

Technology Mapping

Outline

- > What is Technology Mapping?
- > Technology Mapping Algorithms
- > Technology Mapping as Graph Covering
 - = Choosing base functions
 - = Creating subject graph
 - = Tree covering problem
 - = Decomposition
 - = Delay Optimization

Technology Mapping

- > **Technology mapping** is the phase of logic synthesis when gates are selected from a *technology library* to implement the circuit.
- > **Technology mapping** is normally done after technology independent optimization.
- > **Why technology mapping?**
 - = **Straight implementation may not be good.** For example, $F = abcdef$ as a 6-input AND gate cause a long delay.
 - = **Gates in the library are pre-designed, they are usually optimized in terms of area, delay, power, etc.**
 - **Fastest gates along the critical path, area-efficient gates (combination) off the critical path.**

Technology Mapping Algorithms

> Basic Requirements:

- = Provide high quality solutions (circuits).
- = Adapt to different libraries with minimal effort.
 - Library may have irregular logic functions.
- = Support different cost functions.
 - Transistor count, level count, detailed models for area, delay, and power, etc.
- = Be efficient in run time.

> Two Approaches:

- = Rule-based techniques
- = Graph covering techniques (DAG)

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Base Functions

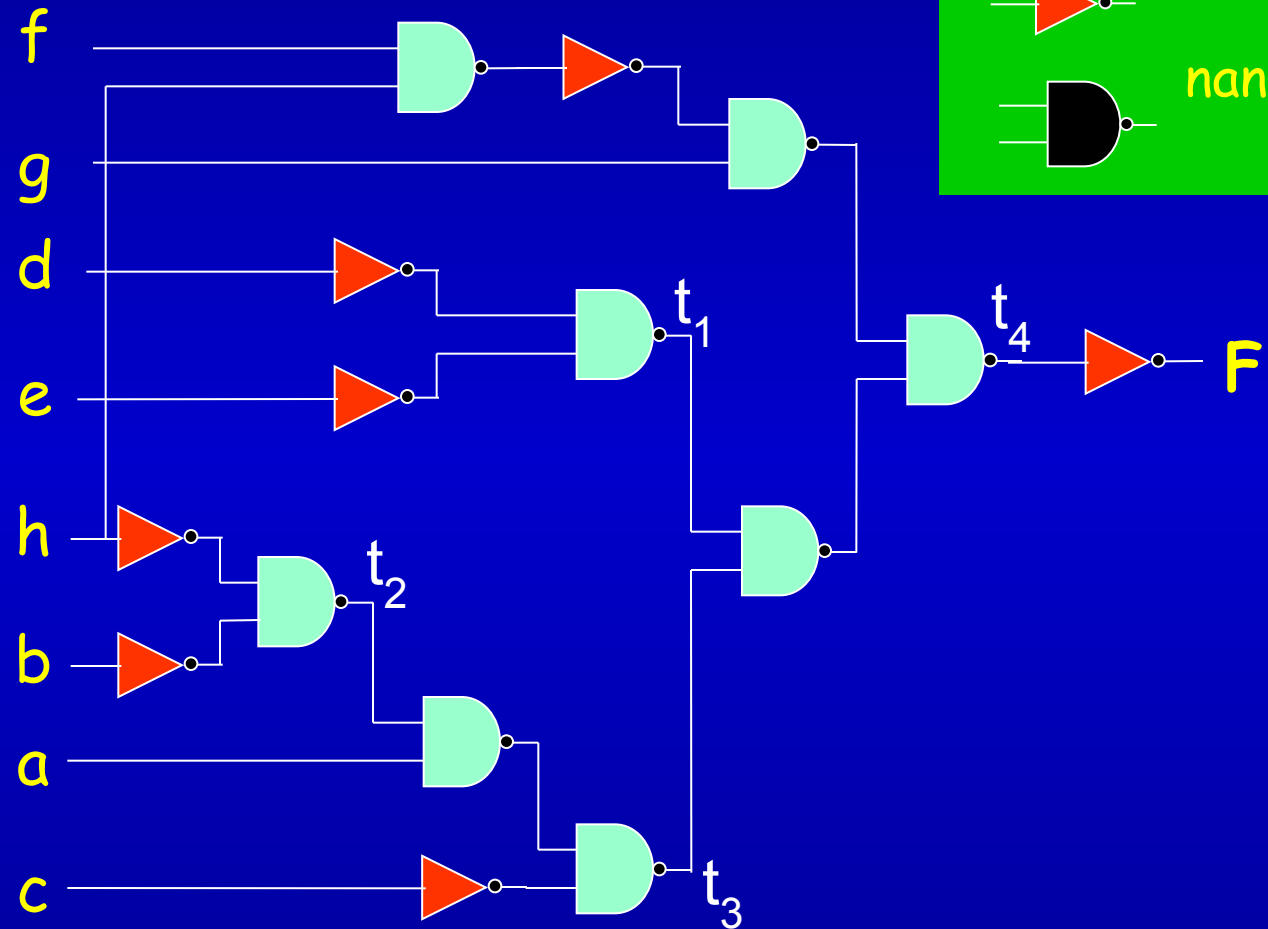
- > **Base function set** is a set of gates which is universal and is used to implement the gates in the technology library.
 - = 2-input AND, 2-input OR, and NOT
 - = 2-input NAND (and NOT)
- > **Recall:** A gate (or a set of gates) is **universal** if it can implement all the Boolean functions, or equivalently, it can implement 2-input AND, 2-input OR, and NOT.
- > **Choose of base functions:**
 - = Universal: able to implement any functions.
 - = Optimal: implement functions efficiently.
 - Introduce redundant gates: 2-input NAND and NOT.

