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# On Bi-Decompositions of Logic Functions

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## Abstract

A logic function  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition iff  $f$  can be represented as  $f = h(g_1(X_1), g_2(X_2))$ , where  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are disjoint set of variables, and  $h$  is an arbitrary two-variable logic function.  $f$  has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition iff  $f$  can be represented as  $f(X_1, X_2, x) = h(g_1(X_1, x), g_2(X_2, x))$ , where  $x$  is the common variable. In this paper, we show a fast method to find bi-decompositions. Also, we enumerate the number of functions having bi-decompositions.

## I Introduction

Functional decomposition is a basic technique to realize economical networks. If the function  $f$  is represented as  $f(X_1, X_2) = h(g(X_1), X_2)$ , then  $f$  can be realized by the network shown in Fig. 1.1. To find such a decomposition,

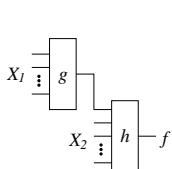


Figure 1.1: A simple disjoint bi-decomposition.

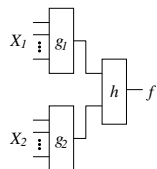


Figure 1.2: A disjoint bi-decomposition.

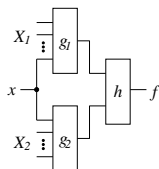


Figure 1.3: A non-disjoint bi-decomposition.

a decomposition chart with  $2^{n_1}$  columns and  $2^{n_2}$  rows are used, where  $n_i$  is the number of variables in  $X_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). When  $n$  is large, the decomposition chart is too large to build. Recently, a method using BDDs has been developed [13]. This greatly reduces memory requirements and computation time. However, it is still time consuming, since we have to check all the  $\binom{n_1+n_2}{n_1}$  partitions of  $n = n_1 + n_2$ . In this paper, we consider bi-decompositions of logic functions, a restricted class of functional decompositions that have the form  $f(X_1, X_2) = h(g_1(X_1), g_2(X_2))$ . Fig. 1.2 shows the realization of this decomposition.

The reasons we consider bi-decompositions are as follows:

- 1) If  $f$  has no bi-decomposition, then the computation time is quite small.

- 2) Some programmable logic devices have two-input logic elements in the outputs.
- 3) If  $f$  has a bi-decomposition, then the optimization of the expression is relatively easy.

A restricted class of bi-decompositions has been considered by [8]. The goals of this paper are

- 1) Present a fast method for finding bi-decompositions.
- 2) Enumerate the functions that have bi-decompositions.

Most of the proofs are omitted. They can be available from authors.

## II Disjoint Bi-Decomposition

**Definition 2.1** Let  $X = (X_1, X_2)$  be a partition of the variables. A logic function  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition iff  $f$  can be represented as  $f(X_1, X_2) = h(g_1(X_1), g_2(X_2))$ , where  $h$  is any two-variable logic function.

If  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition, then  $f$  can be realized by the network shown in Fig. 1.2.

**Definition 2.2** Let  $X = (X_1, X_2)$  be a partition of the variables. Let  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  be the number of variables in  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , respectively. A decomposition chart of the function  $f$  for a partition  $(X_1, X_2)$  consists of  $2^{n_1}$  columns and  $2^{n_2}$  rows of 0s and 1s. The  $2^{n_1}$  distinct binary numbers for  $X_1$  are listed across the top, and the  $2^{n_2}$  distinct binary numbers for  $X_2$  are listed down the side. The entry for the chart corresponds to the value of  $f(X_1, X_2)$ .

**Example 2.1** Two decomposition charts for the function  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = x_1x_2 \oplus x_3x_4$  are shown in Fig. 2.1 (a) and (b).  $\square$

Note that the decomposition chart is similar to the Karnaugh map with a different ordering for the cell locations.

**Definition 2.3** The number of distinct column (row) patterns in the decomposition chart is called column (row) multiplicity.

	$X_1 = (x_1, x_2)$			
	00	01	10	11
00	0	0	0	1
01	0	0	0	1
10	0	0	0	1
11	1	1	1	0

	$X_1 = (x_1, x_3)$			
	00	01	10	11
00	0	0	0	0
01	0	1	0	1
10	0	0	1	1
11	0	1	1	0

Figure 2.1: Decomposition chart.

