

## ENHANCEMENTS TO CRISP POSSIBILISTIC RECONSTRUCTABILITY ANALYSIS

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*(Received 19 February 2003; In final form 25 September 2003)*

*Modified Reconstructibility Analysis (MRA)*, a novel decomposition within the framework of set-theoretic (crisp possibilistic) reconstructibility analysis, is presented. It is shown that in some cases, while three-variable NPN-classified Boolean functions are not decomposable using *Conventional Reconstructibility Analysis (CRA)*, they are decomposable using MRA. Also, it is shown that whenever a decomposition of three-variable NPN-classified Boolean functions exists in both MRA and CRA, MRA yields simpler or equal complexity decompositions. A comparison of the corresponding complexities for Ashenurst-Curtis decompositions and MRA is also presented. While both AC and MRA decompose some but not all NPN-classes, MRA decomposes more classes, and consequently more Boolean functions. MRA for many-valued functions is also presented, and algorithms using two different methods (intersection and union) are given. A many-valued case is presented where CRA fails to decompose but MRA decomposes.

*Keywords:* Reconstructibility analysis, Ashenurst-Curtis decomposition, Boolean functions, NPN-classification, log-functionality complexity measure

### 1. INTRODUCTION

One general methodology for understanding a complex system is to decompose it into less complex sub-systems. Decomposition is used in many situations; for example, in *logic synthesis* (Ashenurst, 1953; 1956; 1959; Curtis, 1962; 1963a,b; Muroga, 1979; Files, 2000; Grygiel, 2000; Al-Rabadi, 2002; 2003) where the number of inputs to the gates is high and cannot be mapped to a standard library and in *machine learning* where data is noisy or incomplete (Files, 2000; Grygiel, 2000). The primary criteria for evaluating the quality of the decomposition process are the amount of *information* (or *the loss of information*, i.e. *error*) existing in the decomposed system and the *complexity* of this decomposed system. The *objective* is obvious: *decompose the complex system (data) into the least-complex most-informative (least-error) model*. Simplicity is desired since, according to the Occam Razor principle, *the simpler the model is, the more powerful it is for generalization*. Least error is desired since one wants to retain as much information as possible in the decomposed system, when compared to the original data. The decomposition processes can be generally

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dichotomized into *lossless (no error) versus lossy decompositions*. In this paper, a comparison of two types of lossless decompositions is considered: the disjoint *Ashenhurst-Curtis decompositions*, and *set-theoretic (crisp possibilistic) Modified Reconstructibility Analysis (MRA) decomposition*.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents necessary methodological background. CRA, MRA, and AC, complexity results are presented in Section 3. Many-valued MRA is presented in Section 4. Conclusions and future work are discussed in Section 5.

## 2. BINARY LOGIC FUNCTIONS CLASSIFICATION, COMPLEXITY MEASURES, AND DECOMPOSITIONS

This section introduces the basic background of the NPN-classification of three-variable two-valued logic functions, Ashenhurst-Curtis (AC), and Reconstructibility Analysis (RA) decomposition methods, and the complexity measures utilized here, to compare the efficiencies of AC and RA decompositions.

### 2.1 NPN-Classification of Binary Logic Functions

There exist many classification methods to cluster logic functions into families of functions (Muroga, 1979). Two important operations that produce equivalence classes of logic functions are *negation* and *permutation* (Muroga, 1979). Accordingly, the following classification types result:

- (1) *P-equivalence class*: a family of identical functions obtained by the operation of permutation of variables.
- (2) *NP-equivalence class*: a family of identical functions obtained by the operations of negation or permutation of one or more variables.
- (3) *NPN-equivalence class*: a family of identical functions obtained by the operations of negation or permutation of one or more variables, and also negation of function.

NPN-equivalence classification will be used in this work. Figure 1 lists three-variable Boolean functions, for the non-degenerate classes (i.e. the classes depending on all three variables).

Class	Representative Function	Number of Functions
1	$F = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_1x_3$	8
2	$F = x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_3$	2
3	$F = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$	16
4	$F = x_1(x_2 + x_3)$	48
5	$F = x_1x_2x_3 + x_1x_2x_3$	8
6	$F = x_1x_2x_3 - x_1x_2x_3 + x_1x_3$	24
7	$F = x_1(x_2x_3 + x_2x_3)$	24
8	$F = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_1x_3$	24
9	$F = x_1x_2x_3 - x_1x_2x_3 + x_1x_2x_3$	16
10	$F = x_1x_2x_3 + x_2x_3$	48

FIGURE 1 NPN-equivalence classes for non-degenerate Boolean functions of three binary variables (Muroga, 1979) for a total of 218 Boolean functions, where ' means negation of a variable,  $\oplus$  is Boolean exclusive sum-of-product, + is Boolean OR, and product is Boolean AND.

EXAMPLE 1 The following steps produce the sets of all possible Boolean functions that are included in class 1 in Fig. 1 for the representative function  $F_0 = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_1x_3$ .

- (1) *Negation of variables (N)*:  $\{F_1 = x_1'x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_1'x_3, F_2 = x_1x_2' + x_2'x_3 + x_1x_3, F_3 = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3' + x_1x_3', F_4 = x_1'x_2' + x_2'x_3 + x_1'x_3, F_5 = x_1'x_2 + x_2x_3' + x_1'x_3', F_6 = x_1x_2' + x_2'x_3' + x_1x_3', F_7 = x_1'x_2' + x_2'x_3' + x_1'x_3'\}$ .
- (2) *Permutation of variables (P)*: does not produce a different function.
- (3) *Negation of functions (N)*:  $\{F_9 = x_1'x_2' + x_2'x_3' + x_1'x_3'\}$ .

$F_7$  and  $F_9$  are the same, which gives eight distinct functions.

### 2.2 Complexity Measures

Decomposability means complexity reduction. Many complexity measures exist for the purpose of evaluating the efficiency of the decomposition of complex systems into simpler sub-systems. Such complexity measures include: the *Decomposed Function Cardinality (DFC)* complexity measure (Abu-Mostafa, 1988), and the *Log-Functionality (LF)* complexity measure (Grygiel, 2000; Al-Rabadi, 2003). In DFC, complexity is a *count* of the total number of possible functions realizable by the decomposed structure, while LF counts the number of *non-redundant* functions realizable by the decomposed structure. The complexity of the decomposed structures is always less or equal to the complexity of the original Look-Up-Table (LUT) that represents the mapping of the non-decomposed structure. That is, if a decomposed structure has higher complexity than the original structure, then the original structure is said to be non-decomposable. Although the DFC measure is easier and more familiar, LF is a better measure because it more properly deals with non-disjoint systems. Consequently, the LF measure will be used in this paper. The DFC and LF complexity measures are illustrated using Fig. 2, which exemplifies AC decomposition, as follows.