Subject Graph

- > **Subject graph** is the graph representation of a logic function using only gates from a given base function set. (I.e., the nodes are restricted to base functions.).
- > For a given base function set, subject graph for a gate may not be unique.
 - = NAND(a,b,c,d)
 - = NAND(NOT(NAND(a,b)),NOT(NAND(c,d)))
 - = NAND(a,NOT(NAND(b,NOT(NAND(c,d))))))
- > All distinct subject graphs of the same logic have to be considered to obtain **global optimal design**.

Example: Subject Graph

$$\begin{aligned}t_1 &= d + e \\t_2 &= b + h \\t_3 &= at_2 + c \\t_4 &= t_1t_3 + fgh \\F &= t_4'\end{aligned}$$



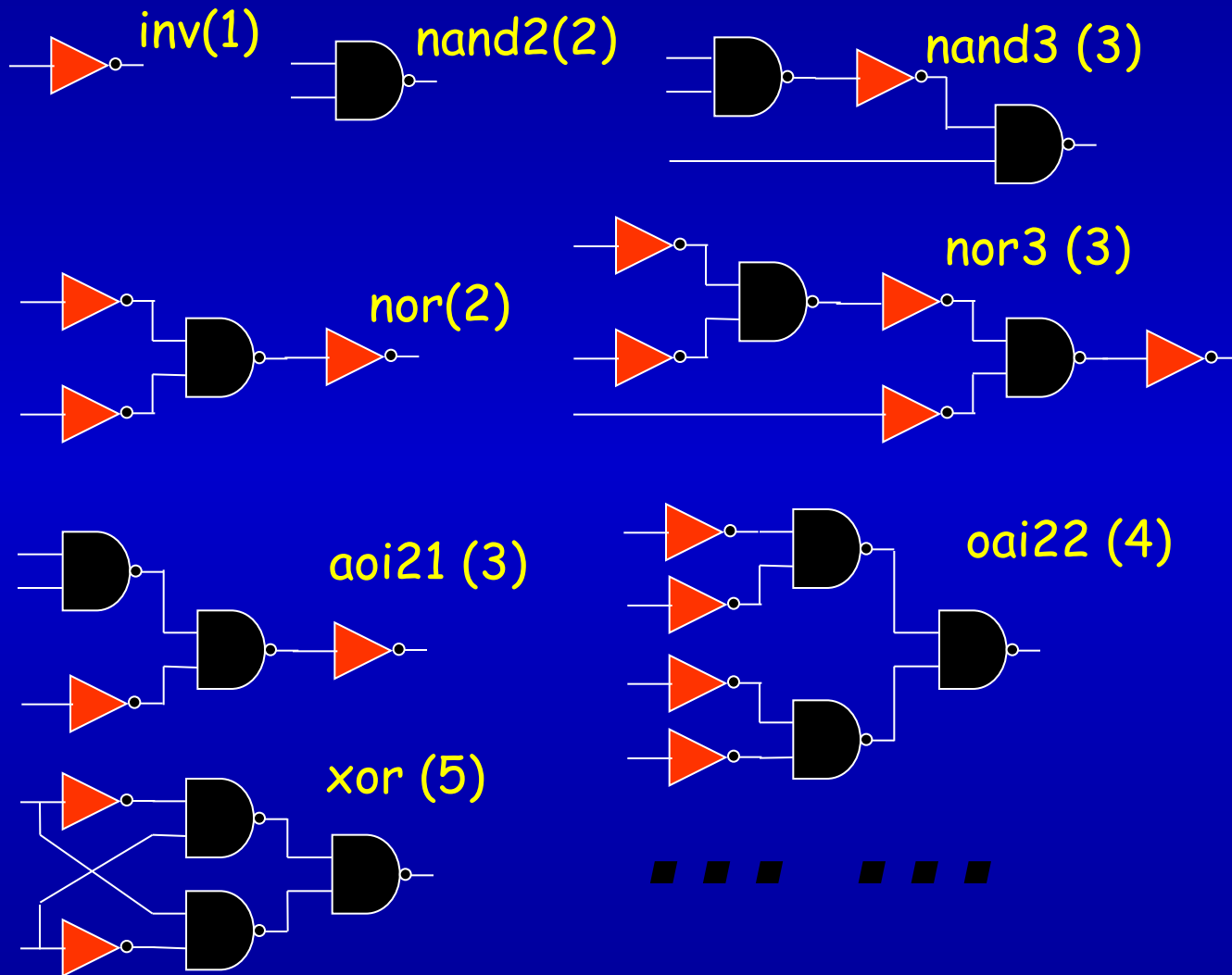
Pattern Graph

- > For any library gate, its logic function can be represented by a graph where each node is one of the base functions. This graph is called a **pattern graph** for this library gate.

A pattern graph is a subject graph when the function represents a library gate.

- > Similarly, all pattern graphs for the same library gate have to be considered.
- > **Tip** on choosing base function set: Choose those that provide a small set of pattern graphs.

