



Systems and Internet Infrastructure Security

Network and Security Research Center
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CMPSC 311 - Introduction to Systems Programming Module: Bits/Byte Operations

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Fall 2013

Base-X Systems

- All base- X systems have the following characteristic:

Assume a base b and digits $P = \{p_k, p_{k-1}, p_{k-2}, \dots, p_1, p_0\}$

$$value = \sum_{i=0}^k b^i * p_i$$

where $\forall p_i \in P, p_i = [0, b - 1]$

Example: decimal 1,234 $\rightarrow P = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

A Simple Example

Consider $b = 10$ and $P = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$$value = \sum_{i=0}^k b^i * p_i$$

$$10^0 * 4 = 4$$

$$10^1 * 3 = 30$$

$$10^2 * 2 = 200$$

$$10^3 * 1 = 1000$$

$$value = 1000 + 200 + 30 + 4$$

A Simple Example

Consider $b = 2$ and $P = \{1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1\}$

$$value = \sum_{i=0}^k b^i * p_i$$

$2^0 * 1$	$=$	1
$2^1 * 1$	$=$	2
$2^2 * 0$	$=$	0
$2^3 * 0$	$=$	0
$2^4 * 1$	$=$	16
$2^5 * 1$	$=$	32
$2^6 * 0$	$=$	0
$2^7 * 1$	$=$	128
<hr/>		
$value$	$=$	$1 + 2 + 16 + 32 + 128 (= 179)$

2^7	$=$	128
2^6	$=$	64
2^5	$=$	32
2^4	$=$	16
2^3	$=$	8
2^2	$=$	4
2^1	$=$	2
2^0	$=$	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

- Converting decimal to hex is just the reverse!

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while ($x > 0$)

 2a: if ($x > 2^i$) then

 2a1: next digit is a 1

 2a2: $x = x - 2^i$

 2b: else

 2b1: next digit is a 0

 2c: $i = i - 1$

3: done

2^7	=	128
2^6	=	64
2^5	=	32
2^4	=	16
2^3	=	8
2^2	=	4
2^1	=	2
2^0	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      235
    - 128
    -----
      107
```

Val : 1

```
Input: decimal number x
1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x
2: while (x>0)
    2a: if (x>2^i) then
        2a1: next digit is a 1
        2a2: x = x-2^i
    2b: else
        2b1: next digit is a 0
    2c: i=i-1
3: done
```

2^7	=	128
2^6	=	64
2^5	=	32
2^4	=	16
2^3	=	8
2^2	=	4
2^1	=	2
2^0	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      107
    -   64
    -----
      43
```

Val: 11

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ⁷	=	128
2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32
2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8
2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2
2 ⁰	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      43
-     32
-----
      11
```

Val: 111

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ⁷	=	128
2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32
2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8
2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2
2 ⁰	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      11
-     0
-----
      11
```

Val: 1110

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ⁷	=	128
2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32
2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8
2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2
2 ⁰	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      11
-      8
-----
      3
```

Val: 1110 1

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ⁷	=	128
2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32
2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8
2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2
2 ⁰	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      3
-      0
-----
      3
```

Val: 1110 10

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ⁷	=	128
2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32
2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8
2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2
2 ⁰	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      3
      2
-
-----
      1
```

Val: 1110 101

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ⁷	=	128
2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32
2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8
2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2
2 ⁰	=	1

Converting Decimal to Binary

