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# Boolean Algebra

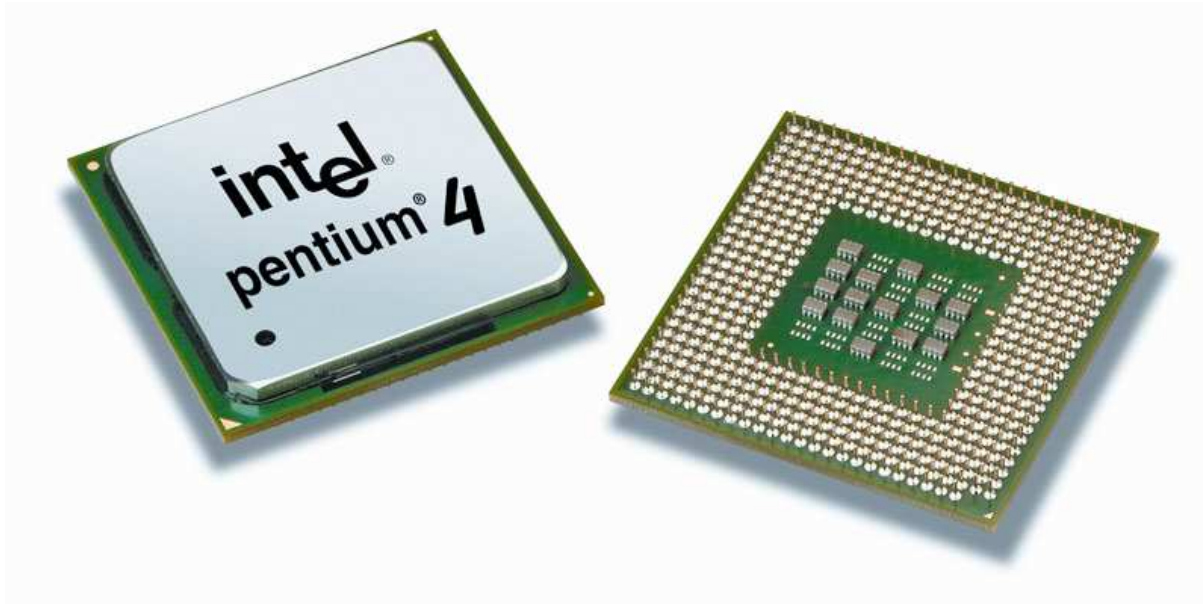
## and Propositional Logic

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Laura Kovács

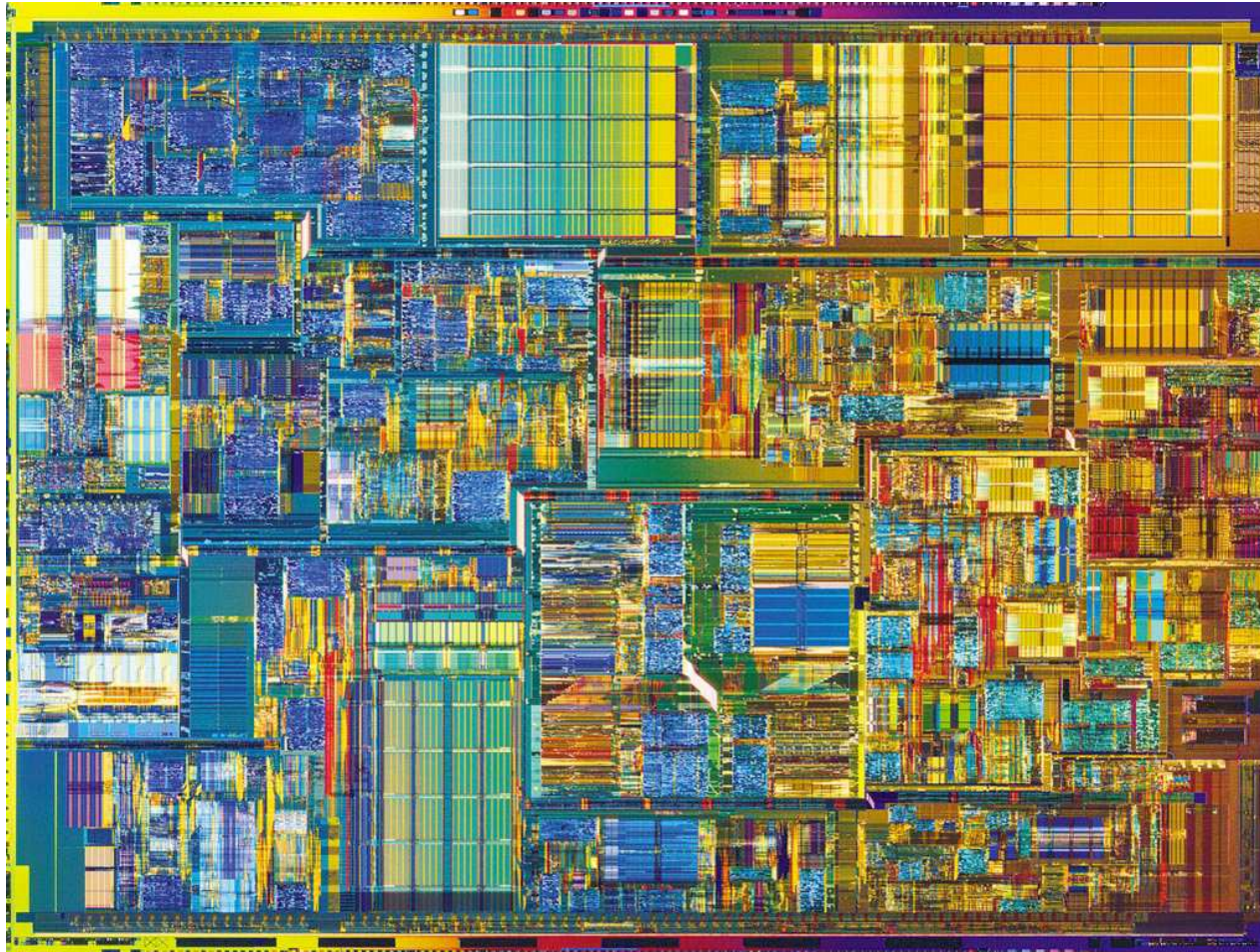
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# Processors