Example: Pattern Graphs for the Library



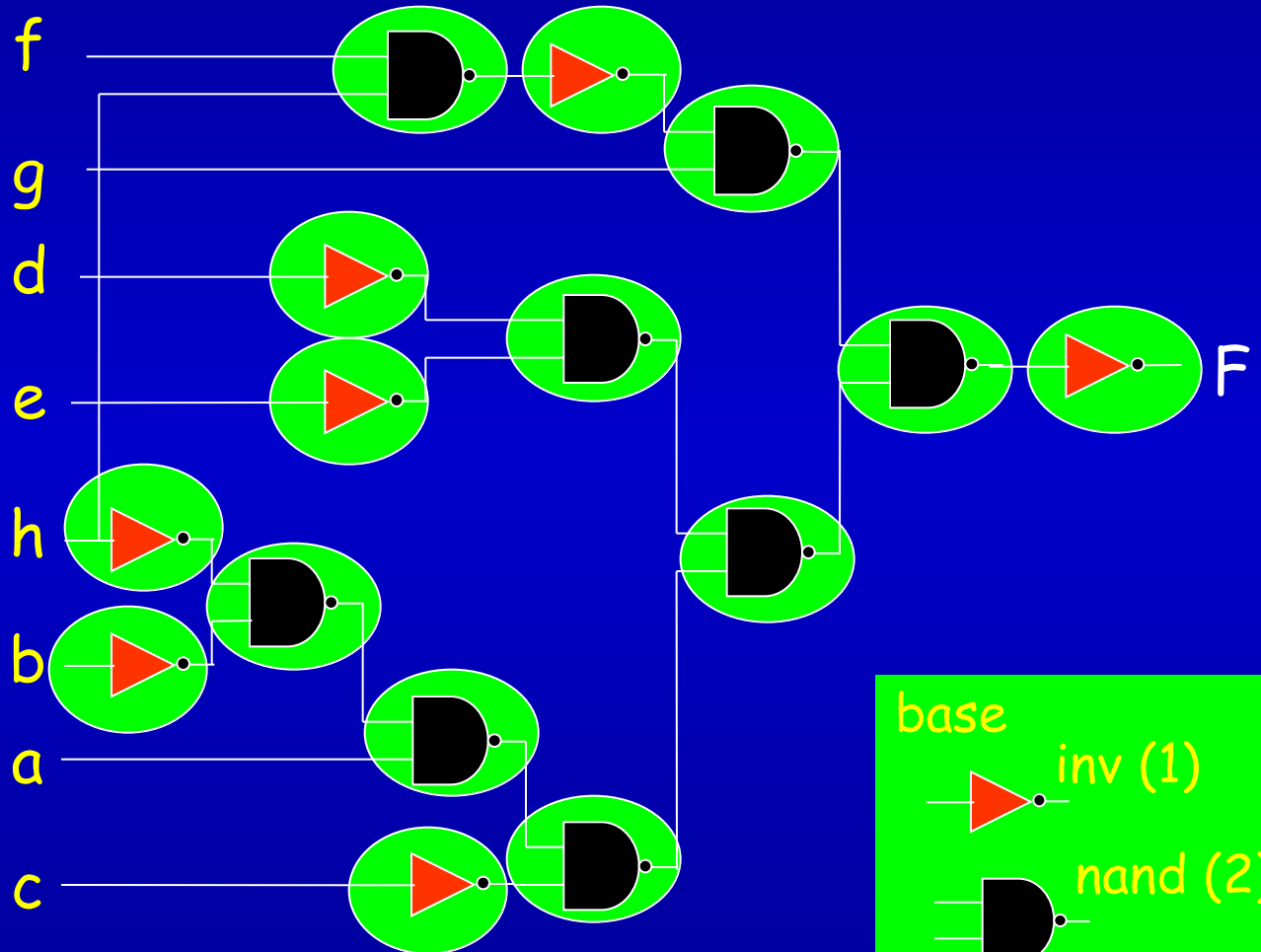
Cover

- > A **cover** is a collection of pattern graphs so that:
 - = every node of the subject graph is contained in one (or more) pattern graphs
 - = each input required by a pattern graph is actually an output of some other pattern graph (i.e. the inputs of one library gate must be outputs from other gates.)
- > Cost of a Cover
 - = **Area**: total area of the library gates used (i.e. gates in the cover).
 - = **Delay**: total delay along the critical path.
 - = **Power**: total power dissipation of the cover.

Example: Subject Graph Cover by Base

$$\begin{aligned}t_1 &= d + e \\t_2 &= b + h \\t_3 &= at_2 + c \\t_4 &= t_1 t_3 + fgh \\F &= t_4'\end{aligned}$$