In Fig. 2, for the first block, the total number of possible functions for three two-valued input variables is  $2^{2^3} = 256$ . Also, for the second block, the total number of possible functions is similarly 256. The total possible number of functions for the whole structure is equal to  $256 \cdot 256 = 65,536$ . The DFC measure is defined as:

$$DFC_j = O_j \cdot 2^{I_j} \tag{1}$$

$$C_{DFC} = \sum_j DFC_j \tag{2}$$

where  $O_j$  is the number of outputs to block  $j$ ,  $I_j$  is the number of inputs to the same block, Eq. (1) is the complexity for block  $j$ , and Eq. (2) is the complexity for the total decomposed structure. For instance, the DFC for Fig. 2 is:  $C_{DFC} = 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^3 = 16$ . It was shown in (Grygiel, 2000; Al-Rabadi, 2003) that, for Fig. 2, the *log-functionality complexity measure (C<sub>LF</sub>)* for Boolean functions can be expressed as follows:

$$C_{LF} = \log_2(C_F) \tag{3}$$

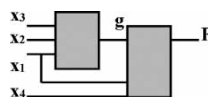


FIGURE 2 Generic non-disjoint decomposition.

where:

$$C_F = (C'_F)^{p_{X_3}}, \quad C'_F = \sum_{i=0}^{p_{Y_1}-1} P\left(\frac{p_{X_2}}{p_{Y_2}}, p_{Y_1} - i\right) S\left(\frac{p_{X_1}}{p_{X_3}}, p_{Y_1} - i\right)$$

$$P(n, k) = \frac{n!}{(n - k)!}, \quad S(n, k) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \binom{k}{i} (k - i)^n, \quad \binom{k}{i} = \frac{k!}{i!(k - i)!}$$

$$X_1 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}, \quad X_2 = \{x_1, x_4\}, \quad X_3 = X_1 \cap X_2 = \{x_1\}, \quad Y_1 = g, \quad Y_2 = F$$

$$p_{X_1} = \prod_{x_i \in X_1} |x_i|, \quad p_{X_2} = \prod_{x_i \in X_2} |x_i|, \quad p_{X_3} = \prod_{x_i \in X_3} |x_i|, \quad p_{Y_1} = \prod_{y_i \in Y_1} |y_i|, \quad p_{Y_2} = \prod_{y_i \in Y_2} |y_i|$$

where  $X_1$  is the set of input variables to the first block,  $X_2$  is the set of input variables to the second block,  $X_3$  is the set of overlapping variables between sets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ ,  $p_{X_i}$  is the product of cardinalities of the input variables in set  $X_i$ ,  $Y_1$  is the output of first block,  $Y_2$  is the output of second block, and  $p_{Y_i}$  is the product of cardinalities of output variables in set  $Y_i$ . For example, the LF for Fig. 2 is:

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}, X_2 = \{x_1, x_4\}, X_3 = X_1 \cap X_2 = \{x_1\} \\ \therefore p_{X_1} &= 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 8, \quad p_{X_2} = 2 \cdot 2 = 4, \quad p_{X_3} = 2, \\ p_{Y_1} &= 2, p_{Y_2} = 2, \\ C'_F &= \sum_{i=0}^1 P(2^2, 2 - i) S(4, 2 - i) = 88 \\ \therefore C_F &= 7,744 \Rightarrow C_{LF} = \log_2(7,744) = 12.92. \end{aligned}$$

Figure 2 shows a four-input function, where the variable sets for the first and second blocks are not disjoint. In this paper, we are concerned only with three-input functions, and in this case the AC decomposition results in a structure shown in Fig. 3. Note that the variable sets for the two blocks with outputs  $g$  and  $F$  are necessarily disjoint, because if the two blocks shared one input variable,  $F$  would have three inputs and the decomposed structure would be more complex than the original non-decomposed three-input function.

EXAMPLE 2 The log-functionality complexity measure of the structure in Fig. 3 is obtained as follows.

Each sub-block in Fig. 3 has a total of  $2^2 = 16$  possible Boolean functions. Figure 4 illustrates all of the possible 16 two-variable Boolean functions per sub-block in Fig. 3.

By allowing  $g$  and  $F$  in Fig. 3 to take on all possible maps from Fig. 4, one obtains the following count of total non-repeated (non-redundant) three-variable functions, as follows:  $C_F = 88 \Rightarrow C_{LF} = 6.5$ . This answer agrees with the result of Eq. (3).

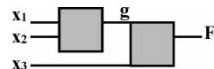


FIGURE 3 A decomposed structure.

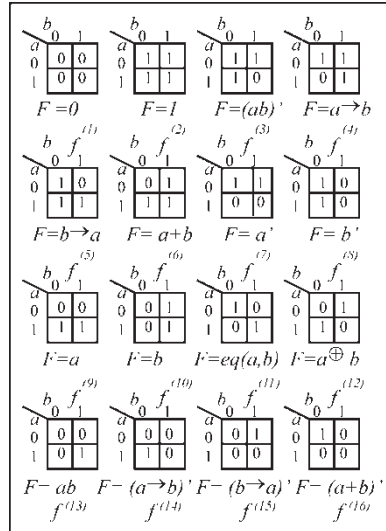


FIGURE 4 Maps of all 16 possible Boolean functions of two variables.

EXAMPLE 3 RA produces decompositions for three-variable functions that resemble the structures shown in Fig. 5.

The log-functionality complexity measure for the structures in Fig. 5 is obtained as follows. Fig. 6 represents a tree that generates all possible functions for the structures 5a and 5b, respectively (Al-Rabadi *et al.*, 2002; Al-Rabadi, 2002; 2003). (Superscripts of functions denote the specific edge between two nodes in the tree.)

Utilizing this methodology of removing redundant functions, one obtains the following results for log-functionality: for Fig. 5a, the total number of irredundant sub-functions is  $C_F = 100 \Rightarrow \therefore C_{LF} = \log_2(100) = 6.6$ , and for Fig. 5b, the total number of irredundant sub-functions is  $C_F = 152 \Rightarrow \therefore C_{LF} = \log_2(152) = 7.2$ . (In later tables,  $C_{LF}$  values of 4.3 and 6.5 are also reported, for functions  $F = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$  and  $F = x_1(x_2 + x_3)$ , respectively.) The following example illustrates the use of Fig. 6 to eliminate the redundant terms in the process of computing the log-functionality complexity measure.

EXAMPLE 4 Utilizing Fig. 5a, if one chooses the following maps from Fig. 4:  $f_1 = f^{(13)}$  and  $f_2 = f^{(6)}$  then the function  $F^{(13,6)} = f^{(13)}f^{(6)}$  will produce the same result as  $F^{(13,11)} = f^{(13)}f^{(11)}$  since  $(x_1 \cdot x_2)(x_1 + x_2) = (x_1 \cdot x_2)(x_1 \equiv x_2)$ , and consequently the two paths will lead to the same node in Level 2 in Fig. 6. Also, we can demonstrate the same calculation for Fig. 5b as follows: let  $f_1 = f^{(8)}$  (b),  $f_2 = f^{(2)}$ , and  $f_3 = f^{(8)}$ (c) then the function  $F^{(8,2,8)} = f^{(8)}(b)f^{(2)}f^{(8)}$ (c) will produce the same result as the function  $F^{(5,3,7)} = f^{(5)}(b,c)f^{(3)}(a,b)f^{(7)}$ (c) where  $\{f_1 = f^{(5)}(b,c), f_2 = f^{(3)}(a,b), f_3 = f^{(7)}(c)\}$  and consequently the two paths will lead to the same node in Level 3 in Fig. 6.

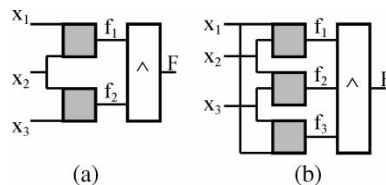


FIGURE 5 Some RA decomposed structures.