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# Processors



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# Processors are made of Switches (shalter)

- Switches, wires, resistors and capacitors
  - Pentium 4:
    - Willamette: 42 million switches
    - Northwood: 55 million switches
  - Memory chip has 256 million



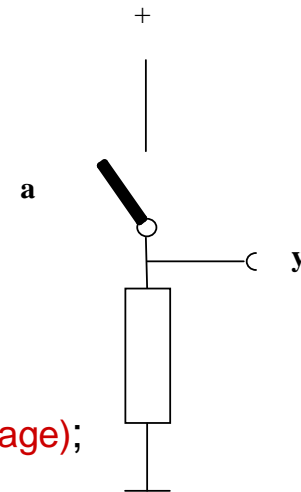
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# Processors are made of Switches (Shalter)

- Switches, wires, resistors and capacitors
  - Pentium 4:
    - Willamette: 42 million switches
    - Northwood: 55 million switches
  - Memory chip has 256 million

Example of a switch function:

- Switch **a** is open (under low voltage);
- Output **y** without voltage (Spannung).



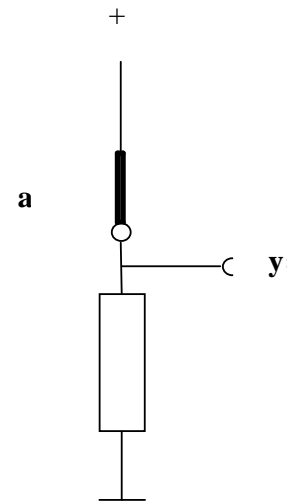
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# Processors are made of Switches

- Switches, wires, resistors and capacitors
  - Pentium 4:
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    - Northwood: 55 million switches
  - Memory chip has 256 million

Example of a switch function:

- Switch **a** is closed (under high voltage);
- Output **y** under voltage.



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# Processors are made of Switches

- Switches, wires, resistors and capacitors
  - Pentium 4:
    - Willamette: 42 million switches
    - Northwood: 55 million switches
  - Memory chip has 256 million

**Multi-million switches are ... HARD!**

***We need an abstraction.***

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# Processors are made of Switches (shalter)

- Switches, wires, resistors and capacitors
  - Pentium 4:
    - Willamette: 42 million switches
    - Northwood: 55 million switches
  - Memory chip has 256 million

**Multi-million switches are ... HARD!**

***We need an abstraction: Boolean Algebra.***

***(propositional logic)***

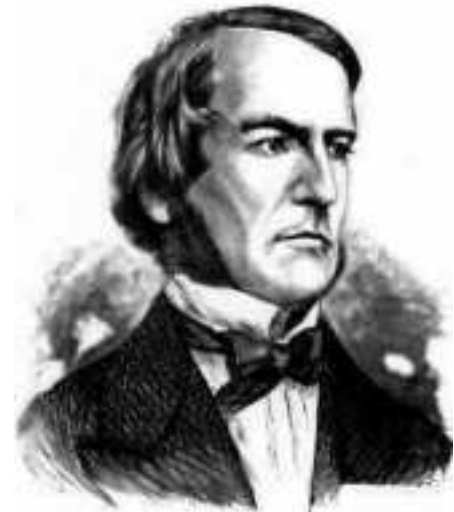
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# Boolean Algebra (Boole'sche Algebra)

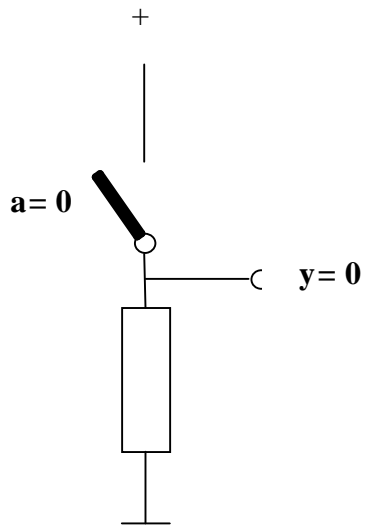
- Algebra on two-valued (binary) variables
  - G. Boole (1850) and C. Shannon (1938)
  - Straight-forward mapping to switches
    - High voltage (closed switch)  $\Rightarrow$  1 (True)
    - Low voltage (opened switch)  $\Rightarrow$  0 (False)



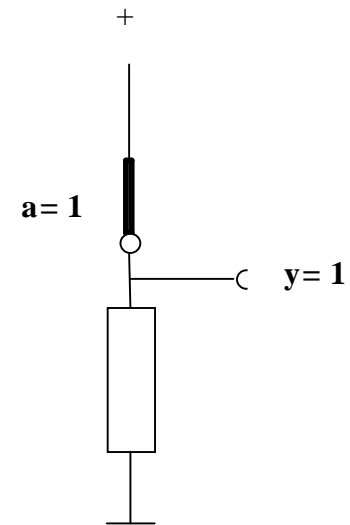
George Boole (1815 – 1864)