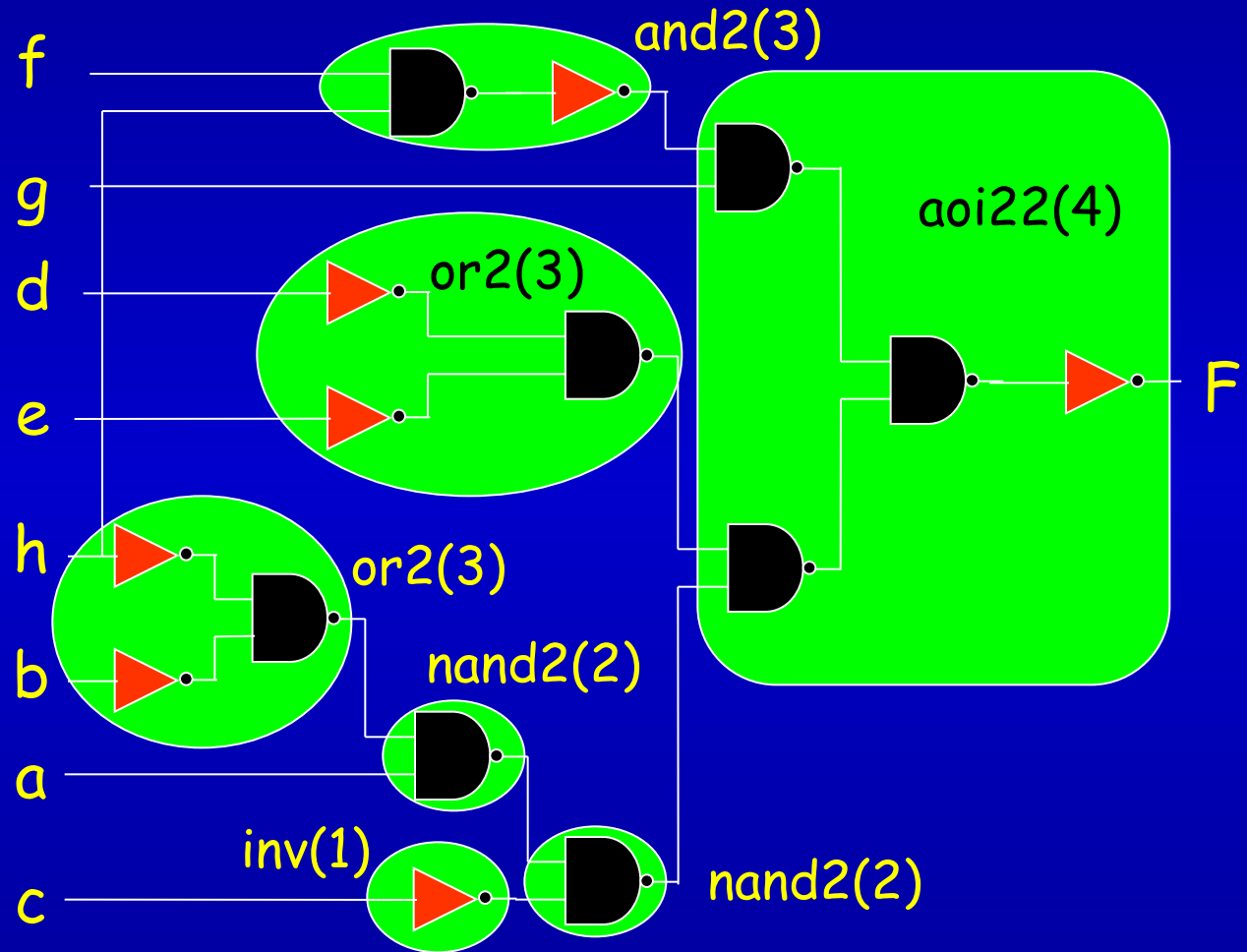
Total cost = 23
(7 inverters and
8 NANDs)



Example: Better Cover Using the Library

$$\begin{aligned}t_1 &= d + e \\t_2 &= b + h \\t_3 &= at_2 + c \\t_4 &= t_1 t_3 + fgh \\F &= t_4'\end{aligned}$$

