Logic Synthesis and Verification

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Two-Level Logic Minimization (2/2)

Reading:
Logic Synthesis in a Nutshell
Section 3 (§3.1-§3.2)

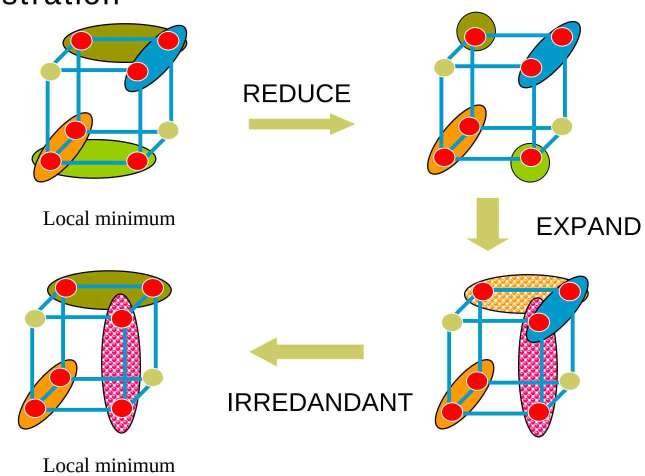
most of the following slides are by courtesy of Andreas Kuehlmann

Heuristic Two-Level Logic Minimization ESPRESSO

```
ESPRESSO(ℑ)
{
  (F,D,R) ← DECODE(ℑ)
  F ← EXPAND(F,R)
  F ← IRREDUNDANT(F,D)
  E ← ESSENTIAL_PRIMES(F,D)
  F ← F-E;  D ← D+E
  do{
    do{
      F ← REDUCE(F,D)
      F ← EXPAND(F,R)
      F ← IRREDUNDANT(F,D)
    }while fewer terms in F
      //LASTGASP
      G ← REDUCE_GASP(F,D)
      G ← EXPAND(G,R)
      F ← IRREDUNDANT(F+G,D)
      //LASTGASP
  }while fewer terms in F
  F ← F+E;  D ← D-E
  LOWER_OUTPUT(F,D)
  RAISE_INPUTS(F,R)
  error ← (F_old ⊄ F) or (F ⊄ F_old + D)
  return (F,error)
}
```


Heuristic Two-Level Logic Minimization ESPRESSO

- Illustration



ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- **Problem:**

  Given a cover of cubes C for some incompletely specified function (f,d,r), find a minimum subset of cubes $S \subseteq C$ that is also a cover, i.e.

$$f \subseteq \sum_{c \in S} c \subseteq f + d$$

- **Idea 1:**

  We are going to create a function g(y) and a new set of variables y = $\{y_i\}$, one for each cube c_i. A minterm in the y-space will indicate a subset of the cubes $\{c_i\}$.

- **Example**

  y = (0,1,1,0,1,0), i.e. $y_1' y_2 y_3 y_4' y_5 y_6'$, represents $\{c_2, c_3, c_5\}$

ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- **Idea 2:**

  Create g(y) so that it is the function such that:

$$g(y^*) = 1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \sum_{y^*_i = 1} c_i \quad \text{is a cover}$$

  i.e. $g(y^*) = 1$ if and only if $\{c_i \mid y^*_i = 1\}$ is a cover.

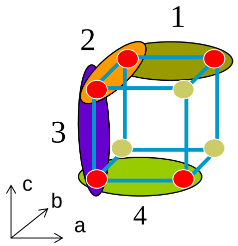
- Note: g(y) can be made positive unate (monotone increasing) in all its variables.

ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- **Example**

$$f = bc + \bar{a}c + \bar{a}\bar{b} + \bar{b}\bar{c}$$

$$g(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4) = y_1 y_4 (y_2 + y_3)$$



Note:

We want a minimum subset of cubes that covers f, that is, the largest prime of g (least literals).
Consider g': it is monotone decreasing in y (i.e. negative unate in y) e.g.

$$\bar{g}(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4) = \bar{y}_1 + \bar{y}_4 + \bar{y}_2 \bar{y}_3$$

ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- **Example**
  - Create a Boolean matrix B for g':

$$\bar{g} \rightarrow B = \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$f = bc + \bar{a}c + \bar{a}\bar{b} + \bar{b}\bar{c}$$

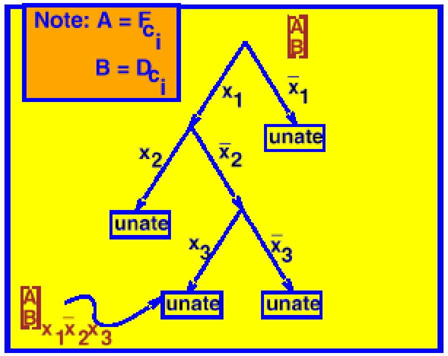
$$\bar{g}(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4) = \bar{y}_1 + \bar{y}_4 + \bar{y}_2 \bar{y}_3$$

  - Recall a minimal column cover of B is a prime of g = $(g')'$
  - We want a *minimum* column cover of B
    - E.g., {1,2,4} ⇒ $y_1 y_2 y_4$ (cubes 1,2,4) ⇒ {bc, a'c, b'c'}

ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

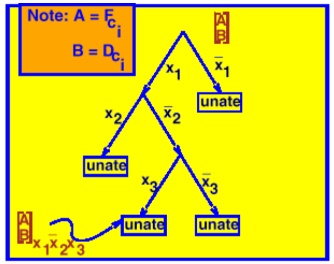
- Deriving $g'(y)$
  - Modify tautology algorithm:
    - F = cover of $\Im = (f, d, r)$
    - D = cover of d
  - Pick a cube $c_i \in F$ (Note: $c_i \subseteq F \Leftrightarrow F_{c_i} \equiv 1$)
    - Do the following for each cube $c_i \subseteq F$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} F_{C_i} \\ D_{C_i} \end{bmatrix}$$



ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

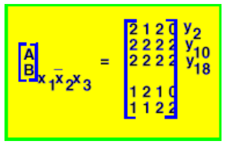
- Deriving $g'(y)$
  1. All leaves must be tautologies
  2. g' means how can we make it not a tautology
     - Must exactly delete all rows of all -'s that are not part of D
  3. Each row came from some row of A/B
  4. Each row of A is associated with some cube of F
  5. Each cube of B is associated with some cube of D
     - Don't need to know which, and cannot delete its rows
  6. Rows that must be deleted are written as a cube
     - E.g. $y_1 y_2 y_7 \Rightarrow$ delete rows 1,3,7 of F



ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- Deriving $g'(y)$
  - Example

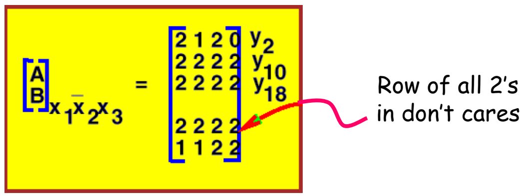
    Suppose unate leaf is in subspace $x_1 x'_2 x_3$: Thus we write down: $\overline{y_{10}}\,\overline{y_{18}}$ (actually, $\overline{y_i}$ must be one of $\overline{y_{10}}$, $\overline{y_{18}}$). Thus, F is not a cover if we leave out cubes c_{10} , c_{18}.



Unate leaf

Note:

If a row of all 2's is in don't cares, then there is no way not to have tautology at that leaf.