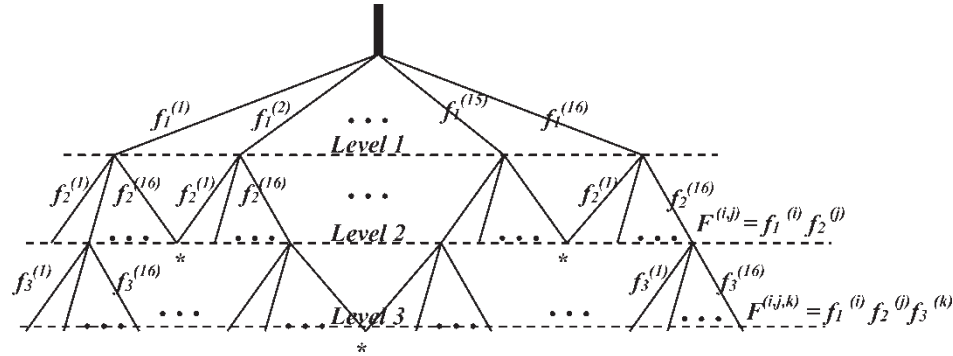


FIGURE 6 All possible combinations of sub-functions  $f_1^{(i)}, f_2^{(j)}$ , and  $f_3^{(k)}$ , in Figs. 5a and b, respectively. *Log-functionality complexity measure* represents the count of all possible *non-redundant* functions, that is all *different* intermediate sub-functions and  $F^{(i,j)}$  for Fig. 5a, and all *different* intermediate sub-functions and  $F^{(i,j,k)}$  for Fig. 5b. Where two nodes of the tree are superposed (\*), they are counted only once. At every node, there are 16 possible two-variable Boolean functions.

### 2.3 Ashenhurst-Curtis Decomposition

Ashenhurst-Curtis (AC) decomposition (Ashenhurst, 1953; 1956; 1959; Curtis, 1962; 1963a,b; Files, 2000; Grygiel, 2000; Al-Rabadi, 2002; 2003) is one of the major techniques for the decomposition of functions commonly used in the field of logic synthesis. The main idea of AC decomposition is to decompose logic functions into simpler logic blocks using the compression of the number of cofactors in the corresponding representation. This compression is achieved through exploiting the logical compatibility (i.e. redundancy) of cofactors (i.e. column multiplicity). As a result of AC decomposition (as a result of column compression), intermediate constructs (latent variables) are created, and learning is achieved as a result of these variables (Files, 2000; Grygiel, 2000). A general algorithm of the AC decomposition utilizing Karnaugh map (K-map) representation (Muroga, 1979), for instance, is as follows:

- (1) Partition the input set of variables into free set and bound set, and label all the different columns.
- (2) Decompose the bound set and create a new K-map for the decomposed bound set (utilizing minimum graph coloring, maximum clique, or some other algorithm to combine similar columns into a single column). Each cell in the new K-map represents a labeled column in the original K-map.
- (3) Encode the labels in the cells of the new K-map using a minimum number of intermediate binary variables. These intermediate variables are shown as  $g$  and  $h$  in Example 5 (Fig. 7). Express the intermediate variables as functions of the bound set variables.
- (4) Produce the decomposed structure, i.e. a K-map specifying the function ( $F$ ) in terms of the intermediate variables and the free set variables.

In general, steps (1) and (3) determine the optimality of the AC decomposition (i.e. whether the resulting decomposed blocks are of minimal complexity or not).

EXAMPLE 5 For the following logic function  $F = x_2x_3 + x_1x_3 + x_1x_2$ , let the sub-set of variables  $\{x_2, x_3\}$  be the *bound set*, and the sub-set of variables  $\{x_1\}$  be the *free set*. The following is the disjoint AC decomposition of  $F$  (where  $\{-\}$  means don't care).

In Example 5, the first block of the decomposed structure has two outputs (intermediate variables  $g$  and  $h$ ). The DFC measure of the decomposed structure is  $= 2 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^3 = 16$ ,

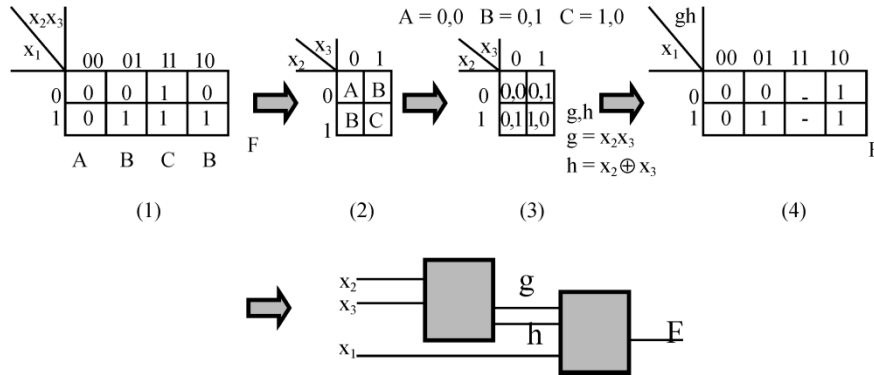


FIGURE 7 AC decomposition. Steps (1)–(4) are discussed in the text.

while the DFC of the original LUT is  $= 1 \cdot 2^3 = 8$ . This shows the inadequacy of DFC as a measure of complexity because the decomposition produces a more complex structure than the non-decomposed LUT. By contrast, LF for the decomposed structure in Fig. 7 is 8, which does not exceed the complexity of the LUT. Thus, for AC decomposition of Boolean functions with three-variables, if the first block of the decomposed structure has two outputs, then the decomposed structure is at least as complex as the LUT, and consequently, for the purpose of this paper, the decomposition is rejected. For other NPN functions AC decomposition produces only one output in the first block. These decompositions are not rejected, and are listed in Fig. 12.

**2.4 Reconstructability Analysis: Conventional RA versus Modified RA for the Binary Case**

*Reconstructability Analysis* (RA) is a decomposition technique for qualitative data (Conant, 1981; Krippendorff, 1986; Klir, 1985; 1996; Klir and Wierman, 1998; Zwick, 2001; Al-Rabadi, 2003). RA data is typically either a set theoretic relation or mapping or it is a probability or frequency distribution. The former case is the domain of “set-theoretic” RA or more precisely crisp possibilistic RA. The latter is the domain of “information-theoretic” RA, or more precisely probabilistic RA. The RA framework can apply to other types of data (e.g. fuzzy data) via generalized information theory (Klir and Wierman, 1998).

In this paper, we are concerned only with crisp possibilistic RA. RA decomposition can also be lossless or lossy. In this paper, we are concerned only with lossless decomposition, i.e. with decomposition which produces no error. This paper introduces an innovation in set-theoretic RA, which we call “modified” RA (or MRA) (Al-Rabadi, 2001; 2002; 2003; Al-Rabadi *et al.*, 2002) as opposed to the conventional set-theoretic RA (or CRA). This innovation is illustrated by Example 6.

EXAMPLE 6 For the logic function:  $F = x_1x_2 + x_1x_3$ .

