

1.3.3 Base 2^k Conversion

Each of the eight octal digits can be represented by a three-bit binary number. Similarly, each of the 16 hexadecimal digits can be represented by a four-bit binary number. In general, each digit of the base p number system, where p is an integral power k of 2, can be represented by a k-bit binary number.

In converting a base p number to base q, if p and q are both integral powers of 2, the base p number can first be converted to binary, and this in turn can be converted to base q by inspection. This conversion procedure is called the base 2^k conversion.

Example 1.13

$$(4\ 2\ A\ 5\ 6\ .\ F\ I)_{16} = (?)_{8}$$

 $p = \{6 = 2^{4}, q = 8 = 2^{3}\}$

Therefore,

Example 1.14

Example 1.15

 $(567.23)_8 = (?)_{16}$

Zeros included
$$00011011101111.010011100$$
 base 2 $\therefore k_1 = 3$

$$1 \quad 7 \quad 7 \quad 4 \quad C \quad base 16 \quad \therefore k_2 = 4$$

It is thus possible to represent binary numbers in a very compact form by using octal and hexadecimal systems. The conversion between these