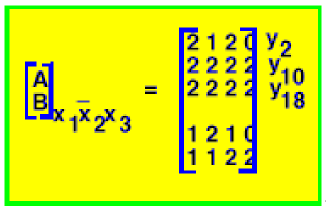


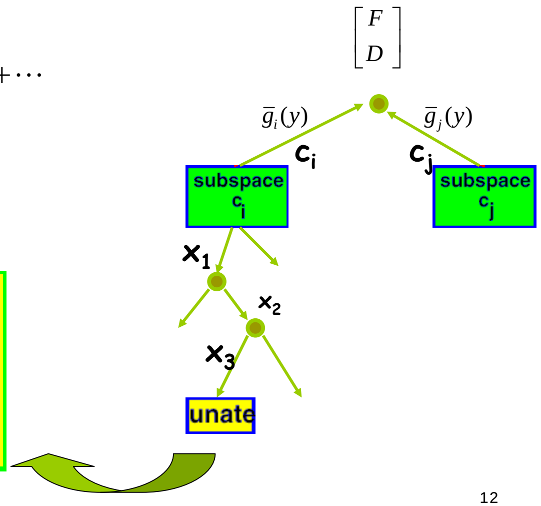
ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- Deriving $g'(y)$

$$\bar{g}(y) = \bar{g}_i(y) + \bar{g}_j(y) + \cdots$$

$$\bar{g}_i(y) = \bar{y}_{10}\bar{y}_{18} + \cdots$$





ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- Summary
  1. Convert $g'(y)$ into a Boolean matrix B
     - Note that $g(y)$ is unate
  2. Find a minimum column cover of B
     - E.g., if $y_1y_3y_{18}$ is a minimum column cover, then the set of cubes $\{c_1, c_3, c_{18}\}$ is a minimum sub-cover of $\{ c_i \mid i=1,\dots,k \}$. (Recall that a minimal column cover of B is a prime of $g(y)$, and $g(y)$ gives all possible sub-covers of F).
  - Note: We are just doing tautology in constructing $g'(y)$, so unate reduction is applicable

$$F = \left[\begin{array}{c:c} A & C \\ \hdashline T & F^* \end{array}\right]$$

ESPRESSO IRREDUNDANT

- Summary
  - In Q-M, we want a maximum prime of $g(y)$

All primes

B = Minterms of f $\begin{bmatrix} 1011010 \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \\ \cdots \end{bmatrix}$ $\quad B \cong \bar{g}(y) = \bar{y}_1\bar{y}_3\bar{y}_4\bar{y}_6 + \cdots$

Note: A row of B says if we leave out primes $\{p_1, p_3, p_4, p_6\}$, then we cease to have a cover

  - So basically, the only difference between Q-M and IRREDUNDANT is that for the latter, we just constructed a $g'(y)$ where we did not consider all primes, but only those in some cover: F = $\{c_1, c_3, \dots, c_k\}$

ESPRESSO EXPAND

- F ← EXPAND(F,R)
  - Problem: Take a cube c and make it prime by removing literals
  - Greedy way: (uses D and not R)
    - Remove literal l_i from c (results in, say c*)
    - Test if c* ⊆ f+d (i.e. test if $(f+d)_{c^*} \equiv 1$)
    - Repeat, removing valid literals in order found
  - Better way: (uses R and not D)
    - Want to see all possible ways to remove maximal subset of literals
    - Idea: Create a function $g(y)$ such that $g(y)=1$ iff literals $\{l_i \mid y_i = 0\}$ can be removed (or $\{l_i \mid y_i = 1\}$ is a subset of literals such that if kept in c, will still make c* ⊆ f+d, i.e. c* ∧ r ≡ 0)

ESPRESSO EXPAND

- Main idea

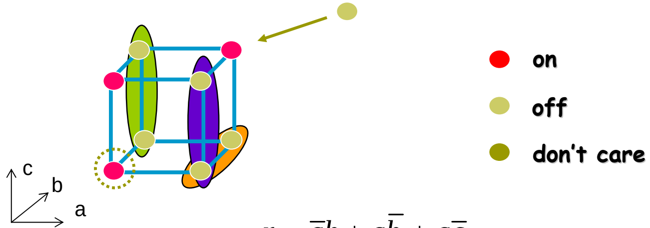
Outline:

1. Expand one cube, c_i, at a time
2. Build "blocking" matrix $B = B^{c_i}$
3. See which other cubes c_j can be feasibly covered using B
4. Choose expansion (literals to be removed) to cover most other c_j

Note:
- $g(y)$ is monotone increasing
- $B \cong \bar{g}(y)$ is easily built if we have R, a cover of r.
- We do not need all of R. (reduced offset)

ESPRESSO EXPAND

- Reduced offset



$$r = \bar{a}b + a\bar{b} + a\bar{c}$$

Make r unate by adding (1,1,1) to offset. Then the new offset R_{new} = a + b ≅ g'(y). This is simpler and easier to deal with.

ESPRESSO EXPAND

- Blocking matrix B (for some cube c)
  - Given R = {r_i }, a cover of r. [$\Im$ = (f,d,r)]

$$B_{ij} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} l_j \in c \text{ and } \bar{l}_j \in r_i \\ \bar{l}_j \in c \text{ and } l_j \in r_i \end{cases}$$

B: rows indexed by offset cubes, columns indexed by literals of c

  - What does row i of B say?
    - It says that if literals {j | B_{ij} = 1} are removed from c, then $c^* \wedge r_i \neq 0$, i.e., B_{ij} = 1 is one reason why c is orthogonal to offset cube r_i
    - Thus B → $g'(y) = y_1'y_3'y_{10}' + \cdots$ gives all ways that literals of c can be removed to get $c^* \not\subset f+d$ (i.e. $c^* \wedge r \neq 0$)

ESPRESSO EXPAND

- Example

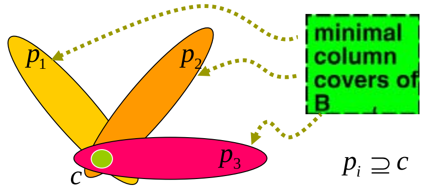
$$c = ab\bar{d}$$
$$r_i = \bar{a}bd\bar{e}$$
$$y_1 y_2 y_3 \propto a, b, \bar{d}$$

$$y_1 = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{ keep } a$$
$$y_2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{ keep } b$$
$$y_3 = 1 \Leftrightarrow \text{ keep } d$$
$$(B_i) = 101 = \bar{y}_1\bar{y}_3 + \ldots = \bar{g}_i(y)$$

- Suppose g(y)=1
  - If y_1 = 1, we keep literal a in cube c.
  - B_i means do not keep literals 1 and 3 of c (implies that subsequent c^* is not an implicant)
    - If literals 1, 3 are removed we get $c \to c^* = b$. But $c^* \wedge r_i \neq 0$: $b \wedge a'bde' = a'bde' \neq 0$. So b is not an implicant.

ESPRESSO EXPAND

- Example (cont'd)
  - Thus all minimal column covers (≅ $g(y)$) of B are the minimal subsets of literals of c that must be kept to ensure that $c^* \subseteq f + d$ (i.e. $c^* \wedge r_i = 0$)
  - Thus each minimal column cover is a prime p that covers c, i.e. $p \supseteq c$

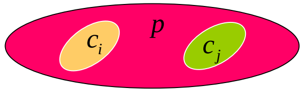


$p_i \supseteq c$

ESPRESSO
EXPAND

- Expanding c_i
  F = { c_i }, $\Im$ = (f,d,r) $f \subseteq F \subseteq f+d$

  Q: Why do we want to expand c_i ?
  A: To cover some other c_j's



  Q: Can we cover c_j ?
  A: If and only if (SCC = "smallest cube containing" also called "supercube")

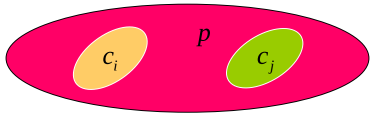
  equivalent to: $SCC\left(c_i \cup c_j\right) \subseteq f + d$

  equivalent to: $SCC\left(c_i \cup c_j\right) \wedge r = 0$
  literals "conflicting" between c_i, c_j can be removed and still have an implicant