Figure 8 illustrates decomposed structures using both CRA and MRA decompositions, respectively. In Fig. 8, while CRA decomposes for all values of Boolean functions, MRA decomposes for an arbitrarily chosen value of the Boolean functions (e.g. for value “1”). *The completely specified Boolean function can be retrieved if one knows the MRA decomposition for the Boolean function being equal either to “1” or to “0”.*

CRA decomposition (Conant, 1981; Zwick and Shu, 1995; Zwick, 1996; Al-Rabadi, 2003) is illustrated in the upper half of Fig. 8, while MRA decomposition is illustrated in the lower half of the figure. MRA decomposition yields a much simpler logic circuit than

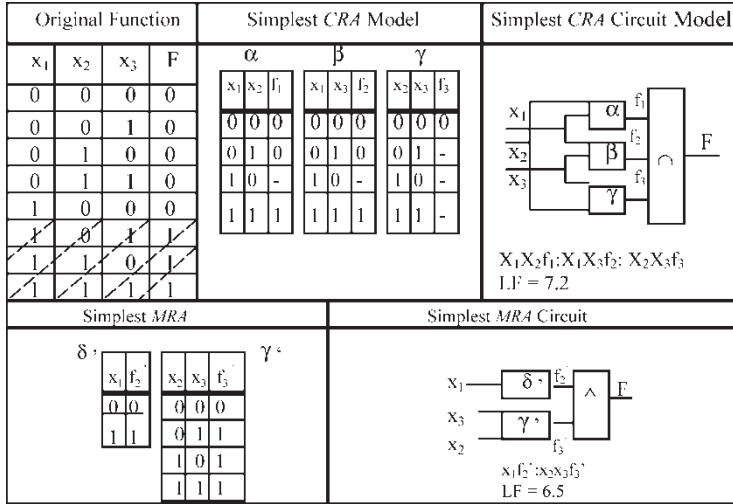
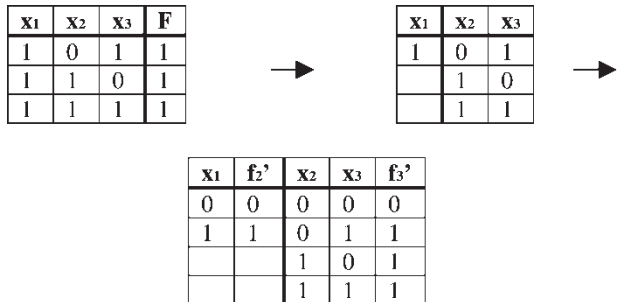


FIGURE 8 Conventional versus modified RA decompositions for the Boolean function  $F = x_1x_2 + x_1x_3$ .

the corresponding CRA decomposition, while retaining complete information about the decomposed logic function. For CRA in Fig. 8, the calculated function for model =  $x_1x_2f_1;x_1x_3f_2;x_2x_3f_3$  (i.e.  $\alpha:\beta:\gamma$ ) is defined as follows:  $x_1x_2x_3F_{model} \equiv (x_1x_2f_1 \otimes x_3) \cap (x_1x_3f_2 \otimes x_2) \cap (x_2x_3f_3 \otimes x_1)$ . For lossless CRA decomposition, this equals the original function  $x_1x_2x_3F$  that is shown at the top left of Fig. 8. (For lossy CRA  $x_1x_2x_3F_{model}$  would not be equivalent to  $x_1x_2x_3F$ ). The CRA model can be interpreted by the circuit shown at the top right of Fig. 8, where different projections of F are labeled  $f_1, f_2,$  and  $f_3$ . MRA simplifies the decomposition problem by focusing, in the original function F, on the three shaded tuples (“cubes”) for which  $F = 1$ . The procedure used to obtain the 1-MRA in Fig. 8 is as follows (Al-Rabadi, 2001; 2002; 2003):

- (1) Decompose the Boolean function of value “1” into the simplest lossless CRA decomposition.
- (2) For a particular model, get the projections.
- (3) Assign value “1” (for 1-MRA) to the tuples in the resulted projection. Add all tuples that are missing in the projections which will have the functional value “0”.
- (4) Perform the AND operation for 1-MRA in the output block to obtain the total functionality. Steps (2)–(4) are illustrated as follows:



The output function in step (4) is the logical AND of the two subfunctions, i.e.  $F = f_2'(x_1) \wedge f_3'(x_2, x_3)$ . Set-theoretically, this can be represented as

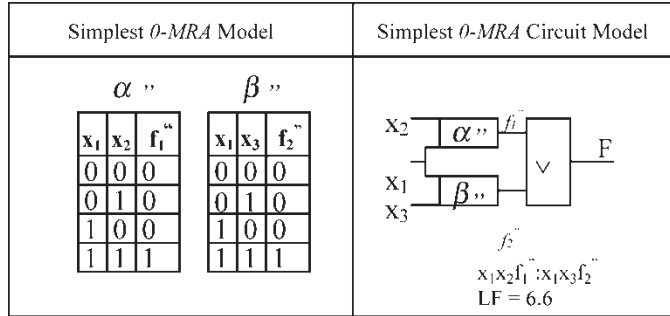


FIGURE 9 0-MRA versus 1-MRA decompositions for the Boolean function  $F = x_1x_2 + x_1x_3$ .

$F = (x_1 \otimes (1 \cup x'_1) \otimes 0) \cap (x_2x_3 \otimes (1 \cup (x_2x_3)') \otimes 0)$ . From Fig. 8, one observes that MRA possess two main advantages over CRA for the decomposition of Boolean functions (which will be further demonstrated in Fig. 10): (1) the resulting decomposed structures from MRA are less complex than the corresponding decomposed structures from CRA; and (2) the resulting decomposed structures from MRA are directly realizable in Boolean-based circuits, while the resulting decomposed structures from CRA are not realizable in Boolean-based circuits, but in ternary-valued logic circuits, and thus the resulting logic circuits from MRA are directly implementable using the current technologies. The idea of 0-MRA versus 1-MRA is illustrated in Example 7.

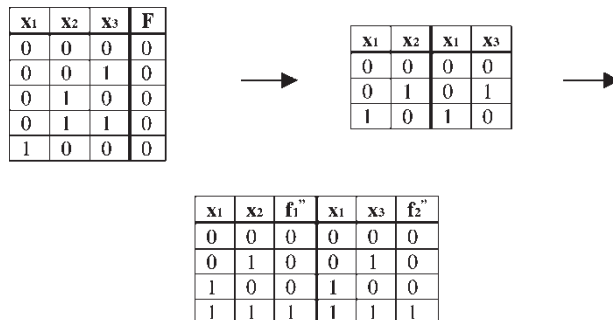
EXAMPLE 7 For the logic function:  $F = x_1x_2 + x_1x_3$ .

Figure 9 illustrates the simplest model using both 1-MRA and 0-MRA.

In this example, *the completely specified Boolean function can be retrieved if one knows the MRA decomposition for the Boolean function being equal either to "1" (that is 1-MRA) or to "0" (that is 0-MRA)*. The procedure used to obtain the 0-MRA in Fig. 9 is as follows (Al-Rabadi, 2001; 2002; 2003):

- (1) Decompose the Boolean function of value "0" into the simplest lossless CRA decomposition.
- (2) For a particular model, get the projections.
- (3) Assign value "0" (for 0-MRA) to the tuples in the resulted projection. Add all tuples that are missing in the projections which will have the functional value "1".
- (4) Perform the OR operation for 0-MRA in the output block to obtain the total functionality.

Steps (2)–(4) are illustrated as follows:



The output function in step (4) is the logical OR of the two sub-functions as follows:  
 $F = f''_1(x_1, x_2) \vee f''_2(x_1, x_3)$ .

As can be observed from Fig. 9, 1-MRA produces a less complex decomposed structure than 0-MRA. The 0-MRA (LF = 6.6) decomposition should be compared to the 1-MRA decomposition (LF = 6.5) which is shown in Fig. 8.

### 3. RESULTS: COMPARING MRA TO OTHER DECOMPOSITIONS

The following sections compare the complexities of the decomposed structures using MRA with complexities of the decomposed structures using CRA (Section 3.1) and AC (Section 3.2).

