. Let $[i_1, \dots, i_m]$ be any complementation operator. By Eq. (3.1), all coordinates of lengths $n, \dots, n-p$ of $[i_1, \dots, i_m](f)$ are the same as the corresponding coordinates of f . Hence the coordinates of f^N of length $n - p$ are the same as the corresponding coordinates of f . Let T_p be the set of all $i_1 \dots i_p$ such that $f_{i_1 \dots i_p} = 1$. By the definition of p , $T_p \neq \emptyset$. Each coordinate of f of length $n - p - 1$ may be labeled $f_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}$. There are $t = \binom{n}{n-p-1}$ such coordinates labeled in order:

$$f_{12 \dots (p+1)}, f_{13 \dots (p+2)}, \dots, f_{(n-p) \dots n}.$$

Let

$$f_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^r$$

be the coordinate in position r from the left so $r = 1, \dots, t$. The coordinates of $f^N = [i_1, \dots, i_m](f)$ may be determined using an iterative procedure. A set of functions B_r is associated with each $r = 1, \dots, t$, and to each $g \in B_r$ is assigned a set of possible complementation operators S_r^g . Let $B_0 = \{f\}$ and let $S_0^f = \{1, \dots, n\}$. For each $g \in B_{r-1}$ there are three possibilities:

Case 1. $g_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^r = 0$. Let $B_r^1 = \{g\} \cup \{[j_1, \dots, j_q]g : q \text{ is even and } (i_1 \dots i_{p+1}) * j_s \in T_p \text{ for } s = 1, \dots, q\}$. Let

$$S_r^g = S_r^{[j_1, \dots, j_q]g} = \{m \in S_{r-1}^g : (i_1 \dots i_{p+1}) * m \notin T_p\}.$$

Case 2. $g_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^r = 1$ and for at least one $m \in S_{r-1}^g$, $(i_1 \dots i_{p+1}) * m \in T_p$. Let $B_r^2 = \{[j_1, \dots, j_q]g : q \text{ is odd and } (i_1 \dots i_{p+1}) * j_s \in T_p \text{ for } s = 1, \dots, q\}$. Let

$$S_r^{[j_1, \dots, j_q]g} = \{m \in S_{r-1}^g : (i_1, \dots, i_{p+1})^* m \notin T_p\}.$$

Case 3. $g_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^r = 1$ and for all $m \in S_{r-1}^g$, $(i_1 \dots i_{p+1})^* m$ is not defined or $(i_1 \dots i_{p+1})^* m \notin T_p$. Let $B_r^{g^3} = \{g\}$ and let $S_r^g = S_{r-1}^g$.

Let

$$B_r^a = \bigcup_{g \in B_{r-1}} (B_r^{g^1} \cup B_r^{g^2})$$

and let

$$B_r^b = \bigcup_{g \in B_{r-1}} B_r^{g^3}.$$

Let

$$B_r = \begin{cases} B_r^a & \text{if } B_r^a \neq \emptyset \\ B_r^b & \text{if } B_r^a = \emptyset \end{cases}.$$

In case 1, $h_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^r = 0$ for each $h \in B_r^{g^1}$ and S_r^h contains only complementation operators m such that $h_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^s = 0$ for $s \leq r$ implies

$$[m]h_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^s = 0.$$

Similarly, each $h \in B_r^{g^2}$ has the properties attributed to each $h \in B_r^{g^1}$.

If $h \in B_r^{g^3}$, there is no complementation operator m such that

$$[m]h_{i_1 \dots i_{p+1}}^r = 0.$$

Hence if there are functions $g \in B_{r-1}$ satisfying the conditions of cases 1 or 2, functions satisfying the conditions of case 3 need not be considered. If $S_r^g = \emptyset$ for each $g \in B_r$, f^N is that $g \in B_r$ whose fundamental coordinates are minimum. If B_t contains a function g such that $S_t^g \neq \emptyset$,

then f^N is the function in $B_t \cup \{[i_1, \dots, i_m]g : g \in B_t, i_s \in S_t^g \text{ for } s = 1, \dots, m\}$ whose coordinates are minimum. The procedure for finding f^N is summarized below.

Algorithm 3.2. If $f \in F_n$, the fundamental coordinates of f^N are obtained as follows:

(1) If $f_0 = 1$, $f^N = [j_1, \dots, j_q]f$ where $j_p \in \{j_1, \dots, j_q\}$ iff $f_{j_p} = 1$. Then $f_0^N = 1$, $f_1^N = f_2^N = \dots = f_n^N = 0$, and the remaining coordinates of f^N are found by applying Eq. (3.1) to $([j_1] \dots [j_m])f$.

(2) If all coordinates of f are 0, $f = 0 = f^N$.

(3) If only the last coordinate of f is 1, $f = 1 = f^N$.

(4) If $f_0 = 0$, $f \neq 0$, and $f \neq 1$, form the sets T_p , B_r , and S_r^g for $r = 1, \dots, t = \binom{n}{n-p-1}$. The coordinates of each $g \in B_r$ are computed using Eq. (3.1). Then f^N is the function in $B_t \cup \{[i_1, \dots, i_m]g : g \in B_t, i_s \in S_t^g \text{ for } s = 1, \dots, m\}$ whose coordinates are minimum.