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# Boolean Algebra

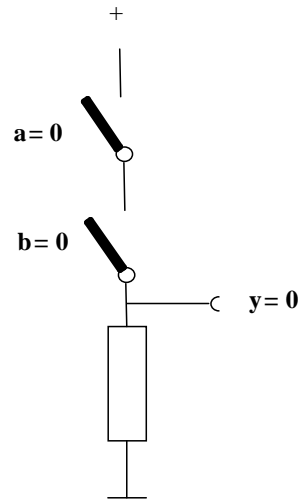


- Switch **a** is open
- Output **y** without voltage



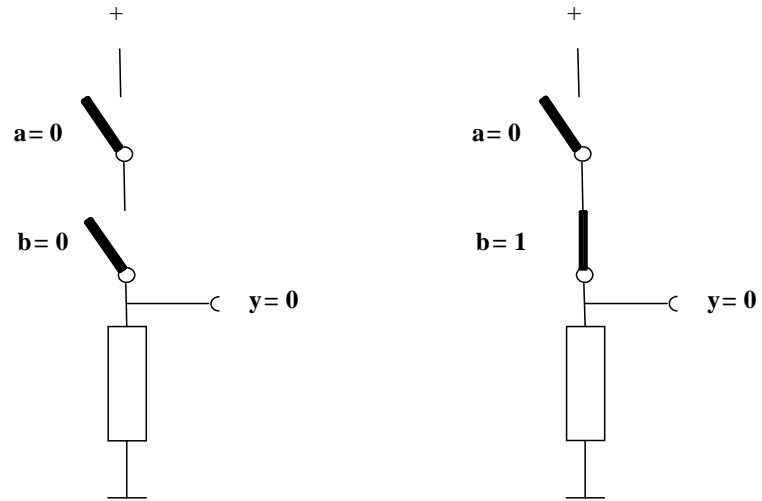
- Switch **a** is closed
- Output **y** under voltage

# Boolean Algebra



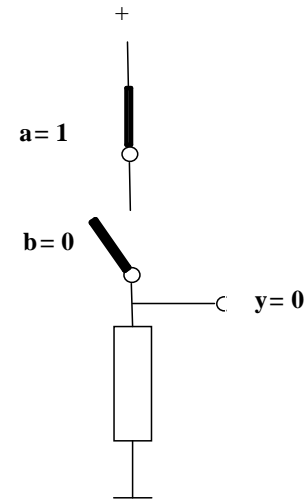
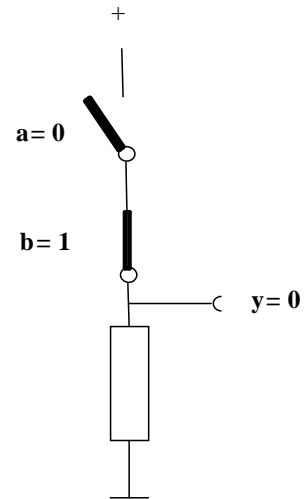
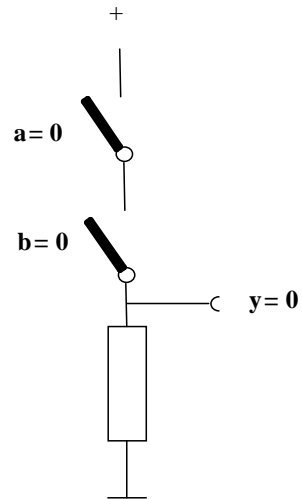
- Switches **a** and **b** are open
- Output **y** without voltage

# Boolean Algebra



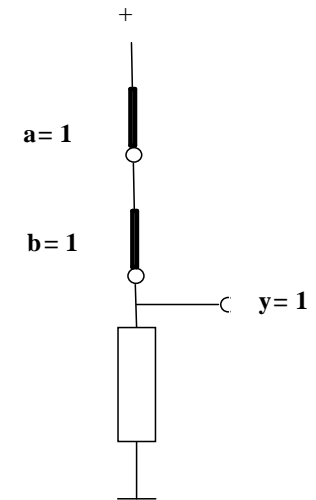
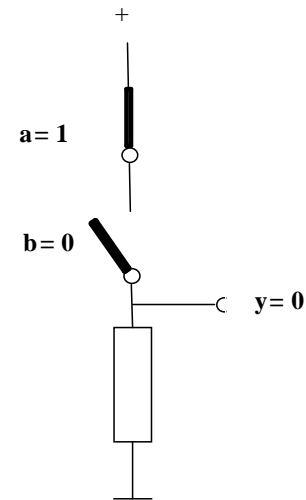
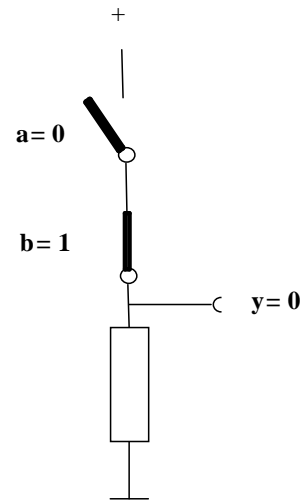
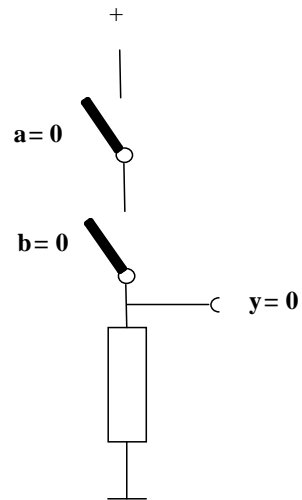
- Switches **a** and **b** are open
- Switch **a** is open, **b** is closed
- Output **y** without voltage
- Output **y** without voltage