```
      1
-      1
-----
      0
```

Val: 1110 1011

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ⁷	=	128
2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32
2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8
2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2
2 ⁰	=	1

In class (decimal to hex)

a) 25	c) 3,274	e) 2,864,434,397
b) 437	d) 7,108	f) 287,454,020

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ³¹	=	2147483648	2 ³⁰	=	1073741824
2 ²⁹	=	536870912	2 ²⁸	=	268435456
2 ²⁷	=	134217728	2 ²⁶	=	67108864
2 ²⁵	=	33554432	2 ²⁴	=	16777216
2 ²³	=	8388608	2 ²²	=	4194304
2 ²¹	=	2097152	2 ²⁰	=	1048576
2 ¹⁹	=	524288	2 ¹⁸	=	262144
2 ¹⁷	=	131072	2 ¹⁶	=	65536
2 ¹⁵	=	32768	2 ¹⁴	=	16384
2 ¹³	=	8192	2 ¹²	=	4096
2 ¹¹	=	2048	2 ¹⁰	=	1024
2 ⁹	=	512	2 ⁸	=	256
2 ⁷	=	128	2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32	2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8	2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2	2 ⁰	=	1

In class (decimal to hex)

a) 25 = 19	c) 3,274 = 0xCCA	e) 2,864,434,397 = 0xAABBCCDD
b) 437 = 0x1B5	d) 7,108 = 0x1BC4	f) 287454020 = 0x11223344

Input: decimal number x

1: Find largest power i of 2 less than x

2: while (x>0)

2a: if (x>2ⁱ) then

2a1: next digit is a 1

2a2: x = x-2ⁱ

2b: else

2b1: next digit is a 0

2c: i=i-1

3: done

2 ³¹	=	2147483648	2 ³⁰	=	1073741824
2 ²⁹	=	536870912	2 ²⁸	=	268435456
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2 ¹¹	=	2048	2 ¹⁰	=	1024
2 ⁹	=	512	2 ⁸	=	256
2 ⁷	=	128	2 ⁶	=	64
2 ⁵	=	32	2 ⁴	=	16
2 ³	=	8	2 ²	=	4
2 ¹	=	2	2 ⁰	=	1

OK, I lied

Byte Ordering

- How should bytes within a multi-byte word be ordered in memory?
- Conventions
 - ▶ Big Endian: Sun, PPC Mac, Internet
 - Least significant byte has highest address
 - ▶ Little Endian: x86
 - Least significant byte has lowest address

Byte Ordering Example

- Big Endian
 - Least significant byte has highest address
- Little Endian
 - Least significant byte has lowest address
- Example
 - Variable x has 4-byte representation 0x01234567
 - Address given by &x is 0x100

Big Endian

0x100 0x101 0x102 0x103



Little Endian

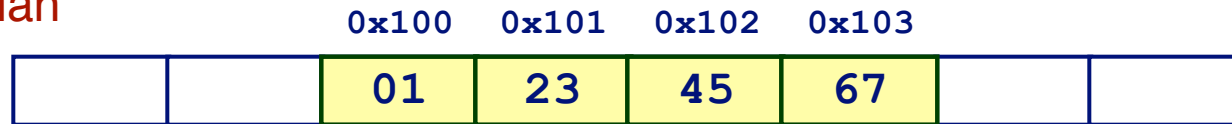
0x100 0x101 0x102 0x103



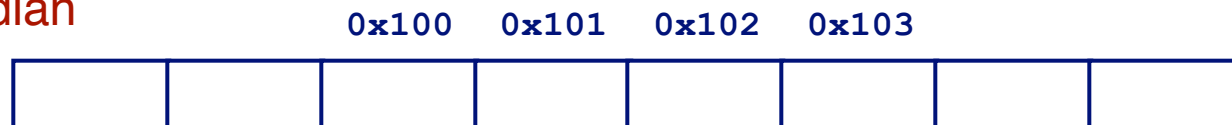
Byte Ordering Example

- Big Endian
 - Least significant byte has highest address
- Little Endian
 - Least significant byte has lowest address
- Example
 - Variable x has 4-byte representation 0x01234567
 - Address given by &x is 0x100

Big Endian



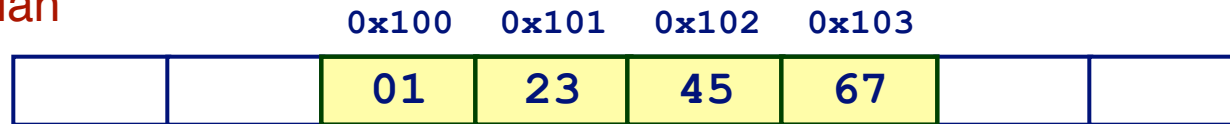
Little Endian



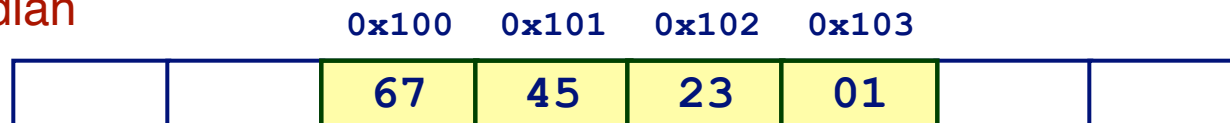
Byte Ordering Example

- Big Endian
 - Least significant byte has highest address
- Little Endian
 - Least significant byte has lowest address
- Example
 - Variable x has 4-byte representation 0x01234567
 - Address given by &x is 0x100

Big Endian



Little Endian



Reading Byte-Reversed Listings

- Disassembly
 - ▶ Text representation of binary machine code
 - ▶ Generated by program that reads the machine code
- Example Fragment

Address	Instruction Code	Assembly Rendition
8048365:	5b	pop %ebx
8048366:	81 c3 ab 12 00 00	add \$0x12ab, %ebx
804836c:	83 bb 28 00 00 00 00	cmpl \$0x0, 0x28(%ebx)

- Deciphering Numbers

- ▶ Value: 0x12ab
- ▶ Pad to 32 bits: 0x000012ab
- ▶ Split into bytes: 00 00 12 ab
- ▶ Reverse: ab 12 00 00

Examining Data Representations

- Code to Print Byte Representation of Data
 - ▶ Casting pointer to unsigned char * creates byte array