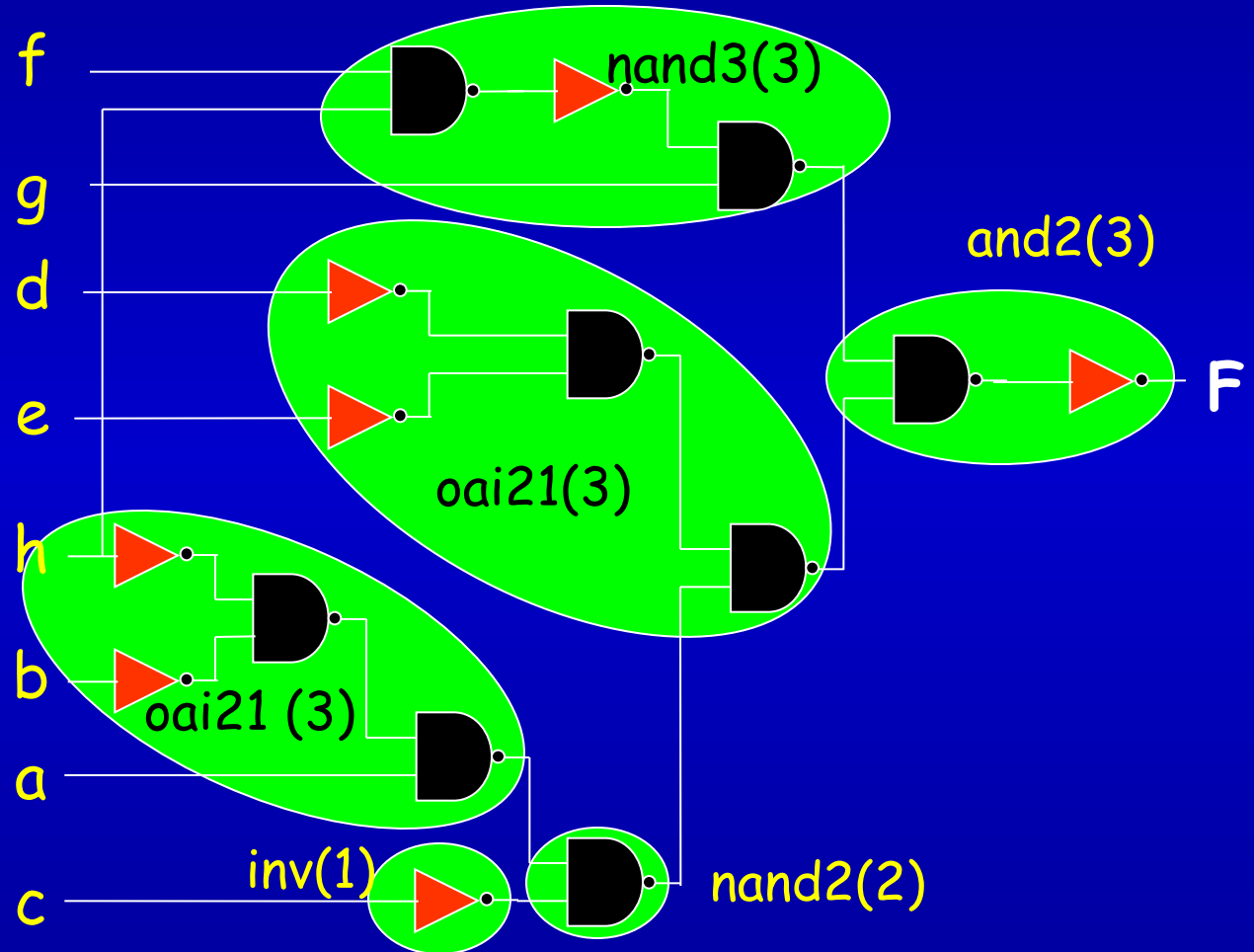
Total cost = 18



Example: Alternate Covering

$$\begin{aligned}
 t_1 &= d + e \\
 t_2 &= b + h \\
 t_3 &= at_2 + c \\
 t_4 &= t_1 t_3 + fgh \\
 F &= t_4'
 \end{aligned}$$

Total cost = 15



Graph Covering Formation

- > Technology mapping problem: Find a **minimum cost cover** of the subject graph by choosing from the collection of pattern graphs for all the gates in the library.
- > *DAG-covering-by-DAG is hard*
 - NP-hard for a simple case:
 - = Only 3 pattern graphs (NOT, 2-input NAND, 2-input NOR)
 - = Each node in the subject graph has no more than 2 fanins and fanouts.
- > Do We Need to Solve the Problem Optimally?
 - = Input logic from technology-independent optimization
 - = Numerous subject graphs for the same logic network

Generic Algorithmic Approach

- > Represent each logic function of the network as a subject graph (DAG);
- > Generate all possible pattern graphs (DAGs) for each gate in the technology library;
- > Find an optimal-cost covering of the subject DAG using the collection of pattern DAGs.

Question: how to solve this NP-hard problem?

= If subject DAG and pattern DAG's are trees, an efficient algorithm exists.