	$X_1 = (x_1, x_2)$			
	00	01	10	11
00	1	0	0	0
01	1	0	0	0
10	1	0	0	0
11	0	1	1	1

	$X_1 = (x_1, x_2)$			
	00	01	10	11
00	0	0	0	1
01	1	1	1	0
10	1	1	1	0
11	1	1	1	0

Figure 3.3: Functions in Example 3.2

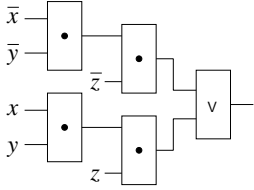


Figure 3.1: A realization of  $f(x, y, z) = \bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z} \vee xyz$ .

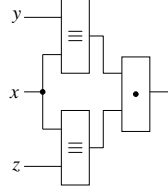


Figure 3.2: Non-disjoint bi-decomposition for  $f(x, y, z) = \bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z} \vee xyz$ .

**Example 2.2** In Fig. 2.1 (a), the row and column multiplicities are two. In Fig. 2.1 (b), the row and column multiplicities are four.  $\square$

**Definition 2.4** Let  $\mu(f : X_1, X_2)$  be the column multiplicities for  $f$  with respect to  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ . Let  $\mu(f : X_2, X_1)$  be the row multiplicities for  $f$  with respect to  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

**Theorem 2.1**  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition of form  $f(X_1, X_2) = h(g_1(X_1), g_2(X_2))$  iff  $\mu(f : X_1, X_2) \leq 2$  and  $\mu(f : X_2, X_1) \leq 2$ .

### III Non-Disjoint Bi-Decomposition

**Definition 3.1** Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  be disjoint sets of variables, and let  $x$  be disjoint from  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ . A logic function  $f$  has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition iff  $f$  can be represented as  $f(X_1, X_2, x) = h(g_1(X_1, x), g_2(X_2, x))$ , where  $h$  is a two-variable logic function. In this case,  $x$  is called the common variable.

A function  $f$  with a non-disjoint bi-decomposition can be realized by the network shown in Fig. 1.3.

**Lemma 3.1** Let  $X = (X_1, X_2, x)$  be a partition of the input variables. Let  $h(g_1, g_2)$  be an arbitrary logic function of two variables. Then,

$$h(g_1(X_1, x), g_2(X_2, x)) = \bar{x}h(g_1(X_1, 0), g_2(X_2, 0)) \vee xh(g_1(X_1, 1), g_2(X_2, 1)).$$

**Definition 3.2** Let  $x$  be the common variable of the non-disjoint bi-decomposition. Let  $f(X_1, X_2, a)$  be a sub-function, where  $x$  is set to a 0 or 1.

**Theorem 3.1**  $f(X_1, X_2, x)$  has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition of the form  $h(g_1(X_1, x), g_2(X_2, x))$  iff  $f(X_1, X_2, 0)$  and  $f(X_1, X_2, 1)$  have disjoint bi-decompositions  $h(g_{01}(X_1), g_{02}(X_2))$  and  $h(g_{11}(X_1), g_{12}(X_2))$ , respectively.

**Example 3.1** Consider the three-variable function:  $f(x, y, z) = \bar{x}\bar{y}\bar{z} \vee xyz$ . Suppose modules that realizes any function of two variables can be used. The straightforward realization shown in Fig. 3.1 requires five modules. The Shannon expansion with respect to  $x$  is  $f(x, y, z) = \bar{x}f(0, y, z) \vee xf(1, y, z)$ , where  $f(0, y, z) = \bar{y}\bar{z}$ , and  $f(1, y, z) = yz$ . Note that both  $f(0, y, z)$  and  $f(1, y, z)$  have bi-decompositions with  $h(x, y) = xy$ . Since,  $g_1(x, y) = \bar{x}g_{01}(X_1) \vee xg_{11}(X_1) = \bar{x}\bar{y} \vee xy$ , and  $g_2(x, y) = \bar{x}g_{02}(X_2) \vee xg_{12}(X_2) = \bar{x}\bar{z} \vee xz$ . We have  $f(x, y, z) = g_1(x, y)g_2(x, z) = (\bar{x}\bar{y} \vee xy)(\bar{x}\bar{z} \vee xz)$ . From this expression, we have the network in Fig. 3.2. This network requires only three modules.  $\square$