ESPRESSO
EXPAND

- Expanding c_i
  Can check SCC(c_i, c_j) with blocking matrix:
  c_i = 12012
  c_j = 12120
  implies that literals 3 and 4 must be removed for c_i* to cover c_j

  Check if columns 3, 4 of B can be removed without causing a row of all 0's



ESPRESSO
EXPAND

- Covering function
  - The objective of EXPAND is to expand c_i to cover as many cubes c_j as possible. The blocking function g'(y)=1 whenever the subset of literals $\{l_i \mid y_i = 1\}$ yields a cube $c^* \not\subset f + d$.
    - Note: $c^* = \prod_{(y_j=0)} l_j$
  - We now build the covering function *h*, such that:
    h(y) = 1, whenever the cube $c^* \supseteq c_i$ covers another cube $c_j \subseteq$ F
    - Note: *h(y)* is easy to build
    - Thus a minterm *m* of $g(y) \wedge h(y)$ is such that it gives $c^* \subseteq f + d$ (*g(m)* =1) and covers at least one cube (*h(m)* =1). In fact every cube $c^*_m \supseteq c_l$ is covered. We seek *m* which results in the most cubes covered.

ESPRESSO
EXPAND

- Covering function
  Define h(y) by a set of cubes where d_k = k^{th} cube is:

$$d_k = \varnothing \text{ if } SCC[c_i \cup c_k] \not\subset f + d \text{ else}$$

$$d_k^j = \begin{cases} \bar{y}_j & \text{if } c_k^j \not\subset c_i^j \text{ i.e. } \begin{cases} 2 \not\subset 1 \\ 2 \not\subset 0 \\ 0 \not\subset 1 \\ 1 \not\subset 0 \end{cases} \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

d_k^j: j^{th} literal of k^{th} cube

Every d_k indicates the minimal expansion to cover c_k, that is, which literals that we have to leave out to minimally cover c_k. Essentially $d_k \neq \varnothing$ if cube c_k can be feasibly covered by expanding cube c_i.

Note that $h(y) = d_1 + d_2 + \cdots + d_{|F|-1}$ (one for each cube of F, except c_i) is monotone decreasing.

ESPRESSO
EXPAND

- Covering function
  - We want a minterm m of $g(y) \wedge h(y)$ contained in a maximum number of d_k's
  - In Espresso, we build a Boolean covering matrix C (note that h(y) is negative unate) representing h(y) and solve this problem with greedy heuristics

Note:

$$B \cong \bar{g}(y)$$

but $C \cong \tilde{h}(y) \supseteq h(y)$

$\tilde{h}(y)$ is an over-approximation of $h(y)$, e.g., by removing the $d_k = \emptyset$ rule in the previous slide

$$C = \begin{Bmatrix} \cdots \\ 010110 \\ 101011 \\ 100101 \\ \cdots \end{Bmatrix} \qquad B = \begin{Bmatrix} \cdots \\ 110110 \\ 101010 \\ 101001 \\ \cdots \end{Bmatrix}$$

ESPRESSO
EXPAND

- Covering function

$$C = \begin{Bmatrix} \cdots \\ 010110 \\ 101011 \\ 100101 \\ \cdots \end{Bmatrix} \qquad B = \begin{Bmatrix} \cdots \\ 110110 \\ 101010 \\ 101001 \\ \cdots \end{Bmatrix}$$

  - Want a set of columns such that if eliminated from B and C results in no empty rows of B and a maximum of empty rows in C
  - Note: A “1” in C can be interpreted as a reason why c* does not cover c_j

