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,

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).

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.
A logic function $f$ has a disjoint bi-decomposition if $f$ can be represented as $f = h(g_1(X_1); g_2(X_2))$, where $X_1$ and $X_2$ are disjoint sets of variables, and $h$ is an arbitrary two-variable logic function. $f$ has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition if $f$ 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.
Figure 2.1: Decomposition chart.

(a) $X_1 = (x_1, x_2)$, $X_2 = (x_1, x_3)$
(b) $X_1 = (x_1, x_2)$, $X_2 = (x_2, x_3)$

Figure 3.3: Functions in Example 3.2

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 $h(g_1(X_1, 0), g_2(X_2, 0))$ and $h(g_1(X_1, 1), g_2(X_2, 1))$, respectively.

Example 3.1 Consider the three-variable function:

$$f(x, y, z) = \overline{x} \overline{y}z \lor xy.$$ Suppose modules that realize 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 $z$ is

$$f(x, y, z) = \overline{z} f(0, y, z) \lor z f(1, y, z), \text{ where } f(0, y, z) = \overline{y} z,$$

and $f(1, y, z) = y z$. Note that both $f(0, y, z)$ and $f(1, y, z)$ have bi-decompositions with $h(x, y) = xy$. Since,

$$g_1(x, y) = \overline{x}g_0(x, y) \lor xg_1(x, y) = \overline{x} \overline{y}z \lor xy, \text{ and } g_2(x, y) = \overline{x}g_0(x, y) \lor xg_1(x, y) = \overline{x} \overline{z} \lor xy.$$ We have $f(x, y, z) = g_1(x, y)g_2(x, z) = (\overline{x} \overline{y}z \lor xy)(\overline{x} \overline{z} \lor xy)$. From this expression, we have the network in Fig. 3.2. This network requires only three modules.

Example 3.2 Consider the five-variable function $f = \overline{x}_3f_0 \lor x_5f_1$, 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 $h(g_1(X_1), g_2(X_2), f = \overline{x}_3f_0 \lor x_5f_1$ has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition as follows:

$$f = \overline{x}_3[\overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_2 \lor x_3 x_4] \lor x_3[x_1 x_2 \lor (x_3 \lor x_4)]$$

$$= \overline{x}_3[\overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_2 \lor x_3 x_4] \lor [x_3(x_3) \lor x_3(x_3 \lor x_4)]$$

The converse is true also.

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,

$$h(g_1(X_1, x), g_2(X_2, x)) = \overline{x} h(g_1(X_1, 0), g_2(X_2, 0)) \lor x h(g_1(X_1, 1), g_2(X_2, 1)).$$

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.
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: $f = g_1(X_1) \lor g_2(X_2)$.
2. AND type: $f = g_1(X_1) \land g_2(X_2)$, and
3. EXOR type: $f = g_1(X_1) \oplus g_2(X_2)$.

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

Definition 4.1 $x$ and $\tilde{x}$ 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 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 $f$; if $\bar{x}_i$ appears in $p$, then set $x_i$ in $0$ in $f$.

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

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

Example 4.2 By Lemma 4.1, $x_1 x_3$ is an implicant of $x_1 x_2 \lor \bar{x}_2 x_3$, shown in Example 4.1. □

Theorem 4.1 (OR type disjoint bi-decomposition) $f$ has a disjoint bi-decomposition of form $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \lor g_2(X_2)$ 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 $f(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$ has a PI of the form $x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n}$, where $a_i \in \{0, 1\}$, then $f$ has no OR type disjoint bi-decomposition.

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

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

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 $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \lor g_2(X_2)$, 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: $f(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_6) = x_1 x_2 \lor x_2 x_3 \lor x_4 x_5 \lor x_5 x_6$. 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 $x_1$, $x_5$, 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 $f(X_1, X_2) = g_1(X_1) \lor g_2(X_2)$, where $X_1 = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$ and $X_2 = (x_4, x_5, x_6)$. □

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

1. The product $x_1 x_2 x_3$ shows that $x_1$, $x_2$, and $x_3$ belong to the same block.

2. The product $x_3 x_4 x_5$ 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. □

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

$$f(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = a_0 \oplus (a_1 x_1 \oplus a_2 x_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus a_n x_n) \oplus (a_{12} x_1 x_2 \oplus a_{13} x_1 x_3 \cdots \oplus a_{n-1 n} x_{n-1} x_n) \oplus \cdots \oplus a_{12 \cdots n} x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n,$$

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 $a_0, a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_{12 \cdots n}$ 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 $f(x_1, x_2) = g_1(x_1) \oplus g_2(x_2)$ if 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 $x_1x_2\cdots x_n$, 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 $x_i (i = 1, 2, \ldots, n)$ be the input variables of $f$. Let $p_1 \oplus p_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus p_t$ be PPRM for $f$, where $p_i (i = 1, 2, \ldots, t)$ are products. Let $\Pi_0$ be the trivial partition of $\{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$, $\Pi_0 = \{\{1\}, \{2\}, \ldots, \{n\}\}$.