**Example 3.2** Consider the five-variable function  $f = \bar{x}_5f_0 \vee x_5f_1$ , where  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  are shown in Fig. 3.3. Since both  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  have disjoint bi-decompositions of the form  $h(g_1(X_1), g_2(X_2))$ ,  $f = \bar{x}_5f_0 \vee x_5f_1$  has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition as follows:

$$f = \bar{x}_5\{\bar{x}_1\bar{x}_2 \oplus x_3x_4\} \vee x_5\{x_1x_2 \oplus (x_3 \vee x_4)\} \\ = \{\bar{x}_5(\bar{x}_1\bar{x}_2) \vee x_5(x_1x_2)\} \oplus \{\bar{x}_5(x_3x_4) \vee x_5(x_3 \vee x_4)\}.$$

The converse is true also.  $\square$

Up to now, we only considered the case where there is a single common variable. However, the theorem can be extended to  $k$  common variables, where  $k \geq 2$ .

**Definition 3.3** Let  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  be disjoint sets of variables. Let  $f(X_1, X_2, \mathbf{a})$  be the sub-functions, where  $X_3$  is set to  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , and  $k$  denotes the number of variables in  $X_3$ .

**Theorem 3.2** Let  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  be disjoint sets of variables. Then,  $f$  has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition of form  $f(X_1, X_2, X_3) = h(g_1(X_1, X_3), g_2(X_2, X_3))$  iff  $f(X_1, X_2, \mathbf{a})$  has a decomposition of the form  $h(g_1\mathbf{a}(X_1), g_2\mathbf{a}(X_2))$  for all possible  $\mathbf{a} \in \{0, 1\}^k$ , where  $k$  denotes the number of variables in  $X_3$ .

## IV A Fast Method for Bi-Decompositions

In this section, we show necessary and sufficient conditions for a function to have a disjoint bi-decomposition. Then, we show efficient algorithms to find disjoint bi-decompositions. In the previous sections,  $h(g_1, g_2)$  is an arbitrary two-variable logic function. To find a disjoint bi-decomposition, we need to consider only three types:

- 1) OR type:  $f = g_1(X_1) \vee g_2(X_2)$ ,
- 2) AND type:  $f = g_1(X_1)g_2(X_2)$ , and
- 3) EXOR type:  $f = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$ .

Since  $f$  has an AND type disjoint bi-decomposition iff  $\bar{f}$  has OR type disjoint bi-decomposition, we only consider the OR type and EXOR type bi-decompositions.

**Definition 4.1**  $x$  and  $\bar{x}$  are literals of a variable  $x$ . A logical product which contains at most one literal for each variable is called a product term or a product. Product terms combined with OR operators form a sum-of-products expression (SOP).

**Definition 4.2** A prime implicant (PI)  $p$  of a function  $f$  is a product term which implies  $f$ , such that the deletion of any literal from  $p$  results in a new product which does not imply  $f$ .

**Definition 4.3** An irredundant sum-of-products expression (ISOP) is an SOP, where each product is a PI, and no product can be deleted without changing the function represented by the expression.

**Definition 4.4** Let  $f(X)$  be a function and  $p$  be a product of literal(s) in  $X$ . The restriction of  $f$  to  $p$ , denoted by  $f(X|p)$  is obtained as follows: If  $x_i$  appears in  $p$ , then set  $x_i$  in 1 in  $f$ , and if  $\bar{x}_i$  appears in  $p$ , then set  $x_i$  in 0 in  $f$ .

**Example 4.1** Let  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1x_2 \vee \bar{x}_2x_3$  and  $p = x_1x_3$ .  $f(X|p)$  is obtained as follows: Set  $x_1 = x_3 = 1$  in  $f$ , and we have  $f(X|x_1x_3) = f(1, x_2, 1) = x_2 \vee \bar{x}_2 = 1$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.1**  $p$  is an implicant of  $f(X)$ , iff  $f(X|p) = 1$ .

**Example 4.2** By Lemma 4.1,  $x_1x_3$  is an implicant of  $x_1x_2 \vee \bar{x}_2x_3$ , shown in Example 4.1.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.1** (OR type disjoint bi-decomposition)  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition of form  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \vee g_2(X_2)$  iff every product in an ISOP for  $f$  consists of literals from  $X_1$  only or  $X_2$  only.