```
typedef unsigned char *pointer;

void show_bytes(pointer start, int len){
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < len; i++)
        printf("%p\t0x%.2x\n", start+i, start[i]);
    printf("\n");
}

...
int a = 15213;
printf("int a = 15213;\n");
show_bytes((pointer) &a, sizeof(int));
```

Result (Linux):

```
int a = 15213;
0x11ffffcb8    0x6d
0x11ffffcb9    0x3b
0x11ffffcba    0x00
0x11ffffcbb    0x00
```

Printf directives:

%p: Print pointer

%x: Print Hexadecimal

Representing Integers

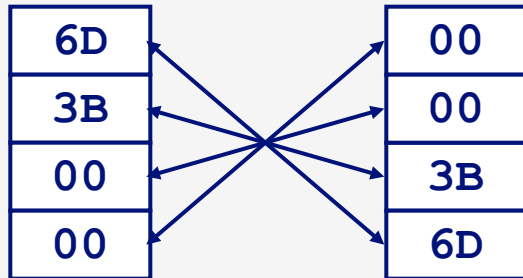
Decimal: 15213

Binary: 0011 1011 0110 1101

Hex: 3 B 6 D

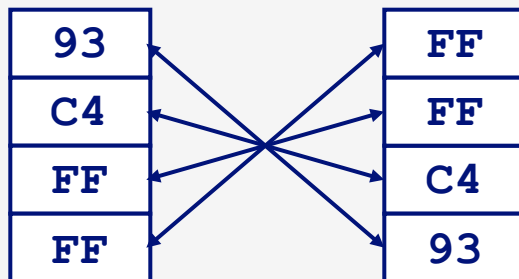
int A = 15213;

IA32, x86-64 Sun



int B = -15213;

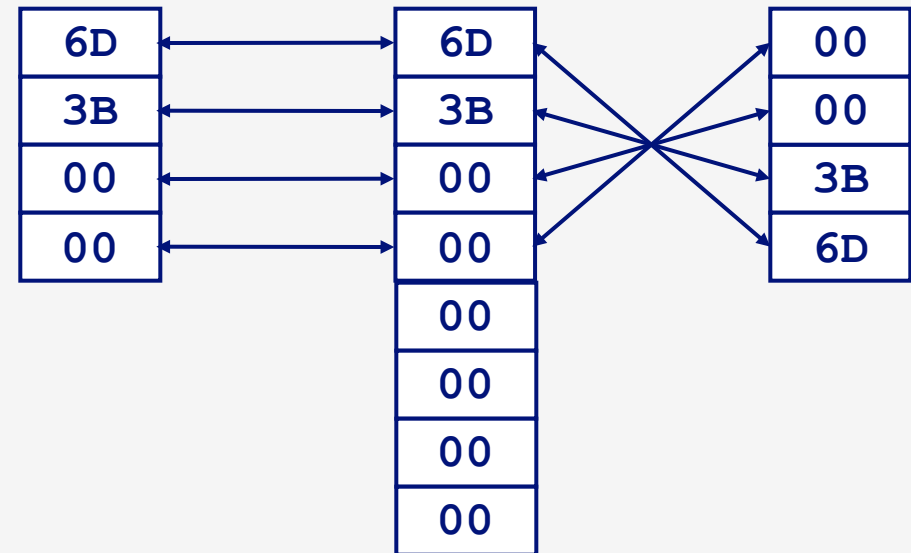
IA32, x86-64 Sun



Two's complement representation
(Covered later)

long int C = 15213;

IA32 x86-64 Sun



Representing Pointers