# Boolean Algebra



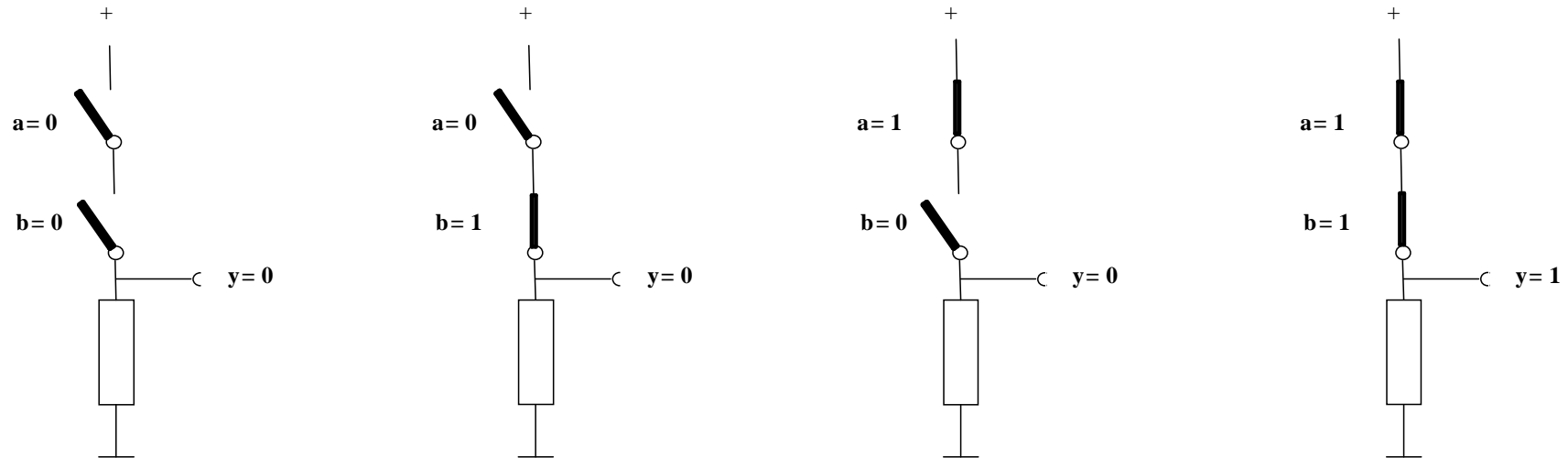
- Switches **a** and **b** are open
- Output **y** without voltage
- Switch **a** is open, **b** is closed
- Output **y** without voltage
- Switch **a** is closed, **b** is open
- Output **y** without voltage

# Boolean Algebra



- Switches **a** and **b** are open
- Switch **a** is open, **b** is closed
- Switch **a** is closed, **b** is open
- Switches **a** and **b** are closed
- Output **y** without voltage
- Output **y** without voltage
- Output **y** without voltage
- Output **y** without voltage

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches



- Switches **a** and **b** are open
- Switch **a** is open, **b** is closed
- Switch **a** is closed, **b** is open
- Switches **a** and **b** are closed
- Output **y** without voltage
- Output **y** without voltage
- Output **y** without voltage
- Output **y** without voltage

Output **y** under voltage if and only if switches **a** and **b** are closed.

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# Boolean Algebra

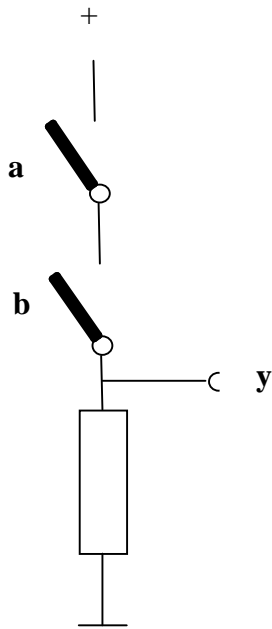
- Algebra on two-valued (binary) variables ← boolean variables (atoms)
  - Boolean operators → to form boolean functions (formulas):
    - Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$   
 $a \wedge b = 1$  if and only if  $a=1$  and  $b=1$
-



# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

**Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$**

$$y = a \wedge b$$



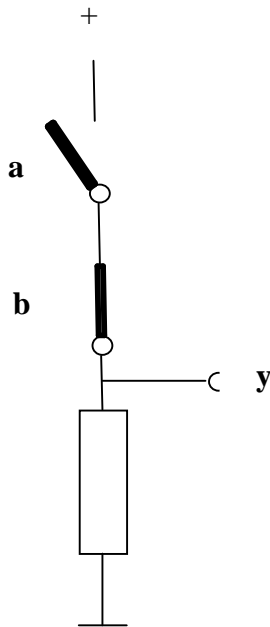
a	b	y
0	0	0

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0$$

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

**Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$**

$$y = a \wedge b$$



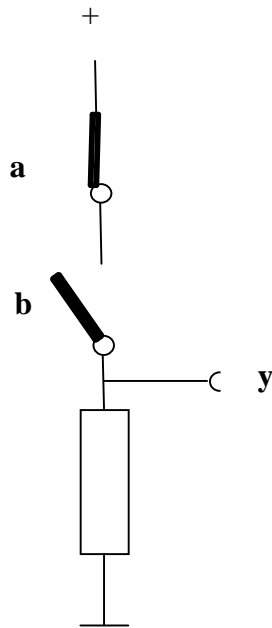
a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	0

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0$$
$$0 \wedge 1 = 0$$

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

**Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$**

$$y = a \wedge b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0$$

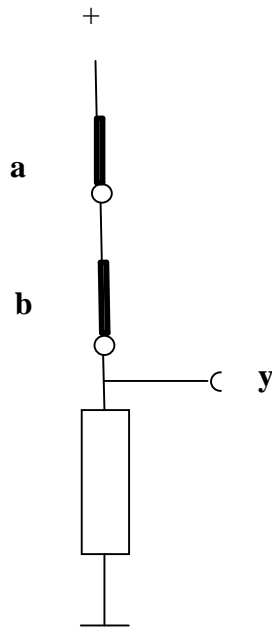
$$0 \wedge 1 = 0$$

$$1 \wedge 0 = 0$$

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

**Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$**

$$y = a \wedge b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$0 \wedge 1 = 0$$

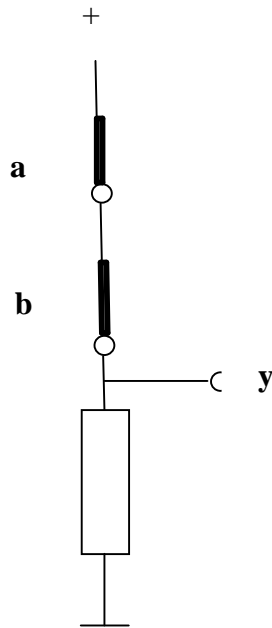
$$1 \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$1 \wedge 1 = 1$$