**Definition 4.5**  $x^0 = \bar{x}$ .  $x^1 = x$ .

**Corollary 4.1** If  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  has a PI of the form  $x_1^{a_1}x_2^{a_2}\dots x_n^{a_n}$ , where  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$ , then  $f$  has no OR type disjoint bi-decomposition.

Let  $x_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$  be the input variables of  $f$ . Let  $p_1 \vee p_2 \vee \dots \vee p_t$  be an irredundant sum-of-products expression for  $f$ , where  $p_i (i = 1, 2, \dots, t)$  are PIs of  $f$ . Let  $\Pi_0$  be the trivial partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\Pi_0 = [\{1\}, \{2\}, \dots, \{n\}]$ .

**Algorithm 4.1** (OR type disjoint bi-decomposition:  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \vee g_2(X_2)$ ).

1. For  $i = 1$  to  $t$ , form  $\Pi_i$  from  $\Pi_{i-1}$  by merging two blocks  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  of  $\Pi_{i-1}$  if at least one literal in  $p_i$  occurs in both  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$ .
2. If  $\Pi_t$  has at least two blocks, then  $f(X_1, X_2)$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition of the form  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \vee g_2(X_2)$ , with  $X_1$  the union of one or more blocks of  $\Pi_t$  and  $X_2$  the union of the remaining blocks.

**Example 4.3** Consider the ISOP:  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_6) = x_1x_2 \vee x_2x_3 \vee x_4x_5 \vee x_5x_6$ . The products  $x_1x_2$  and  $x_2x_3$  show that  $x_1, x_2$ , and  $x_3$  are in the same block. Also, the products  $x_4x_5$  and  $x_5x_6$  show that  $x_4, x_5$ , and  $x_6$  are in the same block. Thus, we have the partition  $[\{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6\}]$ . The corresponding OR type disjoint bi-decomposition is  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \vee g_2(X_2)$ , where  $X_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  and  $X_2 = (x_4, x_5, x_6)$ .  $\square$

**Example 4.4** Consider the function  $f$  with an ISOP:  $f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) = x_1x_2x_3 \vee x_3x_4x_5$ .

- 1) The product  $x_1x_2x_3$  shows that  $x_1, x_2$ , and  $x_3$  belong to the same block.
- 2) The product  $x_3x_4x_5$  shows that  $x_3, x_4$ , and  $x_5$  belong to the same block.

Thus, all the variables belong to the same block. From this, it follows that  $f$  has no OR type decomposition.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2** (AND type disjoint bi-decomposition)  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition of form  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1)g_2(X_2)$  iff every product in an ISOP for  $f$  consists of literals from  $X_1$  only or  $X_2$  only.

**Lemma 4.2** [15] An arbitrary  $n$ -variable function can be uniquely represented as

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = & a_0 \oplus (a_1x_1 \oplus a_2x_2 \oplus \dots \oplus a_nx_n) \\ & \oplus (a_{12}x_1x_2 \oplus a_{13}x_1x_3 \oplus \dots \oplus a_{n-1n}x_{n-1}x_n) \\ & \oplus \dots \oplus a_{12\dots n}x_1x_2\dots x_n, \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

where  $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$ . The above expression is called a positive polarity Reed-Muller expression (PPRM).

For a given function  $f$ , the coefficients  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{12\dots n}$  are uniquely determined. Thus, the PPRM is a canonical representation. The number of products in (4.1) is at most  $2^n$ , and all the literals are positive (uncomplemented).

**Theorem 4.3** (*EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition*)  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition of the form  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$  iff every product in the PPRM for  $f$  consists of literals from  $X_1$  only or  $X_2$  only.

**Corollary 4.2** If the PPRM of an  $n$ -variable function has the product  $x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n$ , then  $f$  has no EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition.

**Theorem 4.4** When  $f$  has an EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition, the number of true minterms of  $f$  is an even number.

**Corollary 4.3** When the number of true minterms of  $f$  is an odd number, then  $f$  does not have an EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition.

The significance of this observation is that at least one half of the functions can be quickly rejected as candidates for EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition.

Let  $x_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) be the input variables of  $f$ . Let  $p_1 \oplus p_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus p_t$  be PPRM for  $f$ , where  $p_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, t$ ) are products. Let,  $\Pi_0$  be the trivial partition of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\Pi_0 = [\{1\}, \{2\}, \dots, \{n\}]$ .