#### 3.1 Complexity of MRA versus CRA Decompositions

Figure 10 compares MRA and CRA decompositions of all NPN-classes of three-variable Boolean functions.

NPN-Representative Function	MRA	Simplest Modified RA model (0-MRA or 1-MRA)	Simplest Conventional RA model	C (LUT)	C <sub>L,F</sub> (CRA)	C <sub>L,F</sub> (MRA)																																																																																	
Class 1 (8) $F = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_1x_3$	1	<table border="1"> <tr><td>x<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>2</sub></td><td>f<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>2</sub></td><td>x<sub>3</sub></td><td>f<sub>2</sub></td><td>x<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>3</sub></td><td>f<sub>3</sub></td></tr> <tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	f <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	x <sub>3</sub>	f <sub>2</sub>	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>3</sub>	f <sub>3</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	<table border="1"> <tr><td>x<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>2</sub></td><td>f<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>2</sub></td><td>x<sub>3</sub></td><td>f<sub>2</sub></td><td>x<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>3</sub></td><td>f<sub>3</sub></td></tr> <tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> </table>	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	f <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	x <sub>3</sub>	f <sub>2</sub>	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>3</sub>	f <sub>3</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	0	1	-	0	1	-	1	0	-	1	0	-	1	0	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	8	7.2	7.2
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Class 9 (16) $F = x_1x_2x_3 + x_1x_2'x_3 + x_1x_2x_3'$	*	non-decomposable	non-decomposable	8	8	8																																																																																	
Class 10 (48) $F = x_1x_2'x_3' + x_2x_3$	1	<table border="1"> <tr><td>x<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>3</sub></td><td>f<sub>1</sub></td><td>x<sub>2</sub></td><td>x<sub>3</sub></td><td>f<sub>2</sub></td></tr> <tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	x <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>3</sub>	f <sub>1</sub>	x <sub>2</sub>	x <sub>3</sub>	f <sub>2</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	non-decomposable	8	8	6.6																																																			
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FIGURE 10 Conventional RA (CRA) versus Modified RA (MRA) for the decomposition of all NPN-classes of three-variable Boolean functions (compare the right-most two columns), where in the second column from left “0” means 0-MRA, “1” means 1-MRA, and \* means 0-MRA or 1-MRA.

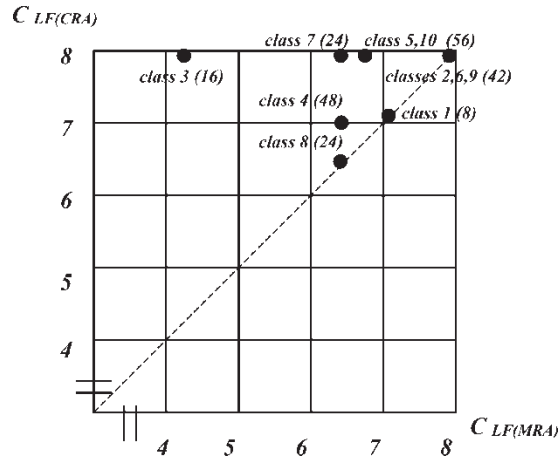


FIGURE 11 Comparison of the log-functionality complexity measure between modified RA (MRA) and conventional RA (CRA) of three-variable NPN-classified Boolean functions.

Figure 10 shows that in five NPN classes (classes 1, 2, 6, 8, 9) totaling 74 functions, MRA and CRA give equivalent complexity decompositions, but in the remaining five classes (classes 3, 4, 5, 7, 10) totaling 144 functions MRA is superior in complexity reduction. This is summarized in Fig. 11.

### 3.2 Complexity of MRA versus AC Decompositions

Utilizing the methods described above, one obtains the following results in Fig. 12 for the decomposition of three-variable NPN-classified Boolean functions (Fig. 1) using MRA and AC decompositions.

Figure 12 shows that in three NPN classes (4, 7, 9) totaling 88 functions, MRA and AC decompositions give equivalent complexity decompositions. In two remaining classes (2, 6), totaling 26 functions, AC decomposition is superior, but in five classes (1, 3, 5, 8, 10), totaling 104 functions, MRA is superior. This is summarized in Fig. 13.

We can also summarize these results by comparing decomposability versus non-decomposability for the various approaches as shown in Fig. 14.

From Fig. 14, one concludes that for NPN-classified three-variable Boolean functions, MRA is superior to AC (88 versus 26), AC is superior to CRA (66 versus 32), and MRA is superior to CRA (96 versus 0).

## 4. MANY-VALUED MRA

This section presents MRA for many-valued functions and relations.

### 4.1. General Approach

Data are in general many-valued. Consequently, if MRA can decompose relations between many-valued variables it can have practical applications in machine learning and data mining. Many-valued MRA (Al-Rabadi, 2001; 2002; 2003; Al-Rabadi and Zwick, 2002a,b) can be implemented with two equivalent algorithms: intersection-based and union-based. Both algorithms begin with the same two steps: (1) partition the many-valued truth table into

NPN-Representative Function	Simplest Modified RA model (0-MRA or 1-MRA)	Simplest AC circuit	Simplest Modified RA circuit	DFC (SOP)	C <sub>data</sub> (LUT)	C <sub>LF</sub> (MRA)	C <sub>LF</sub> (AC)
Class 1 (8) $F = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_1x_3$		non-decomposable		20	8	7.2	8
Class 2 (2) $F = x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_3$	non-decomposable	 $g = x_2 \oplus x_3, F = x_1 \oplus g$	-	8	8	8	6.5
Class 3 (16) $F = x_1 + x_2 + x_3$		 $g = x_2 + x_3, F = x_1 + g$		8	8	4.3	6.5
Class 4 (48) $F = x_1(x_2 + x_3)$		 $g = x_2 + x_3, F = x_1 g$		12	8	6.5	6.5
Class 5 (8) $F = x_1x_2x_3 + x_1x_2x_3'$		non-decomposable		20	8	6.6	8
Class 6 (24) $F = x_1x_2x_3 + x_1x_2'x_3 + x_1x_2x_3'$	non-decomposable	 $g = x_2x_3, F = x_1 \oplus g$	-	24	8	8	6.5
Class 7 (24) $F = x_1(x_2x_3 + x_2x_3')$		 $g = x_1 \oplus x_3, F = x_1 g'$		20	8	6.5	6.5
Class 8 (24) $F = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_1x_3$		non-decomposable		20	8	6.6	8
Class 9 (16) $F = x_1'x_2x_3 + x_1x_2'x_3 + x_1x_2x_3'$	non-decomposable	non-decomposable	-	32	8	8	8
Class 10 (48) $F = x_1x_2x_3' + x_2x_3$		non-decomposable		16	8	6.6	8

FIGURE 12 AC versus MRA for the decomposition of all NPN-classes of three-variable Boolean functions (compare the right-most two columns). Note that all AC decompositions have the same structure, while MRA decompositions have four different circuit topologies.