```
int B = -15213;  
int *P = &B;
```

Sun	IA32	x86-64
EF	D4	0C
FF	F8	89
FB	FF	EC
2C	BF	FF
		FF
		7F
		00
		00

Note: Different compilers & machines assign different locations to objects

Boolean Algebra

- Developed by George Boole in 19th Century
 - Algebraic representation of logic
 - Encode “True” as 1 and “False” as 0

And

$A \& B = 1$ when both $A=1$ and $B=1$

$\&$	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

Or

$A | B = 1$ when either $A=1$ or $B=1$

$ $	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1

Not

$\sim A = 1$ when $A=0$

\sim	
0	1
1	0

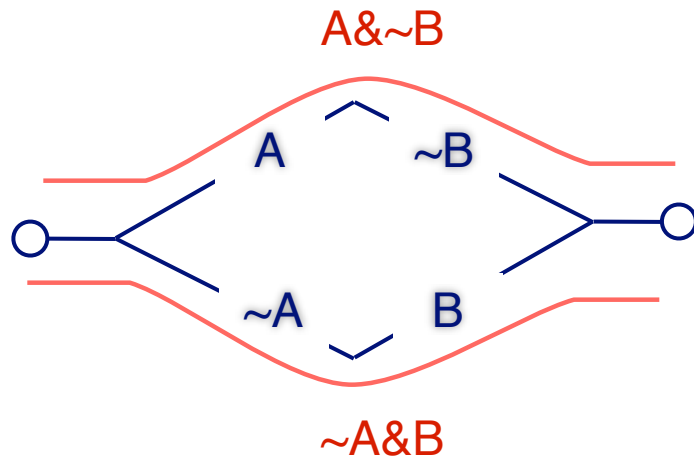
Exclusive-Or (Xor)

$A \wedge B = 1$ when either $A=1$ or $B=1$, but not both

\wedge	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

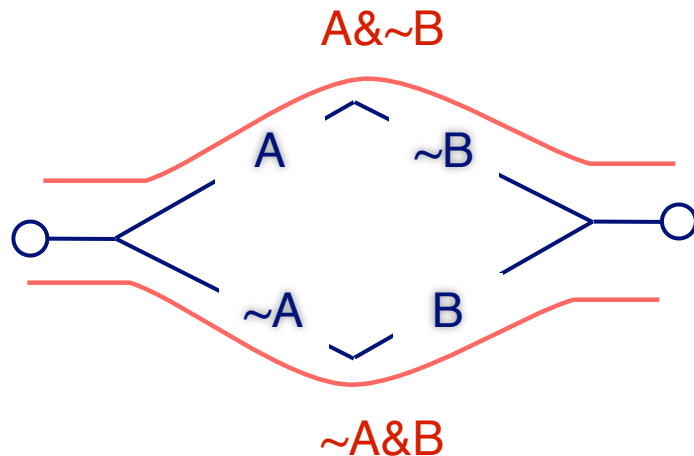
Application of Boolean Algebra

- Applied to Digital Systems by Claude Shannon
 - ▶ 1937 MIT Master's Thesis
 - ▶ Reason about networks of relay switches
 - ▶ Encode closed switch as 1, open switch as 0



Application of Boolean Algebra

- Applied to Digital Systems by Claude Shannon
 - 1937 MIT Master's Thesis
 - Reason about networks of relay switches
 - Encode closed switch as 1, open switch as 0



Connection when
 $A \& \sim B \mid \sim A \& B = A \wedge B$

General Boolean Algebras

- Operate on Bit Vectors
 - ▶ Operations applied bitwise

01101001	01101001	01101001	01101001
& 01010101	01010101	^ 01010101	~ 01010101
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
01000001	01111101	00111100	10101010

- All of the Properties of Boolean Algebra Apply

General Boolean Algebras

- Operate on Bit Vectors
 - Operations applied bitwise

$$\begin{array}{r} 01101001 \\ \& 01010101 \\ \hline 01000001 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 01101001 \\ | 01010101 \\ \hline 01111101 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 01101001 \\ \wedge 01010101 \\ \hline 00111100 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \sim 01010101 \\ \hline 10101010 \end{array}$$

- All of the Properties of Boolean Algebra Apply

Representing & Manipulating Sets

- Representation

- ▶ Width **w** bit vector represents subsets of $\{0, \dots, w-1\}$
- ▶ $a_j = 1$ if $j \in A$

01010101 { 0, 2, 4, 6 }
7**6**5**4**3**2**1**0**

01101001 { 0, 3, 5, 6 }
7**6**5**4**3**2**1**0**

Operations On Sets:

& Intersection	01000001	{ 0, 6 }
Union	01111101	{ 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 }
^ Symmetric difference	00111100	{ 2, 3, 4, 5 }
~ Complement	10101010	{ 1, 3, 5, 7 }

Bit-Level Operations in C

- Operations `&`, `|`, `~`, `^` Available in C
 - Apply to any “integral” data type
 - long, int, short, char, unsigned
 - View arguments as bit vectors
 - Arguments applied bit-wise
- Examples (Char data type)
 - `~0x41 → 0xBE`
 - `~010000012 → 101111102`
 - `~0x00 → 0xFF`
 - `~000000002 → 111111112`
 - `0x69 & 0x55 → 0x41`
 - `011010012 & 010101012 → 010000012`
 - `0x69 | 0x55 → 0x7D`
 - `011010012 | 010101012 → 011111012`

Contrast: Logic Operations in C

- Contrast to Logical Operators (`&&`, `||`, `!`)
 - View 0 as “False”
 - Anything nonzero as “True”
 - Always return 0 or 1
 - Early termination
- Examples (char data type)
 - `!0x41` \rightarrow `0x00`
 - `!0x00` \rightarrow `0x01`
 - `!!0x41` \rightarrow `0x01`
 - `0x69 && 0x55` \rightarrow `0x01`
 - `0x69 || 0x55` \rightarrow `0x01`
 - `p && *p` (avoids null pointer access)

Shift Operations

- A shift operator (\ll or \gg) moves bits to the right or left, throwing away bits and adding bits as necessary

$X =$

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0

$X = X \ll 3;$

Read as this: shift the bits of the value 3 places to the left

(throw away)

↓

A	B	C
1	0	1

$X =$

D	E	F	G	H	*	*	*
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0

←

← (“new” bits)

Types of Shift