ESPRESSO
EXPAND

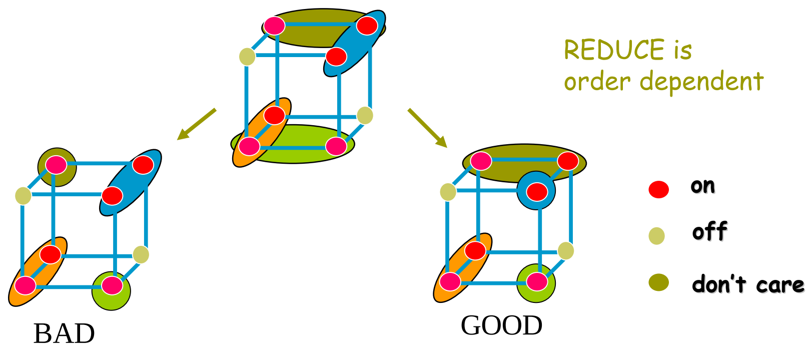
- Endgame
  - What do we do if h(y) ≡ 0 ?
    - This could be important in many hard problems, since it is often the case that h(y) ≡ 0
  - Some things to try:
    - Generate largest prime covering c_i
    - Generate largest prime covering cover most care points of another cube c_k
    - Coordinate two or more cube expansions, i.e. try to cover another cube by a combination of several other cube expansions

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

- Problem:

Given a cover F and c ∈ F, find the smallest cube c̲ ⊆ c such that F\{ c } + { c̲ } is still a cover

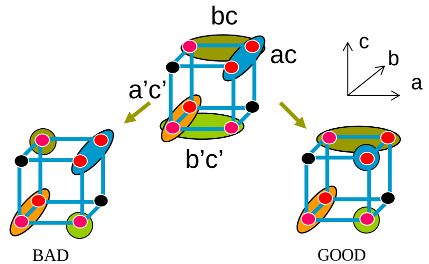
  - c̲ is called the maximally reduced cube of c



ESPRESSO REDUCE

- Example

  $F = ac + bc + \overline{b}\overline{c} + \overline{a}\overline{c}$



Two orders:

1. $\text{REDUCE}\left(F = \{ac, bc, \overline{b}\overline{c}, \overline{a}\overline{c}\}\right) = a\overline{b}c + bc + a\overline{b}\overline{c} + \overline{a}\overline{c}$
2. $\text{REDUCE}\left(F = \{bc, \overline{b}\overline{c}, ac, \overline{a}\overline{c}\}\right) = \overline{a}bc + ac + a\overline{b}\overline{c} + \overline{a}\overline{c}$

- REDUCE is order dependent !

ESPRESSO REDUCE

Algorithm
```
REDUCE(F,D){
  F ← ORDER(F)
  for(1 ≤ j ≤ |F|){
     c_j ← MAX_REDUCE(c,F,D)
     F ← (F∪{c_j})\{c_j}
  }
  return F
}
```

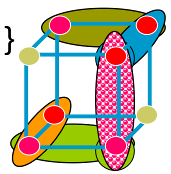

ESPRESSO REDUCE

- Main Idea: Make a prime not a prime but still maintain cover:

  $\{c_1, \ldots, c_i, \ldots, c_k\} \rightarrow \{c_1, \ldots, c_{i-1}, \underline{c}_i, c_{i+1}, \ldots, c_k\}$

  But

  $$f \subseteq \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} c_j + \underline{c}_i + \sum_{j=i+1}^{k} c_j \subseteq f + d$$



- To get out of a local minimum (prime and irredundant is local minimum)
- After reduce, have non-primes and can expand again in different directions
  - Since EXPAND is “smart”, it may know best direction

ESPRESSO REDUCE

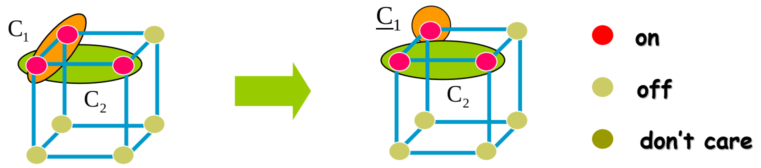
$F = \{c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k\}$, $D = \{d_1, \ldots, d_m\}$
(F and D are covers of an incompletely specified function and a completely specified function, respectively.)