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

**SYNTAX** → **Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$**

$$y = a \wedge b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

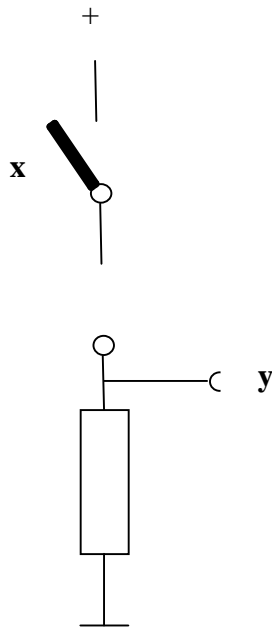
$$\begin{aligned} 0 \wedge 0 &= 0 \\ 0 \wedge 1 &= 0 \\ 1 \wedge 0 &= 0 \\ 1 \wedge 1 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

**SEMANTICS**

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

**Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$**

$$y = a \wedge b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$0 \wedge 1 = 0$$

$$1 \wedge 0 = 0$$

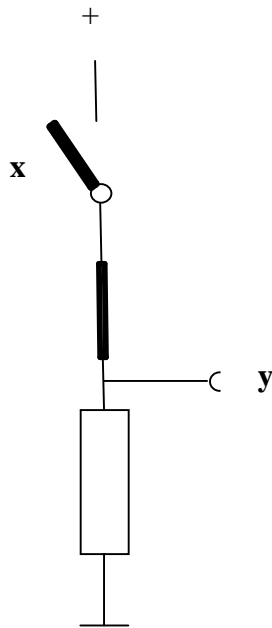
$$1 \wedge 1 = 1$$

$$x \wedge 0 = 0$$

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

**Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$**

$$y = a \wedge b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$0 \wedge 1 = 0$$

$$1 \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$1 \wedge 1 = 1$$

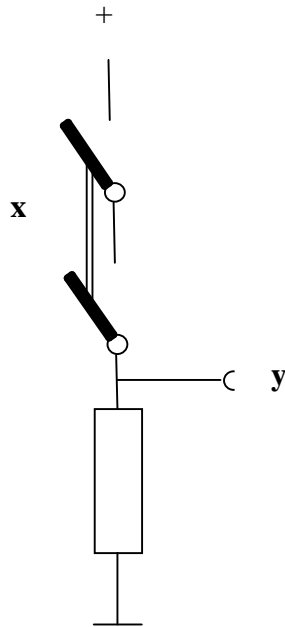
$$x \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$x \wedge 1 = x$$

# Boolean Algebra → Serial Switches

## Conjunction (AND): $\wedge$

$$y = a \wedge b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

$$0 \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$0 \wedge 1 = 0$$

$$1 \wedge 0 = 0$$

$$1 \wedge 1 = 1$$

$$x \wedge 0 = 0$$

(Neutral Element 1)  $x \wedge 1 = x$

(Idempotence)  $x \wedge x = x$



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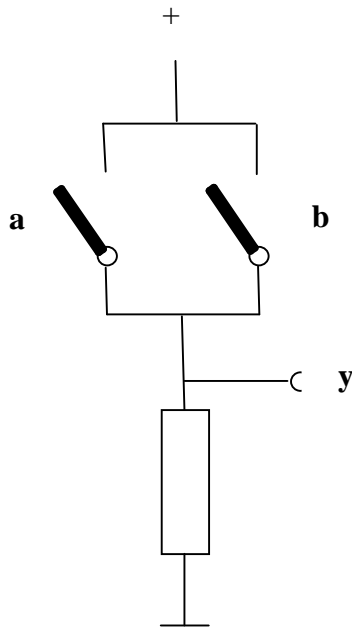
# Boolean Algebra

- Algebra on two-valued (binary) variables ← boolean variables
  - Boolean operators:
    - Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$   
 $a \wedge b = 1$  if and only if  $a=1$  and  $b=1$
    - Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$   
 $a \vee b = 1$  if and only if  $a=1$  or  $b=1$
-

# Boolean Algebra → Parallel Switches

**Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$**

$$y = a \vee b$$



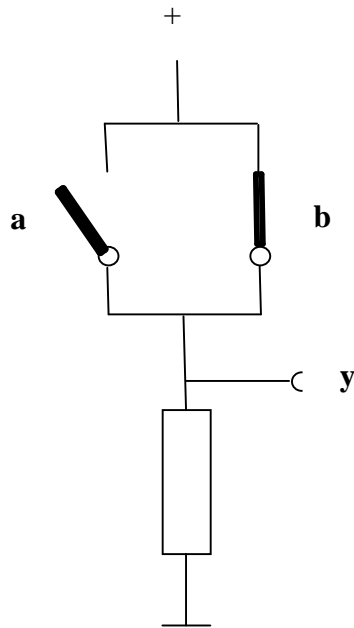
a	b	y
0	0	0

$$0 \vee 0 = 0$$

# Boolean Algebra → Parallel Switches

**Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$**

$$y = a \vee b$$



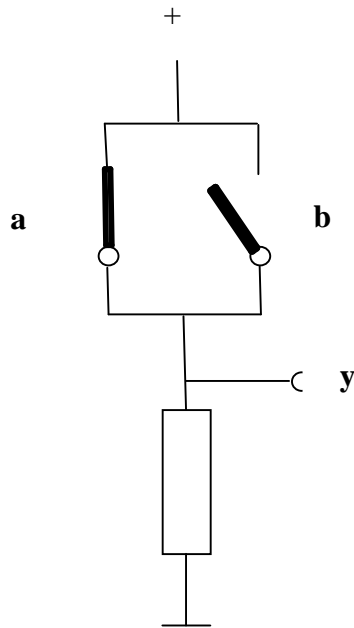
a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	1

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \vee 0 &= 0 \\ 0 \vee 1 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

# Boolean Algebra → Parallel Switches

**Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$**

$$y = a \vee b$$



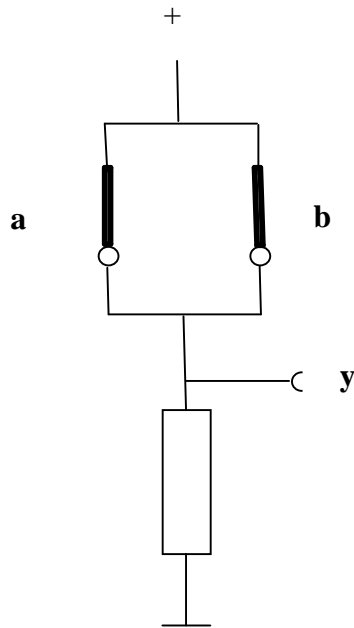
a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \vee 0 &= 0 \\ 0 \vee 1 &= 1 \\ 1 \vee 0 &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