**Algorithm 4.2** (*EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition:  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$* ).

1. For  $i = 1$  to  $t$ , form  $\Pi_i$  from  $\Pi_{i-1}$  by merging two blocks  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$  of  $\Pi_{i-1}$  if at least one literal in  $p_i$  occurs in both  $\Omega_1$  and  $\Omega_2$ .
2. If  $\Pi_i$  has at least two blocks, then  $f(X_1, X_2)$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition of form  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$ , with  $X_1$  the union of one or more blocks of  $\Pi_i$  and  $X_2$  the union of the remaining blocks.

**Example 4.5** Consider the PPRM:  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_6) = x_1 x_2 \oplus x_2 x_3 \oplus x_4 x_5 \oplus x_5 x_6$ . The products  $x_1 x_2$  and  $x_2 x_3$  show that  $x_1, x_2$ , and  $x_3$  are in the same block. Also, the products  $x_4 x_5$  and  $x_5 x_6$  show that  $x_4, x_5$ , and  $x_6$  are in the same block. Thus, we have the partition  $[\{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6\}]$ . The corresponding EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition is  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$ , where  $X_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  and  $X_2 = (x_4, x_5, x_6)$ .  $\square$

**Algorithm 4.3** (*Non-disjoint bi-decomposition*).  
 $f(X_1, X_2, x_i) = g_1(X_1, x_i) \otimes g_2(X_2, x_i)$ , where  $\otimes$  denotes either OR, AND, or EXOR. Let  $(X_1, X_2, x_i)$  be a partition of the variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots$ , and  $x_n$ . For  $i = 1$  to  $n$ , do

- i) Let  $f_{0i} = f(X_1, X_2, 0)$ . (Set  $x_i$  to 0). Let  $f_{1i} = f(X_1, X_2, 1)$ . (Set  $x_i$  to 1).
- ii) If both  $f_{0i}$  and  $f_{1i}$  have the same type of disjoint bi-decompositions with the same partition, then  $f$  has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition.

## V Complexity Analysis of the Algorithms

### 5.1 OR type disjoint bi-decomposition

We assume that the function is given as an ISOP with  $t$  products. Note that  $t \leq 2^{n-1}$ . The time to form the partition of variables is  $O(n \cdot t)$ .

### 5.2 EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition

A PPRM can be represented by a functional decision diagram (FDD [5, 15]). Each path from the root node to the constant 1 node corresponds to a product in the PPRM. Thus, the partition of the input variables is directly generated from the FDD. The number of paths in an FDD is  $O(2^n)$ , where  $n$  is the number of the input variables. However, we can avoid exhaustive generation of paths as follows: Let  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  be products in a PPRM. If all the literals in  $p_1$  also appear in  $p_2$ , then  $p_2$  need not be generated in the Algorithm, since the product  $p_1$  that contains more literals than  $p_2$  is more important. By searching the paths with more literals first, we can efficiently detect functions with no disjoint bi-decomposition.

**Example 5.1** Consider the function  $f(X)$  given as a PPRM:  $f(X) = x_1 \oplus x_1 x_2 \oplus x_3 x_4 \oplus x_1 x_2 x_5 x_6$ . In constructing the partition of  $X$ , we need not consider the products  $x_1$  or  $x_1 x_2$ , since  $x_1 x_2 x_5 x_6$  has the literals of  $x_1$  and  $x_1 x_2$ . In this case, the product  $x_1 x_2 x_5 x_6$  shows that  $x_1, x_2, x_5$ , and  $x_6$  belong to the same group. Also, the product  $x_3 x_4$  shows that  $x_3$  and  $x_4$  belong to the same group. Thus,  $X$  is partitioned as  $X = (X_1, X_2)$ , where  $X_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_5, x_6)$  and  $X_2 = (x_3, x_4)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 5.1** Let  $p$  be a product. The set of variables in  $p$  is denoted by  $V(p) = \{x_i | x_i \text{ or } \bar{x}_i \text{ appears in } p\}$ . For example,  $V(x_1 x_2 \bar{x}_4) = \{x_1, x_2, x_4\}$

**Definition 5.2** Let  $F$  be a PPRM. A product  $p$  is said to have maximal variable set  $V(p)$  if there is no other product  $p'$  such that  $V(p) \subset V(p')$ .