$F(i) = (F + D) \setminus \{c_i\}$
$= \{c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_{i-1}, c_{i+1}, \ldots, c_k, d_1, \ldots, d_m\}$

- Reduced cube:
  $\underline{c}_i$ = smallest cube containing $(c_i \cap \overline{F}(i))$
  - Note that $c_i \cap \overline{F}(i)$ is the set of points uniquely covered by c_i (and not by any other c_j or D).
  - Thus, $\underline{c}_i$ is the smallest cube containing the minterms of c_i which are not in F(i).

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

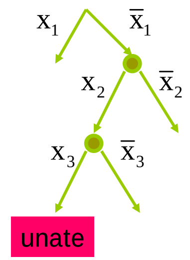
- SCC: "smallest cube containing", i.e., supercube
- SCCC: "smallest cube containing complement"



$$\underline{c}_i = SCC\left(c_i \cap \overline{F(i)}\right)$$
$$= SCC\left(c_i \overline{F_{c_i}(i)}\right)$$
$$= c_i SCC\left(\overline{F_{c_i}(i)}\right)$$
$$= c_i SCCC\left(F_{c_i}(i)\right)$$

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

- SCCC computation
  - Unate recursive paradigm
    - Select most binate variable
    - Cofactor until unate leaf



What is SCCC (unate cover) ?

- Note that for a cube c with at least 2 literals, SCCC(c) is the universe:

cube = 01222 ⟶ $\overline{\text{cube}}$ = 12222, 20222 Hence, SCCC(cube) = 22222

- Implies only need to look at 1-literal cubes

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

- SCCC computation
  - SCCC(U) = γ for a unate cover U

Claim

- If unate cover has row of all 2's except one 0, then complement is in x_i , i.e. γ_i = 1
- If unate cover has row of all 2's except one 1, then complement is in x_i', i.e. γ_i = 0
- Otherwise, in both subspaces, i.e. γ_i = 2

Finally

$$SCCC\left(c_1 + c_2 + \ldots + c_k\right) = SCC\left(\bar{c}_1\bar{c}_2\ldots\bar{c}_k\right)$$
$$= SCC\left(\bar{c}_1\right) \cap \ldots \cap SCC\left(\bar{c}_k\right)$$

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

- SCCC computation

Example 1: $f = a + bc + \bar{d} \Rightarrow \bar{f} = \bar{a}(\bar{b} + \bar{c})d \subseteq \bar{a}d$

- Note: 0101 and 0001 are both in $\bar{f}$. So SCCC could not have literal b or $\bar{b}$.

Example 2:

	2	2	2	2	0
	0	2	2	2	2
$U(unate) =$	2	1	1	2	2
	2	1	2	1	0
	↑				↑

- Note that columns 1 and 5 are essential: they must be in every minimal cover. So $\neg U = x_1 x_5(\ldots)$. Hence SCCC(U) = $x_1 x_5$

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

- SCCC computation
  Example 2 (cont'd):

$$U = \bar{x}_1 + \bar{x}_5 + x_2(x_3 + x_4)$$

$$\bar{U} = x_1 x_5 (\bar{x}_2 + \bar{x}_3 \bar{x}_4)$$

$$\begin{array}{lccccc} & 1 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ \bar{U}(unate) = & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \subseteq 12221 \\ & & \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & \end{array}$$

$$\text{minterms of } \bar{U} = \begin{array}{ccccc} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}$$

The marked columns contain both 0's and 1's. But every prime of $\bar{U}$ contains literals x_1, x_5

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

- SCCC computation
  - At unate leaves

$$n = SCCC(unate) = \emptyset \quad \text{if row of all 2's}$$

$$n_j = \begin{cases} x_j & \text{if column } j \text{ has a row singleton with a 0 in it} \\ \bar{x}_j & \text{if column } j \text{ has a row singleton with a 1 in it} \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Hence unate leaf is easy !