# Boolean Algebra → Parallel Switches

**Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$**

$$y = a \vee b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

$$0 \vee 0 = 0$$

$$0 \vee 1 = 1$$

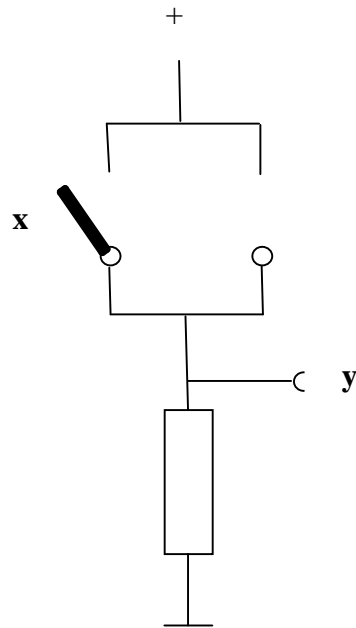
$$1 \vee 0 = 1$$

$$1 \vee 1 = 1$$

# Boolean Algebra → Parallel Switches

**Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$**

$$y = a \vee b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

$$0 \vee 0 = 0$$

$$0 \vee 1 = 1$$

$$1 \vee 0 = 1$$

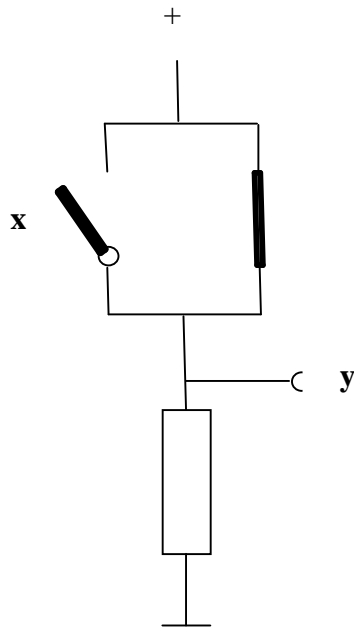
$$1 \vee 1 = 1$$

(Neutral Element 0)  $x \vee 0 = x$

# Boolean Algebra → Parallel Switches

**Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$**

$$y = a \vee b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

$$0 \vee 0 = 0$$

$$0 \vee 1 = 1$$

$$1 \vee 0 = 1$$

$$1 \vee 1 = 1$$

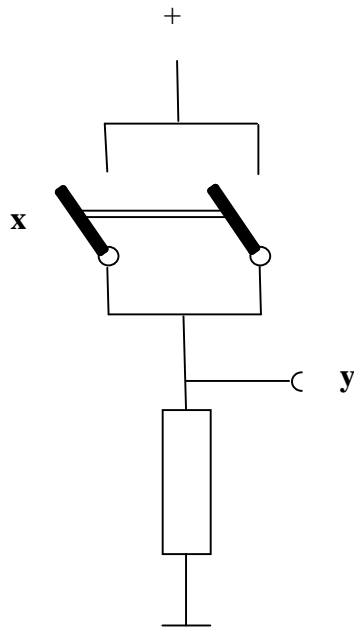
(Neutral Element 0)  $x \vee 0 = x$

$$x \vee 1 = 1$$

# Boolean Algebra → Parallel Switches

**Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$**

$$y = a \vee b$$



a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

$$0 \vee 0 = 0$$

$$0 \vee 1 = 1$$

$$1 \vee 0 = 1$$

$$1 \vee 1 = 1$$

(Neutral Element 0)  $x \vee 0 = x$

$$x \vee 1 = 1$$

(Idempotence)  $x \vee x = x$



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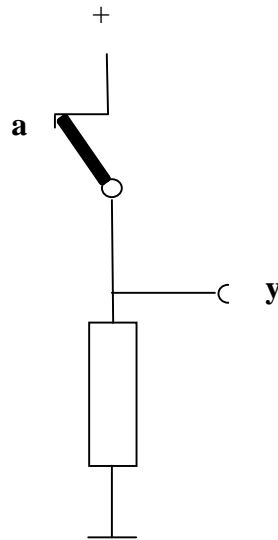
# Boolean Algebra

- Algebra on two-valued (binary) variables ← boolean variables
  - Boolean operators:
    - Conjunction (AND):  $\wedge$   
 $a \wedge b = 1$  if and only if  $a=1$  and  $b=1$
    - Disjunction (OR):  $\vee$   
 $a \vee b = 1$  if and only if  $a=1$  or  $b=1$
    - Negation (NOT):  $\neg$   
 $\neg a = 1$  if and only if  $a=0$
-

# Boolean Algebra

**Negation (NOT):  $\neg$**

$$y = \neg a$$



a	y
0	1
1	0

$$\neg 0 = 1$$
$$\neg 1 = 0$$

# Boolean Algebra

- Algebra on two-valued (binary) variables ← boolean variables
- Boolean operators (lowest to highest precedence):  $\wedge$ ,  $\vee$ ,  $\neg$

a	b	$a \wedge b$
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

a	b	$a \vee b$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

a	$\neg a$
0	1
1	0

**Truth Tables** (Wahrheitstafel)

**Example:** Construct the truth table of the *boolean function*  $f = a \vee (\neg b \wedge c)$ .

# Boolean Algebra – Axioms/Laws (Gesetz)

<b>Neutral elements (identity)</b>	$a \wedge 1 = a$
	$a \vee 0 = a$
<b>Zero elements</b>	$a \wedge 0 = 0$
	$a \vee 1 = 1$
<b>Idempotence</b>	$a \wedge a = a$
	$a \vee a = a$
<b>Negation</b>	$a \wedge \neg a = 0$
	$a \vee \neg a = 1$
<b>Commutative</b>	$a \wedge b = b \wedge a$
	$a \vee b = b \vee a$
<b>Associative</b>	$a \wedge (b \wedge c) = (a \wedge b) \wedge c$
	$a \vee (b \vee c) = (a \vee b) \vee c$
<b>Distributive</b>	$a \wedge (b \vee c) = (a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge c)$
	$a \vee (b \wedge c) = (a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee c)$

Note: Every axiom has a *dual* one: replace  $\vee$ , 0 with  $\wedge$ , 1.