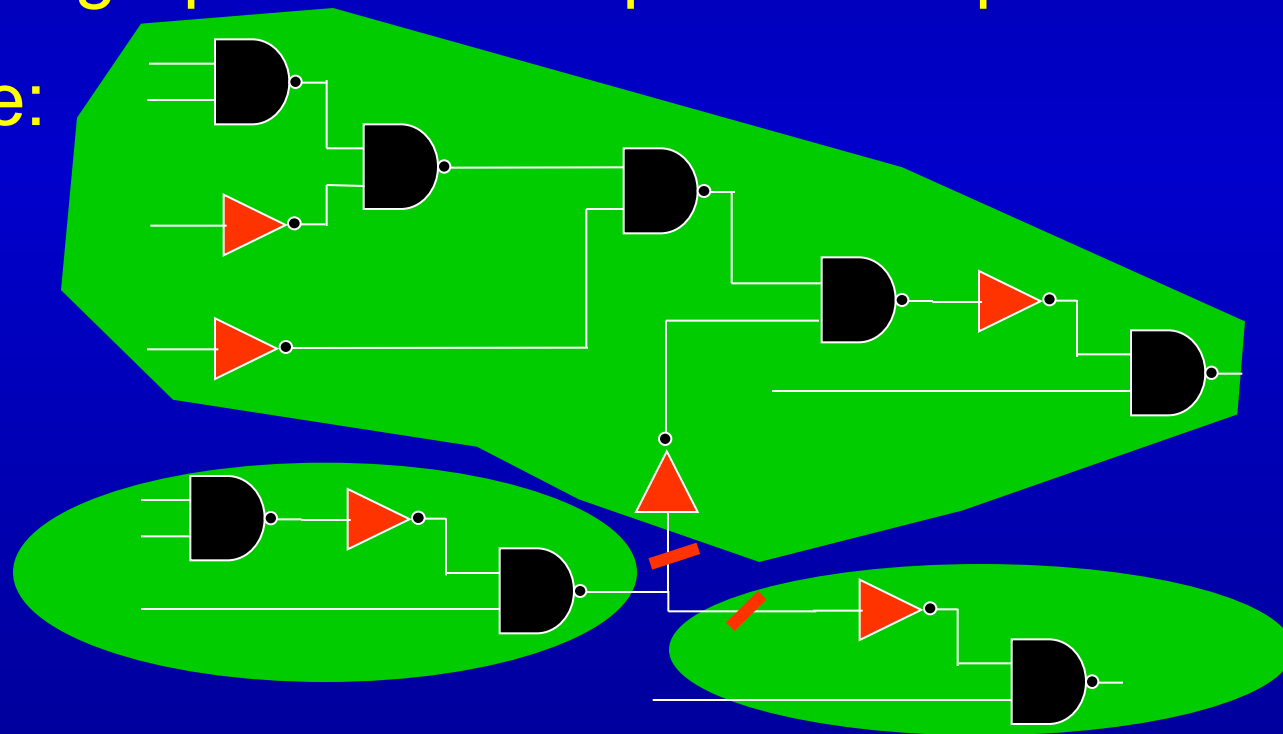
Optimal Tree Covering by Trees

- > Proposed by Keutzer in program DAGON[DAC'87]
- > Basic idea: **dynamic programming**.
- > Procedure:
 - = Partition the subject graph into trees;
 - = Cover each tree optimally;
 - = Piece the tree-cover into a cover for the subject graph.
- > Complexity: finding all sub-trees of the subject graph that are isomorphic to a pattern tree. It is linear in the size of subject tree and the size of the pattern trees.

Partitioning Subject DAGs into Trees

- > **Tree circuit:** a single output circuit in which each gate (except the output) feeds exactly one gate.
- > Break the graph at all multiple-fanout points

> Example:



Tree Covering by Dynamic Programming

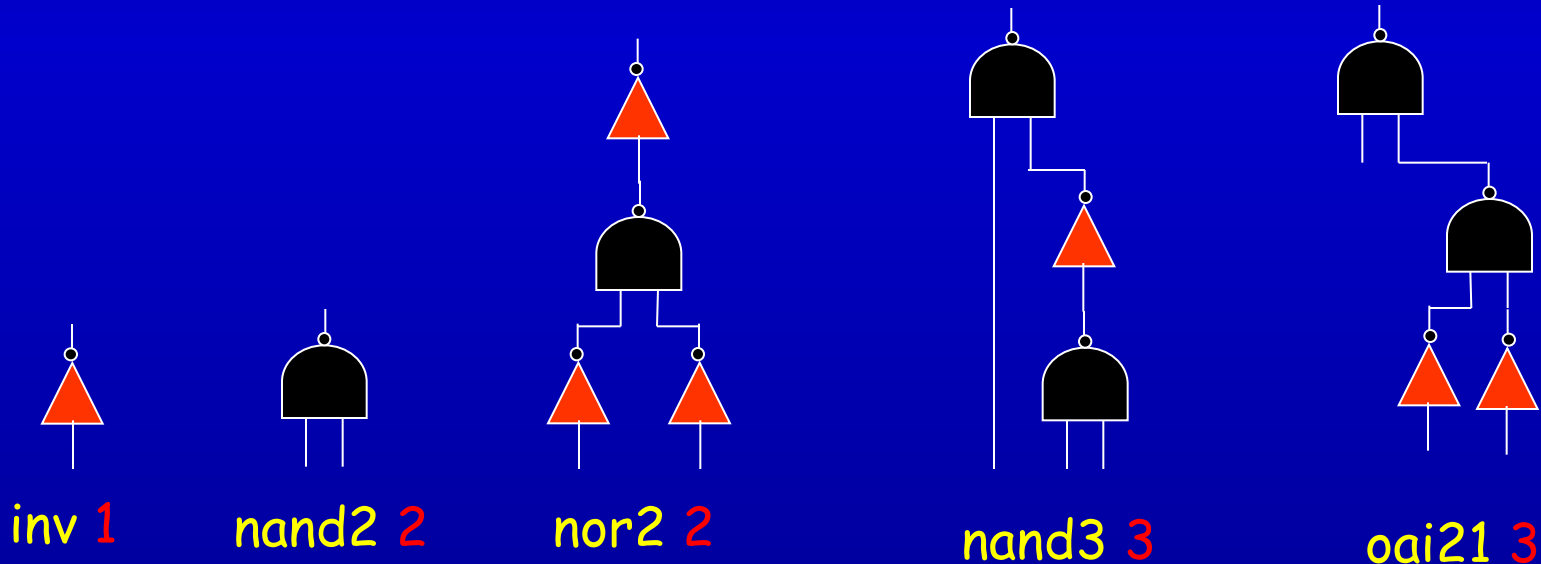
- > For each primary input, cost to cover is 0;
- > For each (non-leaf) node v in the subject trees
(the traverse follows a *topological order*)
 - = **Recursive assumption**: we know a best cost cover for each of its (transitive) predecessors.
 - = **Recursive formula** for cost to cover v :
 - For each matched pattern graph, compute sum of the cost of this pattern and the total best costs of all fanins to this pattern graph.
 - Take the minimum as the best cost for node v .
- > Total cost is the sum of best costs for all primary outputs of the subject trees.

