

Floating Point Numbers

CS 2130: Computer Systems and Organization 1

January 30, 2023

Announcements

- TA Office Hours starting Wednesday
 - Wednesdays, Rice 011
 - Thurs-Sun, Olsson 001
- Please join our Discord server
- Lab tomorrow: hex editor
- Homework 1 due Feb 6 (Mon)

Operations

So far, we have discussed:

- Addition: $x + y$
 - Can get multiplication
- Subtraction: $x - y$
 - Can get division, but more difficult
- Unary minus (negative): $-x$
 - Flip the bits and add 1

Operations (on Integers)

Bit vector: fixed-length sequence of bits (ex: bits in an integer)

- Manipulated by bitwise operations

Bitwise operations: operate over the bits in a bit vector

- Bitwise not: $\sim x$ - flips all bits (unary)
- Bitwise and: $x \ \& \ y$ - set bit to 1 if x, y have 1 in same bit
- Bitwise or: $x \ | \ y$ - set bit to 1 if either x or y have 1
- Bitwise xor: $x \ ^ \ y$ - set bit to 1 if x, y bit differs

Operations (on Integers)

- Logical not: $!x$
 - $!0 = 1$ and $!x = 0, \forall x \neq 0$
 - Useful in C, no booleans
 - Some languages name this one differently
- Left shift: $x \ll y$ - move bits to the left
 - Effectively multiply by powers of 2
- Right shift: $x \gg y$ - move bits to the right
 - Effectively divide by powers of 2
 - Signed (extend sign bit) vs unsigned (extend 0)

What about other kinds of numbers?

Non-Integer Numbers

Floating point numbers

- Decimal: 3.14159

Non-Integer Numbers

Floating point numbers

- Decimal: 3.14159
- Binary: 11.10110

Non-Integer Numbers

Floating point numbers

- Decimal: 3.14159
- Binary: 11.10110
- With integers, the point is always fixed after all digits
- With floating point numbers, the point can move!

Non-Integer Numbers

Floating point numbers

- Decimal: 3.14159
- Binary: 11.10110
- With integers, the point is always fixed after all digits
- With floating point numbers, the point can move!

Challenge! only 2 symbols in binary

Scientific Notation

Convert the following decimal to scientific notation:

2130

Scientific Notation

Convert the following binary to scientific notation:

101101

Something to Notice

An interesting phenomenon:

- Decimal: first digit can be any number *except* 0

$$2.13 \times 10^3$$

Something to Notice

An interesting phenomenon:

- Decimal: first digit can be any number *except* 0

$$2.13 \times 10^3$$

- Binary: first digit can be any number *except* 0 **Wait!**

$$1.01101 \times 2^5$$

Something to Notice

An interesting phenomenon:

- Decimal: first digit can be any number *except* 0

$$2.13 \times 10^3$$

- Binary: first digit can be any number *except* 0 **Wait!**

$$1.01101 \times 2^5$$

- First digit can only be 1

Floating Point in Binary

We must store 3 components

- **sign** (1-bit): 1 if negative, 0 if positive
- **fraction** or **mantissa**: (?-bits): bits after binary point
- **exponent** (?-bits): how far to move binary point

We do not need to store the value before the binary point. Why?

Floating Point in Binary

How do we store them?

- Originally many different systems
- IEEE standardized system (IEEE 754 and IEEE 854)
- Agreed-upon order, format, and number of bits for each

$$1.01101 \times 2^5$$

Example

A rough example in Decimal:

$$6.42 \times 10^3$$

Exponent

How do we store the exponent?

- Exponents *can* be negative

$$2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$$

- Need positive and negative ints (but no minus sign)

Exponent

How do we store the exponent?

- Exponents *can* be negative

$$2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$$

- Need positive and negative ints (but no minus sign)
- *Don't we always use Two's Complement?*

Exponent

How do we store the exponent?

- Exponents *can* be negative

$$2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$$

- Need positive and negative ints (but no minus sign)
- *Don't we always use Two's Complement?* **Unfortunately Not**

Exponent

How do we store the exponent?