Duality:  $\neg f(x,y) = g(\neg x, \neg y)$

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# Boolean Algebra – DeMorgan Axioms

- DeMorgan's Theorems for **negating** a boolean function:
  - Negate boolean variables;
  - Change  $\wedge$  to  $\vee$  and  $\vee$  to  $\wedge$  ;

- DeMorgan's axioms:

$$\neg (a \wedge b) = (\neg a) \vee (\neg b) \longleftarrow \text{called a NAND}$$

$$\neg (a \vee b) = (\neg a) \wedge (\neg b) \longleftarrow \text{called a NOR}$$

---

# Boolean Algebra – Axioms with DeMorgan's Axioms

<b>Neutral elements (identity)</b>	$a \wedge 1 = a$
	$a \vee 0 = a$
<b>Zero elements</b>	$a \wedge 0 = 0$
	$a \vee 1 = 1$
<b>Idempotence</b>	$a \wedge a = a$
	$a \vee a = a$
<b>Negation</b>	$a \wedge \neg a = 0$
	$a \vee \neg a = 1$
<b>Commutative</b>	$a \wedge b = b \wedge a$
	$a \vee b = b \vee a$
<b>Associative</b>	$a \wedge (b \wedge c) = (a \wedge b) \wedge c$
	$a \vee (b \vee c) = (a \vee b) \vee c$
<b>Distributive</b>	$a \wedge (b \vee c) = (a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge c)$
	$a \vee (b \wedge c) = (a \vee b) \wedge (a \vee c)$
<b>DeMorgan's</b>	$\neg (a \wedge b) = (\neg a) \vee (\neg b)$
	$\neg (a \vee b) = (\neg a) \wedge (\neg b)$

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# Proof using Axioms

- Axioms can be used to prove new *theorems*:
    - Theorems are of the form  $f=g$  ( $f, g$  are boolean functions);
    - Proof by using *simplifications* of  $f$  to yield  $g$ .
      - Simplification of  $f$ :
        - transforming  $f$  by repeated application of axioms;
        - yields an equivalent new function with fewer boolean operators.
  - **Examples:**
    - $\neg(a \vee b) \wedge \neg((\neg a) \vee (\neg b)) = 0$
    - **Absorption Axioms:**
      - $a \vee (a \wedge b) = a$
      - $a \wedge (a \vee b) = a$
-

# Boolean Algebra – Special Boolean Functions

## XOR: Exclusive OR (Antivalenz)

$$y = a \neq b$$

y is 1 if exactly one of the variables a and b is 1.

a	b	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

$$0 \neq 0 = 0$$

$$0 \neq 1 = 1$$

$$1 \neq 0 = 1$$

$$1 \neq 1 = 0$$

$$x \neq 0 = x$$

$$x \neq 1 = \neg x$$

$$x \neq x = 0$$



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# Boolean Algebra – Special Boolean Functions

a implies b

if a is 1 then b is also 1

Implication  $\Rightarrow$

$$y = a \Rightarrow b$$

y is 1 if and only if a is 0 or b is 1

a	b	y
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

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# Boolean Algebra – Special Boolean Functions

a implies b

if a is 1 then b is also 1

**Implication  $\Rightarrow$**

$$y = a \Rightarrow b = \neg a \vee b$$

y is 1 if and only if a is 0 or b is 1

a	b	y
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	1

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# Boolean Algebra – Special Boolean Functions

Equivalence  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$y = a \Leftrightarrow b = (a \Rightarrow b) \wedge (b \Rightarrow a)$$

a	b	y
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

---

# Boolean Algebra – Precedence of Boolean Operators

Operator	Name	Priority (Precedence)
$\neg$	Negation	4
$\wedge$	Conjunction	3
$\vee$	Disjunction	3
$\Rightarrow$	Implication	2
$\Leftrightarrow$	Equivalence	1

Example:  $\neg a \wedge b \Rightarrow c \vee d \Leftrightarrow e$

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# Boolean Algebra – truth value (Wahrheit) of a boolean function $f$

- $f$  is a tautology if:

$f = 1$  in *all* situations (f is always 1)

Example:  $(a \wedge (a \Rightarrow b)) \Rightarrow b$  (Modus Ponens Axiom)

- $f$  is contradiction if:

$f = 0$  in *all* situations (f is always 0)

Example:  $a \wedge \neg a$

- $f$  is satisfiable (valid, erfüllbar) if:

$f = 1$  in *some* situation

Example:  $(a \Rightarrow b) \wedge (a \wedge b \Rightarrow c) \Rightarrow (a \Rightarrow c)$  is a tautology and thus satisfiable.  
 $(a \Rightarrow b) \wedge c$  is satisfiable, but is not a tautology

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# Boolean Algebra – checking satisfiability is hard

I can't get no satisfaction

And I try,

And I try,

And I try,

And I try, ...

