

Methods For Construction Of The Zhegalkin Polynomial

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Abstract

It is known that any Boolean function can be represented by a Zhegalkin polynomial (a polynomial modulo two), and this representation is unique up to a permutation of terms. Some of the most well-known methods for constructing such a polynomial have been given.

Keywords: DNF (disjunctive normal form), PKNF (perfect disjunctive normal form), sum modulo two, Pascal's triangle.

INTRODUCTION

The Zhegalkin polynomial (polynomial) is a polynomial whose coefficients are the numbers 0 or 1, and the conjunction and sum modulo 2, respectively, act as multiplication and addition operations. For example, for a Boolean function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ of three variables x_1, x_2, x_3 , the Zhegalkin polynomial will have the following form:

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = a_0 \oplus a_1 x_1 \oplus a_2 x_2 \oplus a_3 x_3 \oplus a_{12} x_1 x_2 \oplus a_{13} x_1 x_3 \oplus a_{23} x_2 x_3 \oplus a_{123} x_1 x_2 x_3$$

The coefficients $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{123} \in \{0, 1\}$, that is, can take values either 0 or 1, depending on what value the Boolean function takes on a particular set of variable values.

The polynomial was proposed in 1927 by Ivan Zhegalkin as a convenient means for representing Boolean logic functions.

The operation $\oplus$ (sum modulo 2) has other names, the Zhegalkin sum, the nonequivalence exclusive OR-NOT. Sometimes, for convenience, its notation uses the usual notation of addition, but you should not confuse it with disjunction, and even more so with the usual arithmetic operation of addition. The truth table of this operation has the form:

x	y	$x \oplus y$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

The sum $x \oplus y$ is true when one and only one of the constituent statements is true. If we compare the truth tables of the basic logical operations, we can see that $x \oplus y \rightarrow x \leftrightarrow y$. That is, the Zhegalkin sum operation $\oplus$ is the negation of the equivalent.

For the two introduced operations $\oplus, \cdot$ (sum modulo two and conjunction), all logical laws are fulfilled:

1. Commutativity: $x \oplus y = y \oplus x$.
2. Associativity: $(x \oplus y) \oplus z = x \oplus (y \oplus z)$
that is, the result of $x \oplus y \oplus z$ does not depend on the arrangement of brackets.
3. Distributivity: $x \cdot (y \oplus z) = x \cdot y \oplus x \cdot z$.
4. $x \oplus x = 0$.
5. $0 \oplus x = x$.
6. $\bar{x} = x \oplus 1$.

Various methods can be used to construct the Zhegalkin polynomial: the method of indefinite coefficients, the Pascal triangle method, the DNF transformation and the PKNF transformation.

RESULTS

1. Method of undetermined coefficients

Let's find the Zhegalkin polynomial for the function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1 \cdot x_2 \vee x_3) \rightarrow \bar{x}_2$ using the method of indefinite coefficients. To do this, you first need to build a truth

table for the given Boolean function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$.

x_1	x_2	x_3	$x_1 \cdot x_2$	$x_1 \cdot x_2 \vee x_3$	$f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$
0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	0
1	0	0	0	0	1
1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	1	0

General view of the Zhegalkin polynomial for a function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ of three variables x_1, x_2, x_3 .

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = a_0 \oplus a_1 x_1 \oplus a_2 x_2 \oplus a_3 x_3 \oplus a_{12} x_1 x_2 \oplus a_{13} x_1 x_3 \oplus a_{23} x_2 x_3 \oplus a_{123} x_1 x_2 x_3$$

We successively substitute sets of values of variables and find the coefficients $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{123} \in \{0, 1\}$.

$$f(0, 0, 0) = a_0 = 1;$$

$$f(0, 0, 1) = a_0 \oplus a_3 = 1 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus a_3 = 1 \Rightarrow a_3 = 0;$$

$$f(0, 1, 0) = a_0 \oplus a_2 = 1 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus a_2 = 1 \Rightarrow a_2 = 0;$$

$$f(0, 1, 1) = a_0 \oplus a_2 \oplus a_3 \oplus a_{23} = 0 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus a_{23} = 0 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus a_{23} = 0 \Rightarrow a_{23} = 1;$$

$$f(1, 0, 0) = a_0 \oplus a_1 = 1 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus a_1 = 1 \Rightarrow a_1 = 0;$$

$$f(1, 0, 1) = a_0 \oplus a_1 \oplus a_3 \oplus a_{13} = 1 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus a_{13} = 1 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus a_{13} = 1 \Rightarrow a_{13} = 0;$$

$$f(1, 1, 0) = a_0 \oplus a_1 \oplus a_2 \oplus a_{12} = 0 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus a_{12} = 1 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus a_{12} = 0 \Rightarrow a_{12} = 0;$$

$$f(1, 1, 1) = a_0 \oplus a_1 \oplus a_2 \oplus a_{12} \oplus a_{13} \oplus a_{23} \oplus a_{123} = 0 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus 0 \oplus 1 \oplus 0 \oplus 1 \oplus a_{123} = 0 \Rightarrow 1 \oplus a_{123} = 0 \Rightarrow a_{123} = 1;$$

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Substituting the found coefficients, we obtain the Zhegalkin polynomial:

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 1 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \oplus x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3$$

2. Pascal's triangle method

Let's construct the Zhegalkin polynomial for the function from the previous method using Pascal's triangle.