**Example 5.2** For the PPRM,  $F = x_1 x_2 \oplus x_1 x_3 \oplus x_1 x_2 x_3 \oplus x_4$ ,  $V(x_1 x_2) = \{x_1, x_2\}$ ,  $V(x_1 x_3) = \{x_1, x_3\}$ ,  $V(x_1 x_2 x_3) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$ , and  $V(x_4) = \{x_4\}$ . Thus,  $x_1 x_2 x_3$  and  $x_4$  have maximal variable sets.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.1** A function  $f$  has an EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition if a function  $f'$  from the PPRM of  $f$  by eliminating implicants not having maximal variable sets has an EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition.

The following theorem says that if a function has an EXOR type disjoint bi-decomposition, then the number of products in the PPRM is relatively small.

**Theorem 5.2** If  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition of the form  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$ , then the number of products in the PPRM is at most  $2^{n_1} + 2^{n_2} - 1$ , where  $n_i$  is the number of variables in  $X_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

## VI Number of Functions with Bi-Decompositions

### 6.1 Functions with a small number of variables

In the previous sections, we showed that disjoint bi-decompositions are easy to find. In this section, we will enumerate the functions with disjoint bi-decompositions.

**Definition 6.1** A function  $f$  is said to be nondegenerate if for all  $x_i$   $f(|\bar{x}_i) \neq f(|x_i)$ .

**Definition 6.2** Two functions  $f$  and  $g$  are NP-equivalent, denoted by  $f \stackrel{NP}{\sim} g$ , iff  $g$  is derived from  $f$  by the following operations:

- 1) Permutation of the input variables.
- 2) Negations of the input variables.

The following is easy to prove.

**Lemma 6.1** If  $f$  has a disjoint bi-decomposition and if  $f \stackrel{NP}{\sim} g$ , then  $g$  has also the same type of disjoint bi-decomposition.

**Lemma 6.2** All the two-variable functions have disjoint bi-decompositions.

**Example 6.1** There are  $2^{2^3} = 256$  three-variable logic functions of which 218 are nondegenerate. These nondegenerate functions are grouped into 16 NP-equivalence classes as shown in Table 6.1 [9]. In this table, the column headed by  $N$  denotes the number of functions in that equivalence class. Eight classes have disjoint bi-decompositions, and three have non-disjoint bi-decompositions. Note that 194 functions have bi-decompositions.  $\square$

The number of functions with AND type disjoint bi-decompositions is equal to the number of functions with OR type disjoint bi-decompositions.

In the case of disjoint bi-decompositions, a function has exactly one type of decomposition (Lemma 6.4). On the other hand, in the case of non-disjoint bi-decompositions, a function may have more than one type of bi-decompositions.

**Example 6.2** Consider the three-variable function  $f = \bar{x}_1 x_3 \vee x_1 x_2$ . This function has three types of non-disjoint bi-decompositions:

$$\begin{aligned} f &= \bar{x}_1 x_3 \vee x_1 x_2 && \text{(OR type bi-decomposition)} \\ &= \bar{x}_1 x_3 \oplus x_1 x_2 && \text{(EXOR type bi-decomposition)} \\ &= (x_1 \vee x_3)(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2) && \text{(AND type bi-decomposition)} \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Table 6.1: NP-representative functions of three variables.

	Representative functions	$N$	Type	Property
1	$x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_3$	2	EXOR	Disjoint Bi-Decomposition
2	$x_1 x_2 x_3$	8	AND	
3	$x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3$	8	OR	
4	$x_1(x_2 \vee x_3)$	24	AND	
5	$x_1 \vee x_2 x_3$	24	OR	
6	$x_1(x_2 \oplus x_3)$	12	AND	
7	$x_1 \vee (x_2 \oplus x_3)$	12	OR	
8	$x_1 \oplus x_2 x_3$	24	EXOR	
9	$x_1 x_2 x_3 \vee \bar{x}_1 \bar{x}_2 \bar{x}_3$	4		Non-Disjoint Bi-Decomposition
10	$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3)(\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)$	4		
11	$\bar{x}_1 x_3 \vee x_1 x_2$	24		
12	$x_1 \bar{x}_2 \bar{x}_3 \vee x_2 x_3$	24		
13	$(x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3)(x_2 \vee x_3)$	24		
14	$x_1 x_2 \vee x_2 x_3 \vee x_3 x_1$	8		No Bi-Decomposition
15	$x_1 x_2 \vee x_2 x_3 \vee x_1 x_3 \vee \bar{x}_1 \bar{x}_2 \bar{x}_3$	8		
16	$\bar{x}_1 x_2 x_3 \vee x_1 \bar{x}_2 x_3 \vee x_1 x_2 \bar{x}_3$	8		

$N$ : Number of the functions in the class.