As an example of the application of Algorithm 3.2, let f be the function of four variables given in atomic form by $f = a_0 \oplus a_5 \oplus a_{10} \oplus a_{13} \oplus a_{14} \oplus a_{15}$. From Table 3.1 and Theorem 2.3 the fundamental coordinates of f are:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f &= (1, 1111, 111111, 1111, 1) \\
 &\oplus (1, 0101, 000010, 0000, 0) \\
 &\oplus (1, 1010, 010000, 0000, 0) \\
 &\oplus (1, 0100, 000000, 0000, 0) \\
 &\oplus (1, 1000, 000000, 0000, 0) \\
 &\oplus (1, 0000, 000000, 0000, 0) \\
 &= (0, 1100, 101101, 1111, 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence f falls under part 4 of Algorithm 3.2 and the fundamental coordinates of f^N may be calculated with a table.

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Since $S_3^{[4,1]f} = S_3^{[4,2]f} = \emptyset$ and $[4,1]f$ has minimum coordinates $f^N = [4,1]f$.

The following Lemma is of some assistance in calculating the coordinates of f^{PN} .

Lemma 3.3. Let $f \in F_n$. If $f_0 = 1$ or $n \leq 3$, then $f^{PN} = (f^N)^P$.

Proof. Suppose $f \in F_n$ and $f_0 = 1$. As indicated in the discussion preceding Algorithm 3.2, there is a unique complementation operator $[i_1, \dots, i_m]$ such that all coordinates of $[i_1, \dots, i_m]f$ of length $n - 1$ are zero. By Theorem 2.7, any permutation of the variables of f does not change the number of coordinates of length $n - 1$ which are one. Hence f^{PN} may be obtained by finding f^N (Algorithm 3.2) and then finding the permutation σ such that the coordinates of $\sigma(f^N)$ are minimum (Algorithm

3.1). Tables 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 list all the functions of $n \leq 3$ variables. It may be seen from the tables that whenever f and g belong to the same PN-equivalence class, f^N and g^N belong to the same P-equivalence class. Hence if $n \leq 3$, $f^{PN} = (f^N)^P$.

Unfortunately, there are functions f of four or more variables with $f_0 = 0$ such that $f^{\text{PN}} \neq (f^{\text{N}})^{\text{P}}$. For example consider the function of four variables whose coordinates are given in the table below:

											1
										1112	2
									111223	2233	3
			0	1234	234344	3444	4				
f = f ^N	0	0111	011000	0000	0						
(24)f	0	0111	110000	0000	0						
((24)f) ^N	0	0111	001000	0000	0						

Application of Algorithm 3.2 shows that $f = f^N$ and that $((24)f)^N = [1]((24)f)$. Clearly $f^{PN} = ((24)f)^N \neq (f^N)^P = f$. From Table 3.4 it is easy to find examples of functions $f \in F_3$ such that $(f^P)^N \neq f^{PN}$.

Algorithm 3.4. If $f \in F_n$, the fundamental coordinates of f^{PN} are obtained as follows:

- (1) If $f_0 = 1$ or $n \leq 3$, apply Algorithms 3.2 and 3.1 to obtain $(f^N)^P = f^{PN}$.
- (2) If all coordinates of f are 0, $f = 0 = f^{PN}$.
- (3) If only the last coordinate of f is 1, $f = 1 = f^{PN}$.
- (4) If $f_0 = 0$, $n \geq 4$, $f \neq 0$, and $f \neq 1$, let p be the least integer m such that the coordinates $f_{i_1 \dots i_m}$ of length $n - m$ are not all 0. Then $1 \leq p \leq n - 1$. The ordered fundamental coordinates of

length $n - p$ form a binary number

$$p_f = f_{12\dots p} f_{13\dots(p+1)} \cdots f_{(n-p+1)(n-p)\dots n}$$

Let S be the set of all permutations σ on $\{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $\sigma(p_f)$ is minimum. For each $\sigma \in S$, find $(\sigma(f))^N$ using Algorithm 3.2. Then f^{PN} is the function in $\{(\sigma(f))^N : \sigma \in S\}$ whose coordinates are minimum.

Proof. Case (1) is an immediate consequence of Lemma 3.3.

Cases (2) and (3) are obvious. In case (4) no complementation operator can alter the coordinates of length $n - p$ according to Theorem 2.4.

Hence $\{\sigma(f) : \sigma \in S\}$ contains all possible candidates for f^{PN} with respect to permutation of variables. Hence f^{PN} is the function in $\{(\sigma(f))^N : \sigma \in S\}$ whose coordinates are minimum.

Algorithm 3.5. The fundamental coordinates of f^{NN} , f^{NP} , and f^{NPN} may be obtained from the coordinates of f^N , f^P , and f^{PN} respectively, by making the last coordinate 0.

Proof. By Theorem 2.3, all coordinates of f are the same as the corresponding coordinates of f' except that the last coordinates satisfy the condition $f'_{1\dots n} = 1 \oplus f_{1\dots n}$. Since the canonical representative of an equivalence class is defined to be the class member whose coordinates form the minimum binary number, the algorithm is obvious.

Ninomiya [14] and Harrison [6] provide tables listing the atomic coordinates of one representative function for each of the 222 NPN equivalence classes in F_4 . A computer program could be written based on Algorithm 3.5 and the above tables to determine canonical representatives for the NPN classes in F_4 .

Future research may extend the results of this paper to include investigations of necessary and sufficient conditions for a Boolean function to be unate, k -monotonic, k -assumable, or to possess other properties associated with the study of threshold logic. Winder [25] gives a recent analysis of the literature on threshold logic.

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