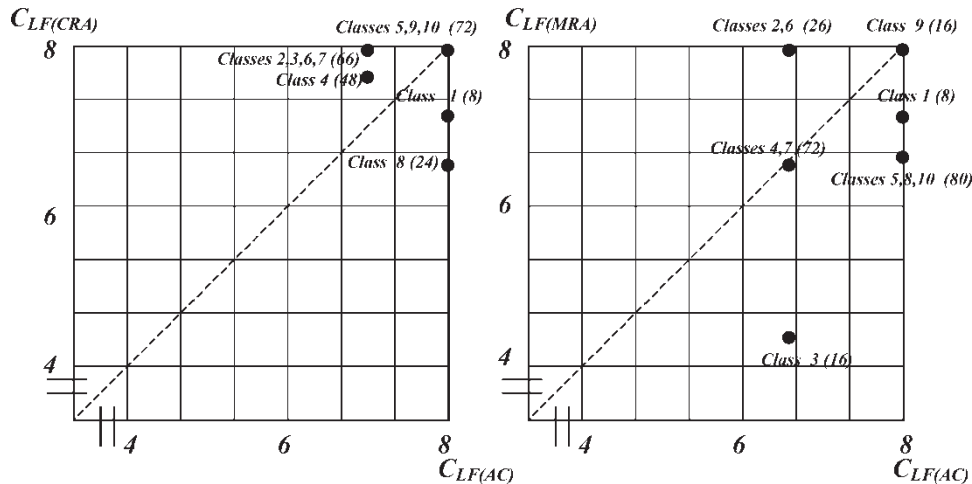


FIGURE 13 Comparison of the log-functionality complexity measure between CRA versus AC decompositions (a), and MRA versus AC decompositions (b), of three-variable NPN-classified Boolean functions.

	<i>ND</i>	<i>MRA</i>	<i>D</i>
<i>ND</i>	1 (9: 16)	4 (1,5,8,10: 88)	
<i>AC</i>	2 (2,6: 26)	3 (3,4,7: 88)	
<i>D</i>			

	<i>ND</i>	<i>AC</i>	<i>D</i>
<i>ND</i>	3 (5,9,10: 72)	4 (2,3,6,7: 66)	
<i>CRA</i>	2 (1,8: 32)	1 (4: 48)	
<i>D</i>			

	<i>ND</i>	<i>MRA</i>	<i>D</i>
<i>ND</i>	3 (2,6,9: 42)	4 (3,5,7,10: 96)	
<i>CRA</i>	0 (0)	3 (1,4,8: 80)	
<i>D</i>			

FIGURE 14 Comparison of the Decomposability (*D*) versus Non-Decomposability (*ND*) for (a) AC versus MRA, (b) CRA versus AC, and (c) CRA versus MRA, respectively. The number of classes is indicated, and in parentheses also the number of functions.

sub-tables, each containing only a single function value (e.g.  $T = T_0 \cup T_1 \cup T_2$  for the corresponding output values  $O_0, O_1,$  and  $O_2$  respectively), and (2) perform CRA on all sub-tables and obtain every  $M_j$  decomposition of  $T_j$ . Figure 15 illustrates the general pre-processing procedure for the two many-valued MRA algorithms, which will be explained in more detail below.

For an “ $n$ ”-valued completely specified function one needs  $(n - 1)$  values to define the function. We thus do all  $n$  decompositions and use for our MRA model the  $(n - 1)$  simplest of these. For example, obtain the simplest lossless MRA decomposition for value “0” of the function (denoted as the 0-MRA decomposition), for value “1” (1-MRA decomposition), and for value “2” (2-MRA decomposition). By selecting the simplest two models from these 0-MRA, 1-MRA, and 2-MRA decompositions, one can generate the complete function.

In the intersection method, first the CRA decompositions ( $M_j$ ) are expanded to include the full set of variable and function values, and these “expanded” decompositions are then intersected to yield the original table.

In the union method the reconstructed function ( $T^*$ ) is the union of all the sub-table decompositions,  $T^* = \cup_{j=0}^{n-1} M_j \otimes O_j$ , where  $\otimes$  is the set-theoretic Cartesian product. The union procedure can also be done with  $(n - 1)$  decompositions.

### 4.2 Complete Examples

Following are two examples which illustrate many-valued modified reconstructability analysis of three-valued functions. In the first example MRA can decompose the function for

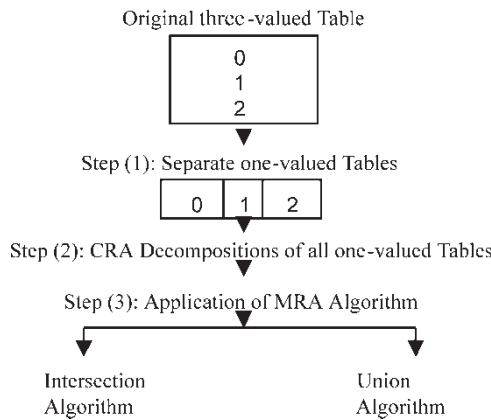


FIGURE 15 Steps for many-valued MRA.

only two values, and one has no choice but to use both in the MRA model. In the second example, the function is decomposable for all three of its values, and the two simplest decompositions are chosen to define the model.

In discussing the second example, we show that this approach is generalizable to set-theoretic relations, in addition to mappings.

**EXAMPLE 8** We will generate the MRA decomposition for the ternary function specified by the following ternary map:

$x_1x_2 \backslash x_3$	0	1	2
00	0	0	0
01	1	1	0
02	1	1	1
10	0	0	2
11	0	0	2
12	1	1	1
20	0	2	0
21	1	1	0
22	2	2	0

F

The following is the intersection algorithm for many-valued MRA for the ternary function in Example 8.

*Step 1:* Decompose the ternary chart of the function into three separate tables each for a single function value. This will produce the following three sub-tables.

Value "0"	Value "1"	Value "2"
000 001 002 012 100 101 110 111 200 202 212 222	010 011 020 021 022 120 121 122 210 211	102 112 201 220 221
<b>D0</b>	<b>D1</b>	<b>D2</b>

*Step 2:* Perform CRA for each sub-table.

*Step 2a:* The simplest error-free 0-MRA decomposition is the original "0"-subtable itself since it is not decomposable.

*Step 2b:* 1-MRA decomposition of D1 is as follows:

Table 1	Table 2
$x_1x_2 : x_2x_3$	
0 1	1 0
0 2	1 1
1 2	2 0
2 1	2 1
	2 2
<b>D11</b>	<b>D12</b>

Step 2c: The 2-MRA decomposition of D2 is as follows:

<b>Table 3</b>		<b>Table 4</b>	
$X_1$	$X_3$	$X_2$	$X_3$
1	2	0	2
2	1	1	2
2	0	0	1
		2	0
		2	1
<b>D21</b>		<b>D22</b>	

**THE INTERSECTION ALGORITHM**

Step 3.1: Select the two simplest error-free decomposed models; these are 1-MRA and 2-MRA decompositions. MRA thus gives the decomposition model of D11:D12:D21:D22 from which the original function can be reconstructed as follows.

Step 3.2: Note that, for Tables 1 and 2, the MRA decomposition is for the value “1” of the logic function. Therefore, the existence of the tuples in the decomposed model implies that the function has value “1” for those tuples, and the non-existence of the tuples in the decomposed model implies that the function does not have value “1” but “0” or “2” for the non-appearing tuples. This is shown in Tables 1’ and 2’, respectively. Similarly, for Tables 3 and 4, for the value “2”. The existence of the tuples in the decomposed model implies that the function has value “2” for those tuples, and the non-existence of the tuples in the decomposed model implies that the function does not have value “2” but “0” or “1” for the non-appearing tuples. This is shown in Tables 3’ and 4’, respectively.