x_1	x_2	x_3	$f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$	Pascal's triangle	Terms
0	0	0	1	[1]	1
0	0	1	1	0 0 1 1 0 1 0	x_3
0	1	0	1	0 1 0 1 1 1	x_2
0	1	1	0	[1] 1 1 0 0	$x_2 \cdot x_3$
1	0	0	1	0 0 1 0	x_1
1	0	1	1	0 1 1	$x_1 \cdot x_3$
1	1	0	0	[1] 0	$x_1 \cdot x_2$
1	1	1	0	[1]	$x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3$

Let us explain how Pascal's triangle is filled. The top line of the triangle defines the value vector of the Boolean function $f(11101100)$. In each line, starting from the second, any element of such a triangle is calculated as the modulo 2 sum of two adjacent elements of the previous line. So, the elements of the second line: $1 \oplus 1 = 0$, $1 \oplus 1 = 0$, $1 \oplus 0 = 1$, $0 \oplus 1 = 1$, $1 \oplus 1 = 0$, $0 \oplus 0 = 0$. The elements of other rows are calculated similarly.

The left side of Pascal's triangle corresponds to the sets of values of the variables of the original function $f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$. Connecting the variables whose values in the set are equal to 1 with a conjunction sign, we get the term in the Zhegalkin polynomial. The set (000) corresponds to 1, and the set (001) corresponds to x_3 , and so on.

Since the terms 1 , $x_2 \cdot x_3$, $x_1 \cdot x_2$, $x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3$, correspond to the units of the left side of the triangle, then the Zhegalkin polynomial:

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 1 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \oplus x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3$$

3. DNF transformation

Using the basic laws of the algebra of logic, we first reduce the function to a DNF.

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1 \cdot x_2 \vee x_3) \rightarrow \bar{x}_2 = \{\text{use the equivalence } x \rightarrow y = \bar{x} \vee y\} =$$

$$= \overline{x_1 \cdot x_2 \vee x_3 \vee \bar{x}_2} = \{\text{use de Morgan's law}$$

$$\overline{x \cdot y} = \bar{x} \vee \bar{y}\} = (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2) \cdot \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_2 =$$

$$= \{\text{use the distributive law}$$

$$(x \vee y) \cdot z = x \cdot z \vee y \cdot z\} =$$

$$= \overline{x_1} \cdot \overline{x_3} \vee \overline{x_2} \cdot \overline{x_3} = \overline{x_1} \cdot \overline{x_3} \vee \overline{x_2} \cdot \overline{x_3}$$

DNF.

Further, in the resulting DNF, it is necessary to “get rid” of the disjunction using de Morgan’s laws:

$$\overline{x_1 \cdot x_3 \vee x_2} = \overline{x_1 \cdot x_3} \cdot \overline{x_2}$$

We replace each negation of $\bar{x} = x \oplus 1$ and apply the logical laws written above, we get:

$$\overline{x_1 \cdot x_3 \cdot x_2} = 1 \oplus \overline{x_1 \cdot x_3 \cdot x_2} = 1 \oplus (1 \oplus (1 \oplus x_1) \cdot (1 \oplus x_3)) \cdot x_2 =$$

$$= 1 \oplus (1 \oplus 1 \oplus x_3 \oplus x_1 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_3) \cdot x_2 = 1 \oplus (x_3 \oplus x_1 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_3) \cdot x_2 =$$

$$= 1 \oplus x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3$$

Zhegalkin polynomial.

4. Transforming PDFN To build a PDFN according to the truth table, we select sets on which the function f takes a value equal to 1. If the value of a variable in this set is 0, then it is taken with negation, if the value of the variable is 1, then the variable is taken without negation. Connecting the variables of the corresponding set with a conjunction sign, we obtain an elementary conjunction. Then the disjunction of all such elementary conjunctions is PDFN.

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \bar{x}_1 \cdot \bar{x}_2 \cdot \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_1 \cdot \bar{x}_2 \cdot x_3 \vee \bar{x}_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3$$

To construct a Zhegalkin polynomial using PDFN, it is necessary to eliminate the

operations of disjunction and negation, then open the brackets.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2, x_3) &= \bar{x}_1 \cdot \bar{x}_2 \cdot \bar{x}_3 \oplus \bar{x}_1 \cdot \bar{x}_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus \bar{x}_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \bar{x}_3 \oplus \bar{x}_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3 = \\ &= (1 \oplus x_1) \cdot (1 \oplus x_2) \cdot (1 \oplus x_3) \oplus (1 \oplus x_1) \cdot (1 \oplus x_2) \cdot x_3 \oplus (1 \oplus x_1) \cdot x_2 \cdot (1 \oplus x_3) \oplus \\ &\oplus x_1 \cdot (1 \oplus x_2) \cdot (1 \oplus x_3) \oplus x_1 \cdot (1 \oplus x_2) \cdot x_3 = \\ &= 1 \oplus x_1 \oplus x_3 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus \\ &\oplus x_3 \oplus x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \oplus \\ &\oplus x_1 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3 = \\ &= 1 \oplus x_2 \cdot x_3 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \oplus x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3 \end{aligned}$$

Zhegalkin polynomial.

Conclusion

Mathematics is a very exact science, but you can show your imagination in it by solving problems in various ways. Discrete mathematics is no exception to this.

Ivan Ivanovich Zhegalkin rendered a great service to mankind when he deduced a polynomial, later named after him. The polynomial, whose members are connected only by two operations and a unit, turned out to be incredibly useful and is very widely used by a person in the course of his life and work.

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