Table 6.2: Number of functions.

		$n = 2$	$n = 3$	$n = 4$	
All the functions		16	256	65536	
Nondegenerate functions		10	218	64594	
Functions with bi-decomposition	Disjoint	AND	4	44	1660
		OR	4	44	1660
		EXOR	2	26	914
	Non-disjoint		0	80	3860
Total			10	194	8094

### 6.2 The number of functions with bi-decompositions

**Lemma 6.3** [4]: Let  $\alpha(n)$  be the number of nondegenerate functions on  $n$  variables. Then,

$$\alpha(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} 2^{2^k} \sim 2^{2^n},$$

where  $a(n) \sim b(n)$  means  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a(n)}{b(n)} = 1$ .

**Lemma 6.4** A nondegenerate function  $f$  has at most one type of disjoint bi-decomposition:

1.  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \cdot g_2(X_2)$ ,
2.  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \vee g_2(X_2)$ , or
3.  $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$ ,

where  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  are nondegenerate functions on one or more variables.

**Theorem 6.1** The number of functions  $N_{disjoint}(n)$  with disjoint bi-decompositions is  $N_{disjoint}(n) = A_{dis}(n) + O_{dis}(n) + E_{dis}(n)$ , where

$$A_{dis}(n) = n! \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\alpha(i) - A_{dis}(i)}{i!} \right)^{k_i} \frac{1}{k_i!}$$

Table 7.1: Number of functions with bi-decompositions.

Decomposition Type		Number of Functions
Disjoint	AND	853
	OR	264
	EXOR	73
Non-disjoint	AND	162
	OR	91
	EXOR	42

$$O_{dis}(n)=n! \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ 1k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\alpha(i) - O_{dis}(i)}{i!} \right)^{k_i} \frac{1}{k_i!}$$

$$E_{dis}(n)=2n! \sum_{\substack{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 0 \\ 1k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + nk_n = n}} \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\alpha(i) - E_{dis}(i)}{i!} \right)^{k_i} \frac{1}{2^{k_i} k_i!}$$

where the sums are over all partitions of  $n$  except the trivial partition  $n = 0 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 2 + \dots + 0 \cdot (n-1) + 1 \cdot n$  (i.e. the sum is over all partitions where  $k_n = 0$ ), and where  $A_{dis}(1) = O_{dis}(1) = E_{dis}(1) = 0$ .

Table 6.2 shows the number of functions with disjoint bi-decompositions up to  $n = 4$ .

## VII Experimental Results

We analyzed the bi-decomposability of 136 benchmark functions. Over these multiple-output functions, the total number of outputs (functions) is 1908. For each function, we determined whether there exists a disjoint bi-decomposition. If none existed, we determined if there exists a non-disjoint bi-decomposition (with a single common variable). Table 7.1 summarizes our results. It is interesting that 1190 out of 1908 functions, or 62 percent, have disjoint bi-decompositions. Of the remaining 718 functions, 295 have non-disjoint decompositions. It should be noted that more than 295 functions have non-disjoint decompositions, since a function with a disjoint bi-decomposition may also have a non-disjoint bi-decomposition.

## VIII Conclusions and Comments

In this paper, we presented the bi-decomposition, a special case of functional decomposition. Disjoint bi-decompositions have the following features:

- 1) They are easy to detect; we use ISOPs or PPRMs rather than decomposition charts.
- 2) Programmable logic devices exist that realize bi-decompositions.
- 3) If the function has an OR (AND) type bi-decomposition, then we can optimize the expression separately.

We enumerated functions with bi-decompositions. Among 218 nondegenerate functions of 4 variables, 194 have bi-

decompositions. Also, we derived formulae for the number of disjoint bi-decompositions.

Since the fraction of functions with decompositions approaches to zero as  $n$  increase [4], the fraction of functions with bi-decompositions also approaches to zero as  $n$  increases. However, for 1908 functions we analyzed about 78% of them had either disjoint or non-disjoint bi-decompositions.

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