<b>Table 1’</b>		<b>Table 2’</b>		<b>Table 3’</b>		<b>Table 4’</b>	
$X_1$	$X_2$	$F_1$	$X_2$	$X_3$	$F_2$	$X_1$	$X_3$
$F_1$	$X_2$	$X_3$	$F_2$	$X_3$	$F_3$	$X_2$	$F_4$
0	0	0,2	0	0	0,2	0	0
0	1	1,0,2	0	1	0,2	0	1
0	2	1,0,2	0	2	0,2	0	2
1	0	0,2	1	0	1,0,2	1	0
1	1	0,2	1	1	1,0,2	1	1
1	2	1,0,2	1	2	0,2	1	2
2	0	0,2	2	0	1,0,2	2	0
2	1	1,0,2	2	1	1,0,2	2	1
2	2	0,2	2	2	1,0,2	2	2

In Tables 1’ and 2’ (i.e. the decomposition for value “1” of the function), the existence of value “1” (of sub-relations  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ ) means that the value “1” appeared in the original non-decomposed function for the corresponding tuples that appear in each table, but *does not imply* that the values “0” or “2” (of sub-relations  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ ) did not exist in the original non-decomposed function for the same tuples. Therefore “0” and “2” are added to “1” as allowed values. In the remaining tuples, however, only “0” and “2” are allowed since the value “1” did not occur. Similarly, in Tables 3’ and 4’, the existence of the value “2” (of sub-relations  $F_3$  and  $F_4$ ) means that the value “2” appeared in the original non-decomposed function for the corresponding tuples that appear in each table, but *does not imply* that values “0” or “1” did

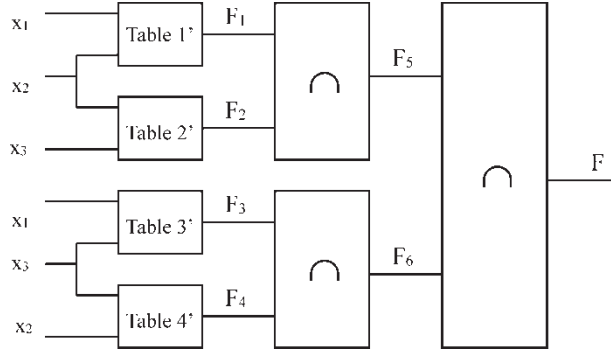


FIGURE 16 The decomposed structure resulting from the many-valued MRA decomposition.

not exist in the original non-decomposed function for the same tuples. Therefore “0” and “1” are added to “2” as allowed values. In the remaining tuples, however, only “0” and “1” are allowed since the value “2” did not occur. Set-theoretically, obtaining Tables 1’–4’ from Tables 1–4 is described as follows:

- Table 1’:  $(D11 \otimes (0, 1, 2)) \cup (D11' \otimes (0, 2))$
- Table 2’:  $(D12 \otimes (0, 1, 2)) \cup (D12' \otimes (0, 2))$
- Table 3’:  $(D21 \otimes (0, 1, 2)) \cup (D21' \otimes (0, 1))$
- Table 4’:  $(D22 \otimes (0, 1, 2)) \cup (D22' \otimes (0, 1))$

where ‘ here means complement of a set.

Step 3.3: Tables 1’–4’ are used to obtain the block diagram in Fig. 16, where the following set-theoretic equations govern the outputs of the levels in the circuit shown in the figure:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= F5 \cap F6 \\
 F5 &= F1 \cap F2 \\
 F6 &= F3 \cap F4
 \end{aligned}$$

where F1 is given by Table 1’, F2 by Table 2’, F3 by Table 3’, and F4 by Table 4’, respectively.

The intermediate sub-functions, F5 and F6 are shown in the following maps, respectively.

$x_1 \backslash x_2 x_3$	00	01	02	10	11	12	20	21	22
0	0,2	0,2	0,2	1	1	0,2	1	1	1
1	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	1	1	1
2	0,2	0,2	0,2	1	1	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2

$$F_5 = F_1 \cap F_2$$

$x_1 \backslash x_2 x_3$	00	01	02	10	11	12	20	21	22
0	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
1	0,1	0,1	2	0,1	0,1	2	0,1	0,1	0,1
2	0,1	2	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	2	2	0,1

$$F_6 = F_3 \cap F_4$$

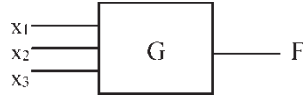


FIGURE 17 Block diagram for the union algorithm of MRA of Example 8.

Note that in Fig. 16 the intersection blocks in the second level and the intersection block at the third (output) level, are general and do not depend on the function being decomposed. Only the tables at the first level depend upon this function.

**THE UNION ALGORITHM**

Steps 1 and 2 are the same as in the intersection algorithm.

*Step 3.1:* Using the decomposition model  $D11:D12:D21:D22$  obtain  $D1$  and  $D2$  by standard CRA as follows:

$$D1 = (D11 \otimes x3) \cap (D12 \otimes x1)$$

$$D2 = (D21 \otimes x2) \cap (D22 \otimes x1)$$

$$D0 = (D1 \cup D2)'$$

where  $D1$  is the decomposition for function value “1”,  $D2$  for function value “2”, and  $x1, x2,$  and  $x3 \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ .

*Step 3.2:* Perform the set-theoretic operations to obtain the total function from the decomposed sub-functions.

$$x1x2x3F = (D1 \otimes 1) \cup (D2 \otimes 2) \cup ((D1 \cup D2)' \otimes (1 \cup 2)')$$

$$= (D1 \otimes 1) \cup (D2 \otimes 2) \cup ((D1 \cup D2)' \otimes 0).$$

Alternatively, one can use all three decompositions:

$$x1x2x3F = (D0 \otimes 0) \cup (D1 \otimes 1) \cup (D2 \otimes 2).$$

The function value of  $(x1, x2, x3)$  is determined by the block diagram of Fig. 17, where  $G$  performs the following operation:

$$F = 0 \quad \text{if } (x1x2x3) \in D0$$

$$F = 1 \quad \text{if } (x1x2x3) \in D1$$

$$F = 2 \quad \text{if } (x1x2x3) \in D2.$$

Note that the logic function in Example 8 is non-decomposable using CRA but decomposable using MRA. We now consider an example where CRA does decompose, and also where MRA decomposes for all three values.

**EXAMPLE 9** Let us generate the MRA decomposition for the ternary function specified by the following ternary map:

$x_1 x_2 \backslash x_3$	0	1	2
00	0	0	0
01	1	1	1
02	1	1	1
10	0	0	2
11	0	0	2
12	1	1	1
20	0	2	0
21	1	1	1
22	2	2	0

Utilizing the intersection-based algorithm, one obtains the following results for MRA for the ternary function in Example 9.

Step 1: Decompose the ternary chart of the function into three separate tables each for a single function value. This will produce the following three sub-tables.

Value "0"	Value "1"	Value "2"
000	010	102
001	011	112
002	012	201
100	020	220
101	021	221
110	022	
111	120	
200	121	
202	122	
222	210	
	211	
	212	
<b>D0</b>	<b>D1</b>	<b>D2</b>

Step 2: Perform CRA for each sub-table.

