#### **CPSC 440**

Chapter 3: Arithmetic for Computers (part 2)\*



# **Floating Point**

- Representation for non-integral numbers
  - Including very small and very large numbers
- Like scientific notation

$$-2.34 \times 10^{56}$$
 $+0.002 \times 10^{-4}$ 
 $+987.02 \times 10^{9}$ 
not normalized

- In binary
  - $\pm 1.xxxxxxx_2 \times 2^{yyyy}$
- Types float and double in C



### Floating Point Standard

- Defined by IEEE Std 754-1985
- Developed in response to divergence of representations
  - Portability issues for scientific code
- Now almost universally adopted
- Two representations
  - Single precision (32-bit)
  - Double precision (64-bit)



## **IEEE Floating-Point Format**

single: 8 bits single: 23 bits double: 11 bits double: 52 bits

S Exponent Fraction

$$x = (-1)^{S} \times (1 + Fraction) \times 2^{(Exponent-Bias)}$$

- S: sign bit (0 ⇒ non-negative, 1 ⇒ negative)
- Normalize significand: 1.0 ≤ |significand| < 2.0</p>
  - Always has a leading pre-binary-point 1 bit, so no need to represent it explicitly (hidden bit)
  - Significand is Fraction with the "1." restored
- Exponent: excess representation: actual exponent + Bias
  - Ensures exponent is unsigned
  - Single: Bias = 127; Double: Bias = 1203



## Single-Precision Range

- Exponents 00000000 and 11111111 reserved
- Smallest value
  - Exponent: 00000001⇒ actual exponent = 1 - 127 = -126
  - Fraction:  $000...00 \Rightarrow \text{significand} = 1.0$
  - $\pm 1.0 \times 2^{-126} \approx \pm 1.2 \times 10^{-38}$
- Largest value
  - exponent: 11111110⇒ actual exponent = 254 127 = +127
  - Fraction: 111...11 ⇒ significand ≈ 2.0
  - $\pm 2.0 \times 2^{+127} \approx \pm 3.4 \times 10^{+38}$



### **Double-Precision Range**

- Exponents 0000...00 and 1111...11 reserved
- Smallest value
  - Exponent: 0000000001⇒ actual exponent = 1 - 1023 = -1022
  - Fraction:  $000...00 \Rightarrow \text{significand} = 1.0$
  - $\pm 1.0 \times 2^{-1022} \approx \pm 2.2 \times 10^{-308}$
- Largest value
  - Exponent: 11111111110⇒ actual exponent = 2046 1023 = +1023
  - Fraction: 111...11 ⇒ significand ≈ 2.0
  - $\pm 2.0 \times 2^{+1023} \approx \pm 1.8 \times 10^{+308}$



### Floating-Point Precision

- Relative precision
  - all fraction bits are significant
  - Single: approx 2<sup>-23</sup>
    - Equivalent to 23 × log<sub>10</sub>2 ≈ 23 × 0.3 ≈ 6 decimal digits of precision
  - Double: approx 2<sup>-52</sup>
    - Equivalent to 52 × log<sub>10</sub>2 ≈ 52 × 0.3 ≈ 16 decimal digits of precision



### Floating-Point Example

- Represent –0.75
  - $-0.75 = -3/4_{10} = (-3/2^2)_{10} = (-11_2/2^2)_{10}$
  - $= (-11_2/2^2)$  \*this requires some careful thoughts
  - = -0.11<sub>2</sub> \*can you accept this?
  - $= (-1)^1 \times 1.1_2 \times 2^{-1}$



### Floating-Point Example

- S = 1
- Fraction =  $1000...00_2$
- Exponent = -1 + Bias
  - Single:  $-1 + 127 = 126 = 011111110_2$
  - Double:  $-1 + 1023 = 1022 = 0111111111110_2$
- Single: 1011111101000...00
- Double: 1011111111101000...00



### Floating-Point Example

 What number is represented by the single-precision float

11000000101000...00

$$S = 1$$

- Fraction =  $01000...00_2$
- Fxponent = 10000001<sub>2</sub> = 129

$$x = (-1)^{1} \times (1 + 01_{2}) \times 2^{(129 - 127)}$$
$$= (-1) \times 1.25 \times 2^{2}$$
$$= -5.0$$