ESPRESSO
REDUCE

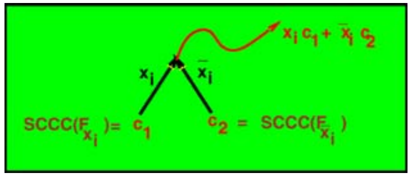
- SCCC computation
  - Merging
    - We need to produce $SCCC(f) = SCC(x_i c_1 + \bar{x}_i c_2) = \gamma$

$$\gamma = l_1 l_2 \ldots l_k$$

$$x_i \in \gamma \Leftrightarrow c_2 = \emptyset$$

$$\bar{x}_i \in \gamma \Leftrightarrow c_1 = \emptyset$$

$$l_{j \neq i} \in \gamma \Leftrightarrow (l_j \in c_1) \wedge (l_j \in c_2)$$



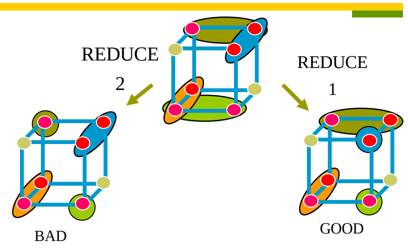
- If $c_1 \wedge c_2 \neq \emptyset$, then $\gamma_i = 2$
  - because minterms with x_i and $\neg x_i$ literals both exist, and thus ($SCC(x_i c_1 + x_i c_2)$)$_i$ = 2
- If $l_j \notin c_1$ or $l_j \notin c_2$, then $\gamma_j = 2$ (where $l_j = x_j$ or $\neg x_j$)
  - because minterms with x_j and $\neg x_j$ literals both exist
- If $l_j \in c_1$ and $\neg l_j \in c_2$, then $\gamma_j = 2$.

ESPRESSO

```
ESPRESSO(ℑ)
{
   (F,D,R) ← DECODE(ℑ)
   F ← EXPAND(F,R)
   F ← IRREDUNDANT(F,D)
   E ← ESSENTIAL_PRIMES(F,D)
   F ← F-E;  D ← D+E
   do{
      do{
         F ← REDUCE(F,D)
         F ← EXPAND(F,R)
         F ← IRREDUNDANT(F,D)
      }while fewer terms in F
      //LASTGASP
      G ← REDUCE_GASP(F,D)
      G ← EXPAND(G,R)
      F ← IRREDUNDANT(F+G,D)
      //LASTGASP
   }while fewer terms in F
   F ← F+E;  D ← D-E
   LOWER_OUTPUT(F,D)
   RAISE_INPUTS(F,R)
   error ← (F_old ⊄ F) or (F ⊄ F_old + D)
   return (F,error)
}
```

ESPRESSO LASTGASP

- Reduce is order dependent:
  E.g., expand can't do anything with that produced by REDUCE 2.



- Maximal Reduce:

$$\underline{c}_i^M = SCC\left(c_i \cap \overline{F(i)}\right) = c_i \cap SCCC\left(F(i)_{c_i}\right) \quad \forall i$$

i.e., we reduce all cubes as if each were the first one.

Note:

$\{\underline{c}_1^M, \underline{c}_2^M, \ldots\}$ is not a cover

ESPRESSO LASTGASP

- Now EXPAND, but try to cover only $\underline{c}_j^M$'s.
  - We call EXPAND(G,R), where G = $\{\underline{c}_1^M, \underline{c}_2^M, \ldots, \underline{c}_k^M\}$
  - If a covering is possible, take the resulting prime:

$$f + d \supseteq p_i \supseteq \underline{c}_i^M \cup \underline{c}_j^M$$

and add to F:

$$\tilde{F} = F \cup \{p_i\}$$

Since F is a cover, so is $\tilde{F}$. Now apply IRREDUNDANT on $\tilde{F}$.

> What about "supergasp" ?
>
> Main Idea: Generally, think of ways to throw in a few more primes and then use IRREDUNDANT. If all primes generated, then just Quine-McCluskey