Step 2a: The 0-MRA decomposition of D0 is as follows:

Table 1	Table 2	Table 3
$X_1X_2$	$X_2X_3$	$X_1X_3$
0 0	0 0	0 0
1 0	0 1	0 1
1 1	0 2	0 2
2 0	1 0	1 0
2 2	1 1	1 1
	2 2	2 0
		2 2
<b>D01</b>	<b>D02</b>	<b>D03</b>

Step 2b: The 1-MRA decomposition of D1 is as follows:

Table 4	Table 5
$X_1X_2$	$X_3$
0 1	0
0 2	1
1 2	2
2 1	
<b>D11</b>	<b>D12</b>

Step 2c: The 2-MRA decomposition of D2 is as follows:

Table 6	Table 7
$X_1X_3$	$X_2X_3$
1 2	0 2
2 1	1 2
2 0	0 1
	2 0
	2 1
<b>D21</b>	<b>D22</b>

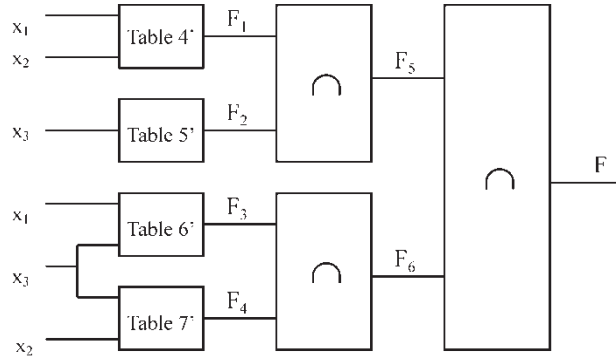


FIGURE 18 The decomposed structure resulting from the many-valued MRA decomposition.

**THE INTERSECTION ALGORITHM**

*Step 3.1:* Select the two simplest decomposed models, namely the 1-MRA and 2-MRA decompositions. These are at a lower level in the lattice of structures than 0-MRA.

*Step 3.2:* Analogously to Example 8, one obtains the following expanded tables:

<u>Table 4'</u>	<u>Table 5'</u>	<u>Table 6'</u>	<u>Table 7'</u>
$X_1 X_2 F_1$	$X_3 F_2$	$X_1 X_3 F_3$	$X_2 X_3 F_4$
0 0 0,2	0 1,0,2	0 0 0,1	0 0 0,1
0 1 1,0,2	1 1,0,2	0 1 0,1	0 1 2,0,1
0 2 1,0,2	2 1,0,2	0 2 0,1	0 2 2,0,1
1 0 0,2		1 0 0,1	1 0 0,1
1 1 0,2		1 1 0,1	1 1 0,1
1 2 1,0,2		1 2 2,0,1	1 2 2,0,1
2 0 0,2		2 0 2,0,1	2 0 2,0,1
2 1 1,0,2		2 1 2,0,1	2 1 2,0,1
2 2 0,2		2 2 0,1	2 2 0,1

Set-theoretically, obtaining Tables 4'–7' from Tables 4–7 is described as follows:

- Table 4':  $(D11 \otimes (0, 1, 2)) \cup (D11' \otimes (0, 2))$
- Table 5':  $(D12 \otimes (0, 1, 2)) \cup (D12' \otimes (0, 2))$
- Table 6':  $(D21 \otimes (0,1,2)) \cup (D21' \otimes (0,1))$
- Table 7':  $(D22 \otimes (0, 1, 2)) \cup (D22' \otimes (0, 1))$ .

*Step 3.3:* Tables 4'–7' are used to obtain the block diagram in Fig. 18, where the following set-theoretic equations govern the outputs of the levels in the circuit shown in the figure:

$$\begin{aligned}
 F &= F5 \cap F6 \\
 F5 &= F1 \cap F2 \\
 F6 &= F3 \cap F4
 \end{aligned}$$

where F1 is given by Table 4', F2 by Table 5', F3 by Table 6', and F4 by Table 7', respectively.

The intermediate sub-functions, F5 and F6 are shown in the following maps, respectively.

$x_1 \backslash x_2 x_3$	00	01	02	10	11	12	20	21	22
0	0,2	0,2	0,2	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	0,2	1	1	1
2	0,2	0,2	0,2	1	1	1	0,2	0,2	0,2

$$F_5 = F_1 \cap F_2$$

$x_1 \backslash x_2 x_3$	00	01	02	10	11	12	20	21	22
0	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1
1	0,1	0,1	2	0,1	0,1	2	0,1	0,1	0,1
2	0,1	2	0,1	0,1	0,1	0,1	2	2	0,1

$$F_6 = F_3 \cap F_4$$

**THE UNION ALGORITHM**

Steps 1 and 2 are the same as in the intersection algorithm.

Step 3.1: Using the decomposition model D01:D02:D11:D12:D21:D22 obtain D0, D1, and D2 by standard methods as follows:

$$D0 = (D01 \otimes x3) \cap (D02 \otimes x1) \cap (D03 \otimes x2)$$

$$D1 = (D11 \otimes x3) \cap (D12 \otimes x1x2)$$

$$D2 = (D21 \otimes x2) \cap (D22 \otimes x1)$$

where D0 is the decomposition for function value “0”, D1 is for function value “1”, D2 for function value “2”, and  $x_1, x_2,$  and  $x_3 \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ .

Step 3.2: Perform the set-theoretic operations to obtain the total function from the decomposed sub-functions. This can be done using only two of the three decompositions, as in Step (3.2) of the union algorithm in Example 8, or alternatively, one can use all three decompositions as follows:

$$x_1x_2x_3F = (D0 \otimes 0) \cup (D1 \otimes 1) \cup (D2 \otimes 2).$$

The function value of  $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is determined by the block diagram of Fig. 19, where G performs the following operation:

$$F = 0 \text{ if } (x_1x_2x_3) \in D0$$

$$F = 1 \text{ if } (x_1x_2x_3) \in D1$$

$$F = 2 \text{ if } (x_1x_2x_3) \in D2.$$

The logic function in Example 9 is decomposable using CRA with the lossless CRA model  $x_1x_2:x_2x_3:x_1x_3$ . Consequently, unlike the previous example, both many-valued MRA and CRA decompose losslessly. Since both CRA and MRA decompose this function, we would like to be able to compare the complexities of the two decompositions. The complexity measure reported in (Al-Rabadi *et al.*, 2002) could be used, but needs to be extended to many-valued functions.

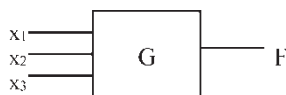


FIGURE 19 Block diagram for the union algorithm of MRA of Example 9.

From the previous discussion, it follows that the extension of many-valued MRA from functions to relations is trivial. One just performs the union algorithm using all  $n$  decompositions, e.g. for three values  $(D0 \otimes 0) \cup (D1 \otimes 1) \cup (D2 \otimes 2)$ .

## 5. CONCLUSION

A novel RA-based decomposition is introduced; *the Modified Reconstructability Analysis (MRA)*. It is shown that in 4 out of 10 NPN classes, while three-variable NPN-classified Boolean functions are not decomposable using the *Conventional Reconstructability Analysis (CRA) decomposition*, they are decomposable using the *MRA decomposition*. Also, it is shown that whenever a decomposition of three-variable NPN-classified Boolean functions exists in both MRA and CRA, MRA yields simpler or equal complexity decomposition. While the disjoint AC decomposition and MRA decompose some but not all NPN-classes, MRA decomposes more classes and consequently more Boolean functions than AC. The many-valued MRA decomposition is also presented. Since data are often many-valued, future work will apply many-valued MRA to real-life data for machine learning, data mining and data analysis. Future work will also include the investigation of the MRA decomposition of logic relations as opposed to functions, and fuzzy functions. The use of gates other than the logical AND and OR gates (e.g. XOR, NAND) at the final stage of RA-based decompositions to reduce the complexities of the decomposed structures will also be investigated.

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analysis of nominal or nominalized data); (2) "artificial life" (evolutionary simulations, genetic algorithm optimization, chaotic and non-chaotic dynamics in cellular automata); (3) systems philosophy (the metaphysics of "problems"). He also continues research in mathematical crystallography using systems methodologies.