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 $\Pi_t$ 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 $\Pi_t$ and $X_2$ the union of the remaining blocks.

Example 4.5 Consider the PPRM: $f(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_6) = x_1x_2 \oplus x_2x_3 \oplus x_4x_5 \oplus x_5x_6$. 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 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 $X_2 = (x_4, x_5, x_6)$.

Algorithm 4.3 (Non-disjoint bi-decomposition).

$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = g_1(x_1, x_3) \oplus g_2(x_2, x_3)$, where $\oplus$ denotes either OR, AND, or EXOR. Let $(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ be a partition of the variables $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$. For $i = 1$ to $n$, do

i) Let $f_0 = f(x_1, x_2, 0)$. (Set $x_i$ to 0). Let $f_1 = f(x_1, x_2, 1)$. (Set $x_i$ to 1).

ii) If both $f_0$ and $f_1$ have the same type of disjoint bi-decompositions with the same partition, then $f$ has a non-disjoint bi-decomposition.
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 $x_i f(\{\overline{x}_i\}) \neq f(x_i)$.

**Definition 6.2** Two functions $f$ and $g$ are NP-equivalent, denoted by $f \sim_{NP} g$, if $g$ 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 $f \sim_{NP} g$, 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.

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 $f = \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_3 \vee x_1 x_2$. This function has three types of non-disjoint bi-decompositions:

\[
\begin{align*}
&f = \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_3 \vee x_1 x_2 \\ &\equiv \overline{x}_1 \overline{x}_3 \oplus x_1 x_2 \\ &\equiv (x_1 \vee x_3)(\overline{x}_1 \vee x_2) \\
&\text{(AND type bi-decomposition)}
\end{align*}
\]

Table 6.1: NP-representative functions of three variables.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representative functions</th>
<th>$N$</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$f_1 \oplus f_2 \oplus f_3$</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>EXOR</td>
<td>Disjoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f_1 x_2 x_3$</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Bi-Decomposition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f_1 \vee x_2 x_3$</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Bi-Decomposition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f_1 x_2 \vee x_3$</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f_1 \vee x_2 x_3$</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$x_1 (x_2 \oplus x_3)$</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>AND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f_1 \vee (x_2 \oplus x_3)$</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$f_1 \oplus x_2 x_3$</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>EXOR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Table 6.2: Number of functions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$n$</th>
<th>Nondegenerate functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>6536</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Functions with bi-decomposition</th>
<th>Disjoint</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>EXOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-disjoint</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>3894</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2 The number of functions with bi-decompositions

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

\[ a(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k}(-1)^{n-k} 2^{2^{k}} \sim 2^{2^{n}}, \]

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

**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 $N_{\text{disjoin}}(n)$ with disjoint bi-decompositions is $N_{\text{disjoin}}(n) = A_{\text{dis}}(n) + O_{\text{dis}}(n) + E_{\text{dis}}(n)$, where

\[ A_{\text{dis}}(n) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \alpha(i) \sum_{k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_n} \frac{1}{k_1! k_2! \cdots k_n!} \]

5
Table 7.1: Number of functions with bi-decompositions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decomposition Type</th>
<th>Number of Functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disjoint</td>
<td>AND: 853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR: 264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EXOR: 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-disjoint</td>
<td>AND: 162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR: 91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EXOR: 42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ O_{dis}(n) = \begin{cases} \sum_{k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_n \geq 0}^{n} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left( \binom{a(i) - O_{dis}(i)}{i} \right) \frac{1}{k_1!} & \text{if } O_{dis}(n) = 1 \\ \sum_{k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_n \geq 0}^{n} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left( \binom{a(i) - E_{dis}(i)}{i} \right) \frac{1}{2^k k_1!} & \text{if } E_{dis}(n) = 1 \end{cases} \]

where the sums are over all partitions of \(n\) except the trivial partition \(n = 0 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 2 + \cdots + 0 \cdot (n - 1) + 1 \cdot n\) (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 bi-decompositions. It should be noted that more than 295 functions have both disjoint and non-disjoint bi-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 PPRs 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.

References