- Left Shift: $x \ll y$
 - Shift bit-vector x left y positions
 - Throw away extra bits on left
 - Fill with 0's on right
- Right Shift: $x \gg y$
 - Shift bit-vector x right y positions
 - Throw away extra bits on right
- Logical shift
 - Fill with 0's on left
- Arithmetic shift
 - Replicate most significant bit on right
- Undefined Behavior
 - Shift amount < 0 or \geq word size

Argument x	01100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

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 - Fill with 0's on left
- Arithmetic shift
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Argument x	01100010
$\ll 3$	00010
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Types of Shift

- Left Shift: $x \ll y$
 - Shift bit-vector x left y positions
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Argument x	01100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

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Argument x	01100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
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$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

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$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	011000

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

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Argument x	01100010
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Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

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Argument x	01100010
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Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	00011000

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	00010
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Types of Shift

- Left Shift: $x \ll y$
 - Shift bit-vector x left y positions
 - Throw away extra bits on left
 - Fill with 0's on right
- Right Shift: $x \gg y$
 - Shift bit-vector x right y positions
 - Throw away extra bits on right
- Logical shift
 - Fill with 0's on left
- Arithmetic shift
 - Replicate most significant bit on right
- Undefined Behavior
 - Shift amount < 0 or \geq word size

Argument x	01100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	00011000

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	
Arith. $\gg 2$	

Types of Shift

- Left Shift: $x \ll y$
 - Shift bit-vector x left y positions
 - Throw away extra bits on left
 - Fill with 0's on right
- Right Shift: $x \gg y$
 - Shift bit-vector x right y positions
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Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	00011000

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	101000
Arith. $\gg 2$	

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$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	00011000

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00101000
Arith. $\gg 2$	

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$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	00011000

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$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00101000
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Types of Shift

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 - Shift amount < 0 or \geq word size

Argument x	01100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00011000
Arith. $\gg 2$	00011000

Argument x	10100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
Log. $\gg 2$	00101000
Arith. $\gg 2$	11101000

Putting it all together

- Suppose you want to create a function to place multiple values in the same 32-bit
 - ▶ Value **a** in least significant byte
 - ▶ Value **b** in 2nd byte
 - ▶ Value **c** in 3rd byte
 - ▶ Value **d** in 4th byte

Bits	31-24	23-16	8-15	0-7
Values	d	c	b	a