- Exponents *can* be negative

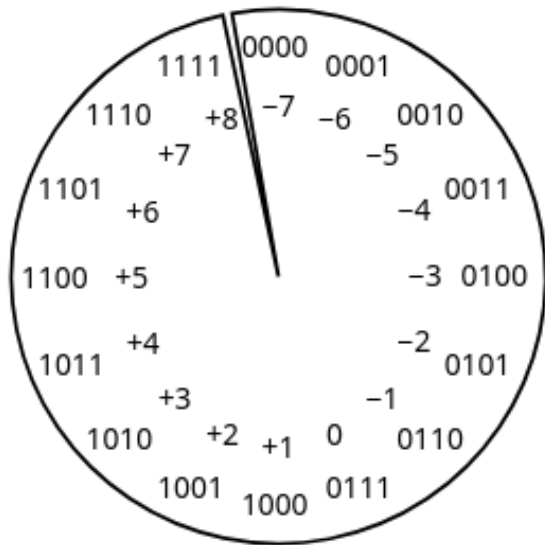
$$2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$$

- Need positive and negative ints (but no minus sign)
- *Don't we always use Two's Complement?* **Unfortunately Not**
- Biased integers
 - Make comparison operations run more smoothly
 - Hardware more efficient to build
 - Other valid reasons

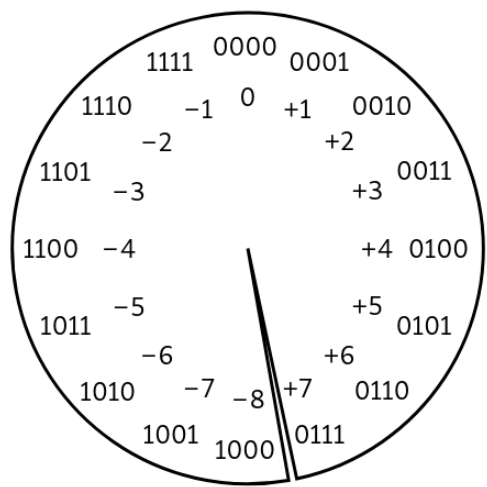
Biased Integers

Similar to Two's Complement, but add **bias**

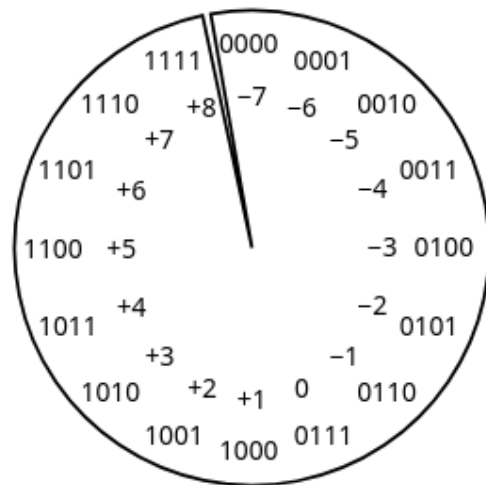
- **Two's Complement:** Define 0 as 00...0
- **Biased:** Define 0 as 0111...1
- Biased wraps from 000...0 to 111...1



Biased Integers



Two's Complement



Biased

Biased Integers Example

Calculate value of biased integers (4-bit example)

0010

Biased Integers

Floating Point Example

101.011_2

Floating Point Example

101.011_2

Floating Point Example

What does the following encode?

1 001110 1010101

Floating Point Example

What does the following encode?

1 001110 1010101

What about 0?

Floating Point Numbers

Four cases:

- **Normalized:** What we have seen today

$$s \ eeee \ ffff = \pm 1.ffff \times 2^{eeee - \text{bias}}$$

- **Denormalized:** Exponent bits all 0

$$s \ eeee \ ffff = \pm 0.ffff \times 2^{1 - \text{bias}}$$

- **Infinity:** Exponent bits all 1, fraction bits all 0 (i.e., $\pm\infty$)
- **Not a Number (NaN):** Exponent bits all 1, fraction bits not all 0