Example: Base Functions & Pattern Trees

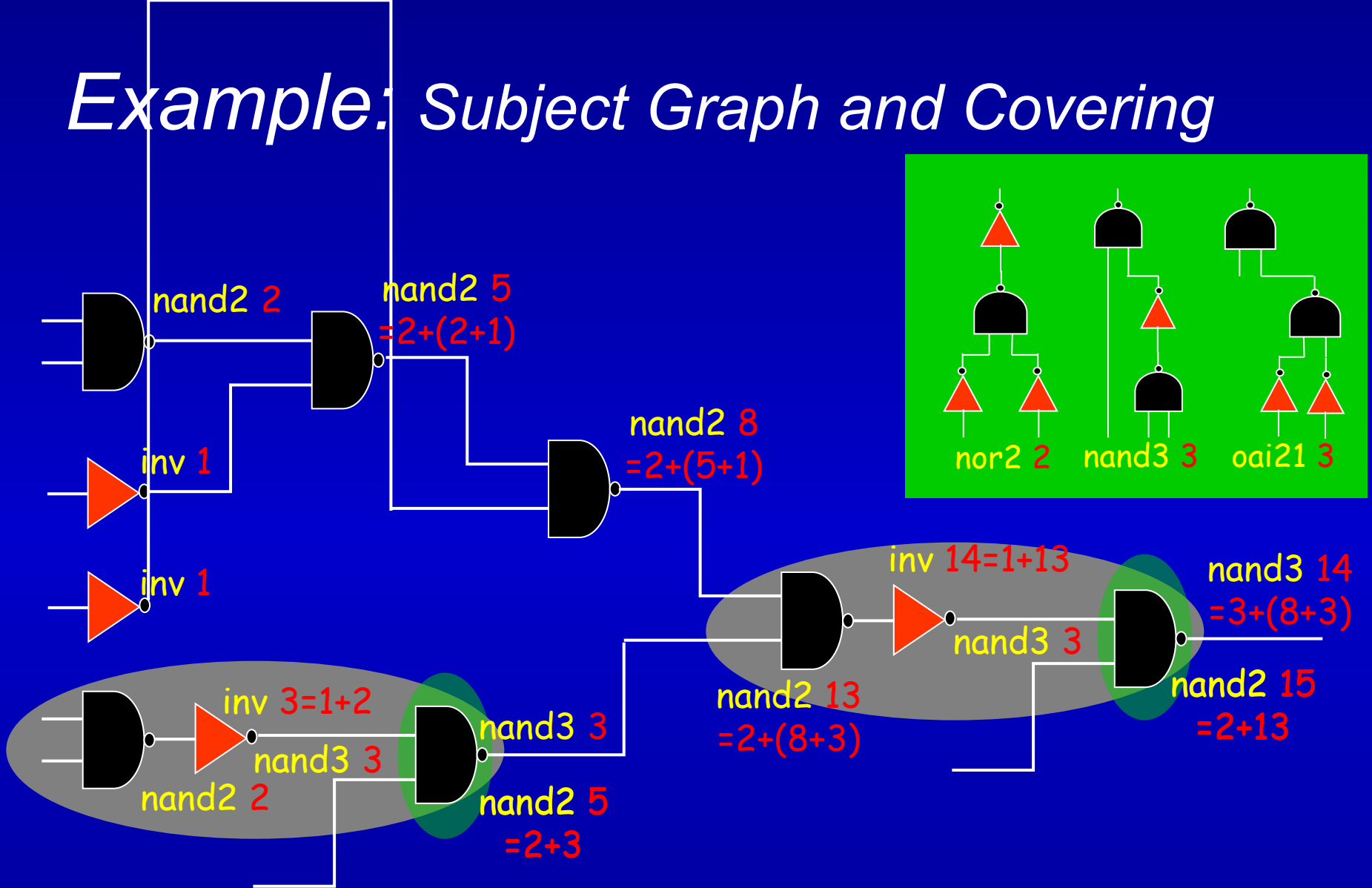
Base Functions:



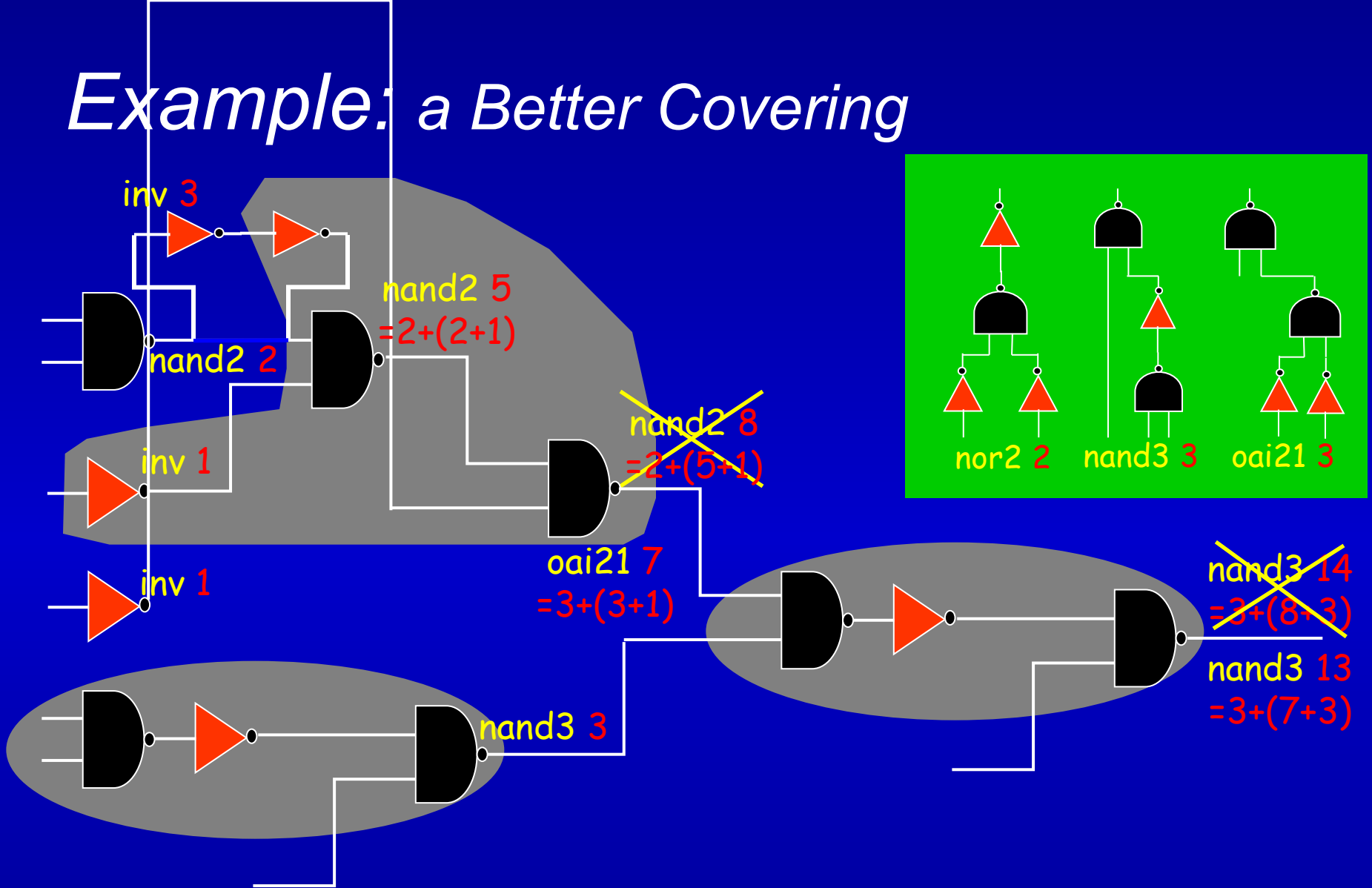
Pattern Trees:



Example: Subject Graph and Covering



Example: a Better Covering

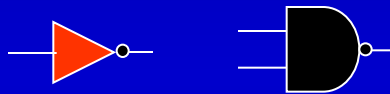


Example: Role of Decomposition

> For a give logic function (including gates from the library), different decomposition to base functions create distinct subject function.

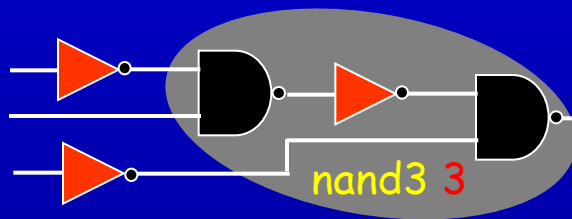
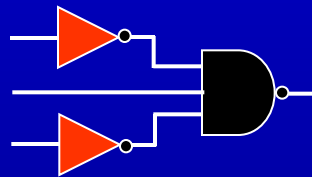
> Example:

= Base Functions:

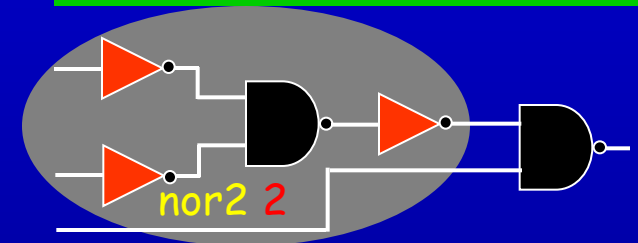
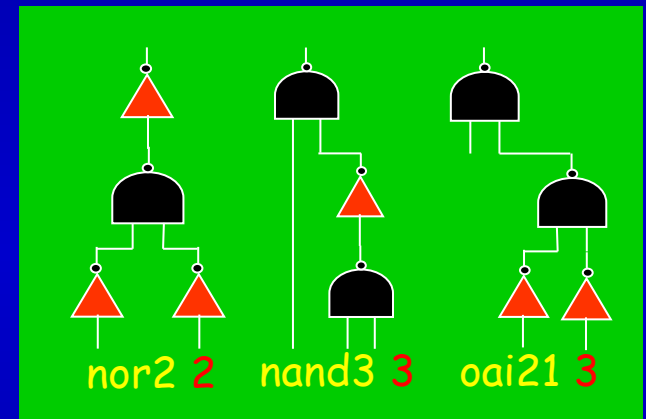


= Pattern Trees: same as before

= Circuit:



one decomposition
and a cover of cost 5



another decomposition
and a cover of cost 4

More on Technology Mapping

- > Rule-based techniques
- > DAG covering problem
- > Tree covering approach
- > Binate covering problem
- > Boolean matching
- > Decomposition + mapping
- > Technology mapping for performance
- > Gate resizing after technology mapping
- > FPGA technology mapping

Big Picture

Given a set of logic equations (not optimized):

$$= t_1 = a + bc$$

$$= t_2 = d + e$$

$$= t_3 = ab + ch$$

$$= t_4 = t_1 t_2 + g$$

$$= t_5 = t_4 h + t_2 t_3$$

$$= F = t_5'$$

17 literals

Technology independent optimization:

$$= t_1 = d + e$$

$$= t_2 = b + h$$

$$= t_3 = at_2 + ch$$

$$= t_4 = t_1 t_3 + gh$$

$$= F = t_4'$$

13 literals

Technology dependent implementation:

Implement this network using a set of gates from a library, each gate has a cost (i.e. its area, delay, etc.) such that the total cost is minimized.