```
uint32_t pack_bytes( uint32_t a, uint32_t b, uint32_t c, uint32_t d ) {

    // Setup some local values
    uint32_t retval = 0x0, tempa, tempb, tempc, tempd;

    tempa = a&0xff; // Make sure you are only getting the bottom 8 bits
    tempb = (b&0xff) << 8; // Shift value to the second byte
    tempc = (c&0xff) << 16; // Shift value to the third byte
    tempd = (d&0xff) << 24; // Shift value to the top byte
    retval = tempa|tempb|tempc|tempd; // Now combine all of the values

    // Print out all of the values
    printf( "A: 0x%08x\n", tempa );
    printf( "B: 0x%08x\n", tempb );
    printf( "C: 0x%08x\n", tempc );
    printf( "D: 0x%08x\n", tempd );

    // Return the computed value
    return( retval );
}

...

printf( "Packed bytes : 0x%08x\n",
        pack_bytes(0x111, 0x222, 0x333, 0x444) );
```



```
uint32_t pack_bytes( uint32_t a, uint32_t b, uint32_t c, uint32_t d ) {

    // Setup some local values
    uint32_t retval = 0x0, tempa, tempb, tempc, tempd;

    tempa = a&0xff; // Make sure you are only getting the bottom 8 bits
    tempb = (b&0xff) << 8; // Shift value to the second byte
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    tempd = (d&0xff) << 24; // Shift value to the top byte
    retval = tempa|tempb|tempc|tempd; // Now combine all of the values

    // Print out all of the values
    printf( "A: 0x%08x\n", tempa );
    printf( "B: 0x%08x\n", tempb );
    printf( "C: 0x%08x\n", tempc );
    printf( "D: 0x%08x\n", tempd );

    // Return the computed value
    return( retval );
}

...

printf( "Packed bytes : 0x%08x\n",
        pack_bytes(0x111, 0x222, 0x333, 0x444) );
```

```
A: 0x00000011
B: 0x00002200
C: 0x00330000
D: 0x44000000
Packed bytes : 0x44332211
```