

ECE/CS 252 Intro to Computer Engineering

Week 03 Discussion

1

Fractional Powers of 2

- Given a 7-bit binary number with 3 fractional bits, what is the weight of each bit position?

 $XXXXXXXX_2$

2

Signed Fixed-Point

- Fixed-point also works with signed numbers
 - In digital audio processing, we often use 16-bit values in "Q15" format
 - 15 fractional bits in 2's-complement representation
 - $x.xxxx\,xxxx\,xxxx\,xxxx_2$
 - What is the most positive value?
 - $0.111\,1111\,1111\,1111_2$
 - $0.9999695_{10} \approx 1.0_{10}$
 - What is the most negative value?
 - $1.000\,0000\,0000\,0000_2$
 - -1.0_{10}
 - In this class, we only require you to do unsigned fixed-point representations!

3



Floating-Point Issues

$$(-1)^{[\text{sign}]} \times 1.[\text{significand}] \times 2^{([\text{exp}] - \text{bias})}$$

- Comparing two floating point numbers using exact equality often leads to software bugs
 - Let float $X = 0.1_{10}$
 - Is $X+X+X+X+X+X+X+X = 10_{10} \cdot X$?
 - $1.00000012 \neq 1.00000000!$
 - $0x3F8000001 \neq 0x3F8000000$
 - Is $\sin(X) = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2(X)}$?
 - $0.0998334214 \neq 0.0998332202!$
- How can we deal with this?



Precision and Range

- Note: **precision** in number representation is defined as the number of significant digits
- Comparing 6-bit unsigned binary representations

Representation	Precision	Range
unsigned integer		
unsigned fixed-point with 1 fractional bit		
unsigned fixed-point with 2 fractional bits		
unsigned floating-point with 2 exponent bits (no bias)		
unsigned floating-point with 3 exponent bits (no bias)		



Fixed- vs. Floating-Point

- Why not always floating-point?
- Why not always fixed-point?

ASCII

- Characters represented in binary by a number
'3' 4A₁₆ "ASCII"

HEX CHAR	HEX CHAR	HEX CHAR	HEX CHAR	HEX CHAR	HEX CHAR	HEX CHAR	HEX CHAR
00 NUL	10 DLE	20 space	30 0	40 @	50 P	60 `	70 p
01 SOH	11 DC1	21 !	31 1	41 A	51 Q	61 a	71 q
02 STX	12 DC2	22 "	32 2	42 B	52 R	62 b	72 r
03 ETX	13 DC3	23 #	33 3	43 C	53 S	63 c	73 s
04 EOT	14 DC4	24 \$	34 4	44 D	54 T	64 d	74 t
05 ENQ	15 NAK	25 %	35 5	45 E	55 U	65 e	75 u
06 ACK	16 SYN	26 &	36 6	46 F	56 V	66 f	76 v
07 BEL	17 ETB	27 '	37 7	47 G	57 W	67 g	77 w
08 BS	18 CAN	28 (38 8	48 H	58 X	68 h	78 x
09 HT	19 EM	29)	39 9	49 I	59 Y	69 i	79 y
0A LF	1A SUB	2A *	3A :	4A J	5A Z	6A j	7A z
0B VT	1B ESC	2B +	3B ;	4B K	5B [6B k	7B {
0C FF	1C FS	2C ,	3C <	4C L	5C \	6C l	7C
0D CR	1D GS	2D -	3D =	4D M	5D]	6D m	7D }
0E SO	1E RS	2E .	3E >	4E N	5E ^	6E n	7E ~
0F SI	1F US	2F /	3F ?	4F O	5F _	6F o	7F DEL

- Special "null" character often used to "terminate" a string (we will see this again)

7

How do we **display** a number?

- Suppose there is an unsigned 8-bit number that we want to show on a character display as a 3-digit decimal number
 - We need to put the three ASCII codes (for the decimal digits) into the display's memory so that the decimal number appears on the screen
- How do we do it?



8

Repeated Subtraction Algorithm

hundreds = tens = ones = 0

while (num > 100)

hundreds = hundreds + 1

num = num - 100

while (num > 10)

tens = tens + 1

num = num - 10

ones = num

num	hundreds	tens	ones
123			

9



Division/Modulus Algorithm

- In any binary division (software or hardware), we get both the quotient and the remainder
 - Quotient: $B / 10$ Modulus: $B \% 10$
- Algorithm

ones = num % 10

num = num / 10

tens = num % 10

hundreds = num / 10

num	hundreds	tens	ones
123			

10



Digit Values to Characters

- After applying one of the algorithms, we have three variables, each with the value of one of the decimal digits
 - What would happen if we put those values into the display memory instead of the ASCII codes for the characters?
- How do we convert those values to the corresponding ASCII codes?

HEX	CHAR
30	0
31	1
32	2
33	3
34	4
35	5
36	6
37	7
38	8
39	9

11



Wrapping Up

- Up Next:
 - Logic Functions
 - Truth Tables
 - Logic Gates
 - Combinational Circuits
- Remember the homework!**
- Remember your videos and reading**
 - Including the video quiz!
- Questions?

12