



CMPE 220.02

DISCRETE COMPUTATIONAL STRUCTURES

General Formula for Boolean Functions of n Variables

by

Elvan KARASU

Department of Computer Engineering, Boğaziçi University

Bebek, İstanbul, Turkey

13.10.2021

p	$f_0 = F$	$f_1 = p$	$f_2 = \neg p$	$f_3 = T$
F	F	F	T	T
T	F	T	F	T

TABLE 1. Boolean functions of one variable

p	q	$f_0 = F$	$f_1 = p \wedge q$	$f_2 = \neg(p \rightarrow q)$	$f_3 = p$	f_4	$f_5 = q$	$f_6 = p \oplus q$	$f_7 = p \vee q$	$f_8 = p \text{ NOR } q$	$f_9 = p \leftrightarrow q$	$f_{10} = \neg q$	f_{11}	$f_{12} = \neg p$	$f_{13} = p \rightarrow q$	$f_{14} = p \text{ NAND } q$	$f_{15} = T$
F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T
F	T	F	F	F	F	T	T	T	T	F	F	F	F	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	F	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F	T	T	F	F	T	T
T	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F	T	F	T

TABLE 2. Boolean functions of two variables

Number of variables	Number of rows	Number of functions
1	2	4
2	4	16
3	8	256
...
n	2^n	$2^{(2^n)}$



2.3 Proof by Mathematical Induction

To demonstrate $P \Rightarrow Q$ by induction we require that the truth of P and Q be expressed as a function of some ordered set S .

1. (*Basis*) Show that $P \Rightarrow Q$ is valid for a specific element k in S .
2. (*Inductive Hypothesis*) Assume that $P \Rightarrow Q$ for some element n in S .
3. Demonstrate that $P \Rightarrow Q$ for the element $n + 1$ in S .
4. Conclude that $P \Rightarrow Q$ for all elements greater than or equal to k in S .

https://www.cse.wustl.edu/~cytron/547Pages/f14/IntroToProofs_Final.pdf



Proof by Mathematical Induction

1. (Basis) Show that it is **valid for $n = 1$** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .
2. (Inductive Hypothesis) Assume that it is true **for some element n** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .
3. (Induction) Demonstrate that it is true **for the element $n + 1$** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .
4. Conclude that it is true **for all elements greater than or equal to 1** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .

https://www.cse.wustl.edu/~cytron/547Pages/f14/IntroToProofs_Final.pdf

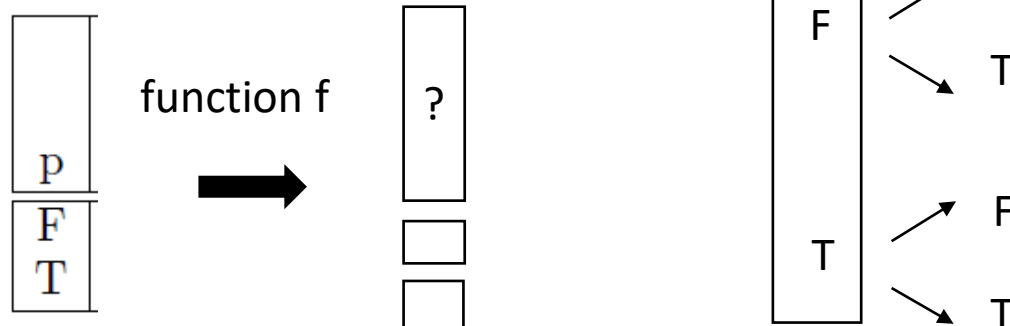
<http://www.mathcentre.ac.uk/resources/uploaded/mathcentre-proof2.pdf>

Proof by Mathematical Induction

1. (Basis) Show that it is **valid for $n = 1$** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .

of functions for 1 variable = $2^{2^1} = 4$

1 variable: p



p	$f_0 = F$	$f_1 = p$	$f_2 = \neg p$	$f_3 = T$
F	F	F	T	T
T	F	T	F	T

TABLE 1. Boolean functions of one variable

https://www.cse.wustl.edu/~cytron/547Pages/f14/IntroToProofs_Final.pdf

<http://www.mathcentre.ac.uk/resources/uploaded/mathcentre-proof2.pdf>



Proof by Mathematical Induction

2. (Inductive Hypothesis) Assume that it is true **for some element n** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .

Assume that $a_n = 2^{(2^n)}$ is true for some n in \mathbb{Z}^+

3. (Induction) Demonstrate that it is true **for the element $n + 1$** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .

https://www.cse.wustl.edu/~cytron/547Pages/f14/IntroToProofs_Final.pdf

<http://www.mathcentre.ac.uk/resources/uploaded/mathcentre-proof2.pdf>

Proof by Mathematical Induction

3. (Induction) Demonstrate that it is true **for the element $n + 1$** in \mathbb{Z}^+ .

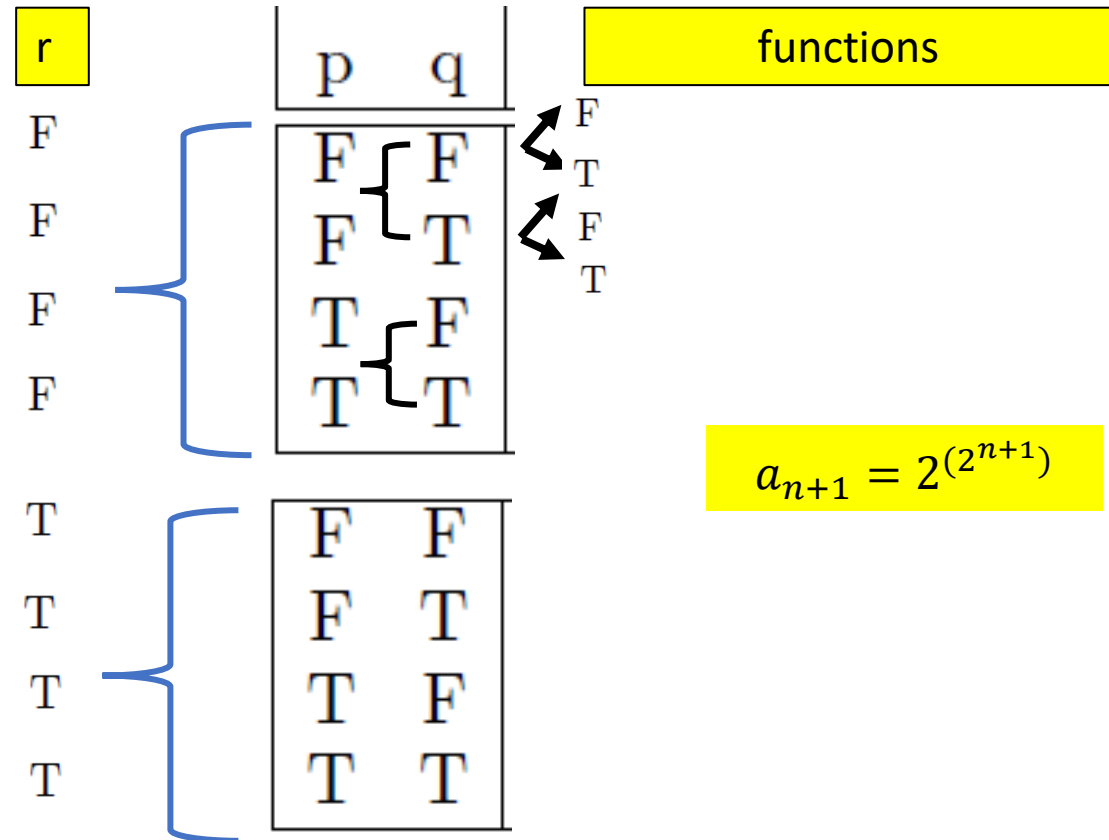
2 variables: p and q

p	q
F	F
F	T
T	F
T	T

of rows for n variables = 2^n

of rows for $n + 1$ variables = 2^{n+1}

In general, adding 1 variable: $(n+1)$ case





Proof by Mathematical Induction


4. Conclude that it is true for all elements greater than or equal to 1 in \mathbb{Z}^+ .

$$a_n = 2^{(2^n)} \text{ for } n \geq 1 \text{ in } \mathbb{Z}^+$$


https://www.cse.wustl.edu/~cytron/547Pages/f14/IntroToProofs_Final.pdf

<http://www.mathcentre.ac.uk/resources/uploaded/mathcentre-proof2.pdf>

Number of variables	Number of rows	Number of functions
1	2	4
2	4	16
3	8	256
...
n	2^n	$2^{(2^n)}$



$r = 2^n$



2^r



Thank you for listening.