### Floating-Point Addition

- Consider a 4-digit decimal example
  - $-9.999 \times 10^{1} + 1.610 \times 10^{-1}$
- 1. Align decimal points
  - Shift number with smaller exponent
  - $-9.999 \times 10^{1} + 0.016 \times 10^{1}$
- 2. Add significands
  - $\bullet$  9.999 × 10<sup>1</sup> + 0.016 × 10<sup>1</sup> = 10.015 × 10<sup>1</sup>
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - $1.0015 \times 10^2$
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - $1.002 \times 10^2$



### Floating-Point Addition

- Now consider a 4-digit binary example
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} + -1.110_2 \times 2^{-2} (0.5 + -0.4375)$
- 1. Align binary points
  - Shift number with smaller exponent
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} + -0.111_2 \times 2^{-1}$
- 2. Add significands
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} + -0.111_2 \times 2^{-1} = 0.001_2 \times 2^{-1}$
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-4}$ , with no over/underflow
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - $-1.000_2 \times 2^{-4}$  (no change) = 0.0625

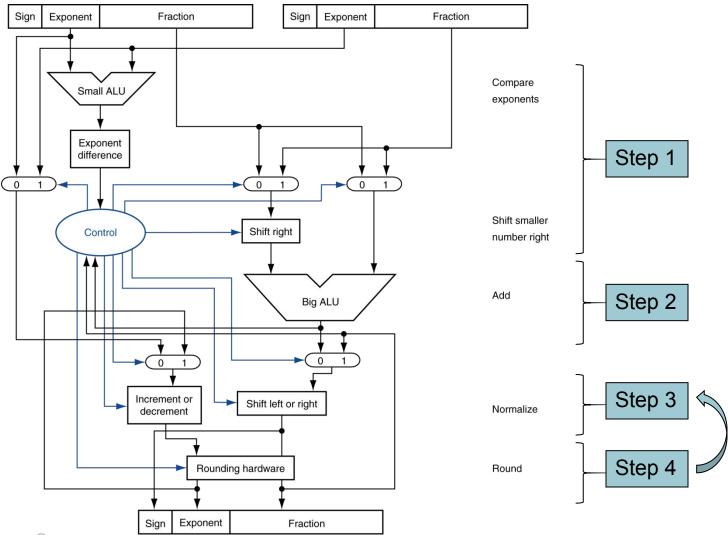


#### **FP Adder Hardware**

- Much more complex than integer adder
- Doing it in one clock cycle would take too long
  - Much longer than integer operations
  - Slower clock would penalize all instructions
- FP adder usually takes several cycles
  - Can be pipelined



#### **FP Adder Hardware**





## Floating-Point Multiplication

- Consider a 4-digit decimal example
  - $1.110 \times 10^{10} \times 9.200 \times 10^{-5}$
- 1. Add exponents
  - For biased exponents, subtract bias from sum
  - New exponent = 10 + -5 = 5
- 2. Multiply significands
  - $1.110 \times 9.200 = 10.212 \Rightarrow 10.212 \times 10^{5}$
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - 1.0212 × 10<sup>6</sup>
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - 1.021 × 10<sup>6</sup>
- 5. Determine sign of result from signs of operands
  - +1.021 × 10<sup>6</sup>



## Floating-Point Multiplication

- Now consider a 4-digit binary example
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} \times -1.110_2 \times 2^{-2} (0.5 \times -0.4375)$
- 1. Add exponents
  - Unbiased: -1 + -2 = -3
  - Biased: (-1 + 127) + (-2 + 127) = -3 + 254 127 = -3 + 127
- 2. Multiply significands
  - $1.000_2 \times 1.110_2 = 1.1102 \Rightarrow 1.110_2 \times 2^{-3}$
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - 1.110<sub>2</sub> ×  $2^{-3}$  (no change) with no over/underflow
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - 1.110<sub>2</sub> ×  $2^{-3}$  (no change)
- 5. Determine sign: +ve × –ve ⇒ –ve
  - $-1.110_2 \times 2^{-3} = -0.21875$



#### **FP Arithmetic Hardware**

- FP multiplier is of similar complexity to FP adder
  - But uses a multiplier for significands instead of an adder
- FP arithmetic hardware usually does
  - Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, reciprocal, square-root
  - FP → integer conversion
- Operations usually takes several cycles
  - Can be pipelined