The Rolling Stones

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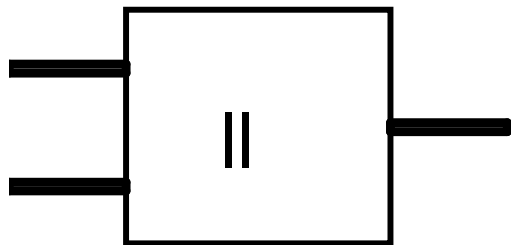
# Boolean Algebra – All Boolean Functions with 2 Parameters

a 0011 b 0101	
0000	$y_0 = 0$
0001	$y_1 = a \wedge b$
0010	$y_2 = a \wedge \neg b$
0011	$y_3 = a$
0100	$y_4 = \neg a \wedge b$
0101	$y_5 = b$
0110	$y_6 = a \neq b$
0111	$y_7 = a \vee b$

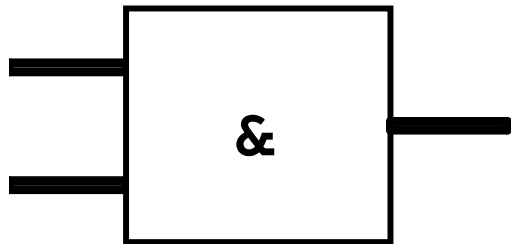
a 0011 b 0101	
1111	$y_{15} = 1$
1110	$y_{14} = \neg a \vee \neg b$
1101	$y_{13} = \neg a \vee b$
1100	$y_{12} = \neg a$
1011	$y_{11} = a \vee \neg b$
1010	$y_{10} = \neg b$
1001	$y_9 = a \Leftrightarrow b$
1000	$y_8 = \neg a \wedge \neg b$

---

# Half Adder (Halbaddierwerk)



**OR-Gate** (Gatter)

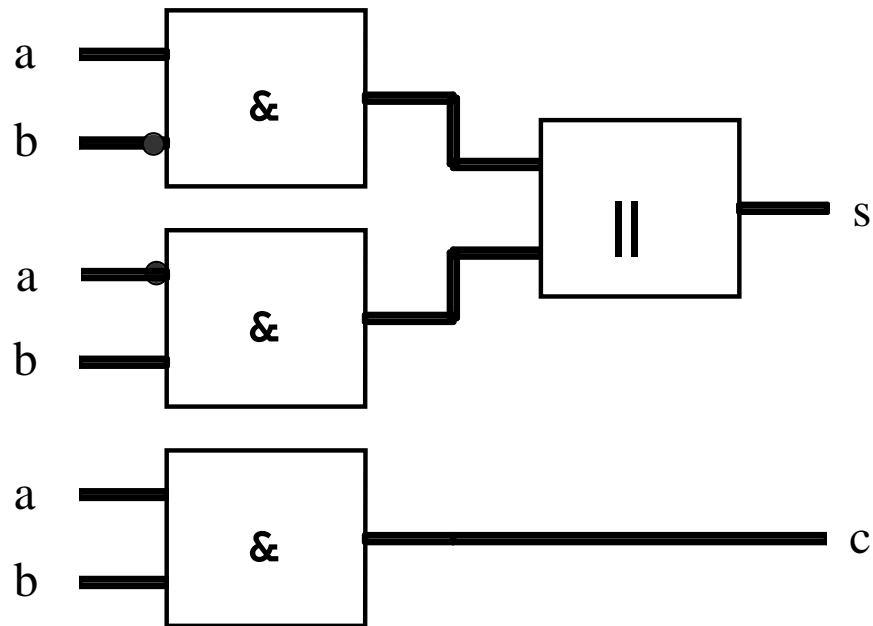


**AND-Gate**

---



# Half Adder



a	b	c	s
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1
1	1	1	0

XOR

$$s = (\neg a \wedge b) \vee (a \wedge \neg b)$$
$$c = (a \wedge b)$$

---

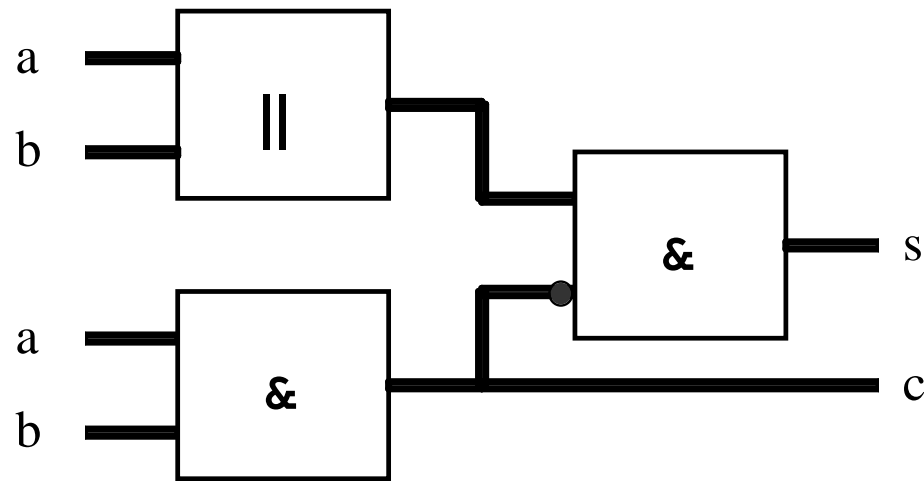
# Half Adder – Simplifications

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{s} &= (\neg \mathbf{a} \wedge \mathbf{b}) \vee (\mathbf{a} \wedge \neg \mathbf{b}) = \\ &= ((\neg \mathbf{a} \wedge \mathbf{b}) \vee \mathbf{a}) \wedge ((\neg \mathbf{a} \wedge \mathbf{b}) \vee \neg \mathbf{b}) = \\ &= (\neg \mathbf{a} \vee \mathbf{a}) \wedge (\mathbf{b} \vee \mathbf{a}) \wedge (\neg \mathbf{a} \vee \neg \mathbf{b}) \wedge (\mathbf{b} \vee \neg \mathbf{b}) = \\ &= (\mathbf{b} \vee \mathbf{a}) \wedge (\neg \mathbf{a} \vee \neg \mathbf{b}) = \\ &= (\mathbf{a} \vee \mathbf{b}) \wedge \neg (\mathbf{a} \wedge \mathbf{b}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{c} = (\mathbf{a} \wedge \mathbf{b})$$

---

# Half Adder - Optimized



a	b	c	s
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1
1	1	1	0

$$s = (a \vee b) \wedge \neg(a \wedge b)$$
$$c = (a \wedge b)$$