Your Name:	netid:	Group #:
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ECE 120 Worksheet 1: Binary Representation



1. Consider the progressive improvement of computer graphics (like the evolution of Mario drawn above). Why does increasing from one or two bits per pixel to 24 to 32 bits per pixel alter the quality of graphics so much? What are these bits encoding?

2. Consider the bit sequence 10111010. What does the sequence represent? Create a list of possible interpretations

Unsigned binary representation of integer numbers

- Let's look how integers, such as 1, 2, 3, and so on can be represented using binary digits 0 and 1
- Decimal numbers use base 10 positional notation, e.g., 564 means that there are 5 hundreds, 6 tenths, and 4 ones. Each digit's position in the number defines if this number is ones, or tenths, or hundreds...
 - \circ 564 can be writes as 5*100 + 6*10 + 4, or alternatively, $5*10^2 + 6*10^1 + 4*10^0$
 - o Here 10 is the base of the numerical system used
 - o Alternatively, 564 can be written as 564₁₀
- Binary numbers work the same way using just two digits, 0 and 1, using base 2 positional notation
 - 00110 can be written as $0^2^4 + 0^2^3 + 1^2^2 + 1^2^4 + 0^2^0$
 - o Notation 00110₂ means that the number is written in binary form
 - o By the way, $00110_2 = 6_{10}$
 - O With k bits we can represent 2^k positive integers, ranging from 0 to 2^k-1

Unsigned binary to decimal conversion

- Recall that a binary integer number consisting of k bits is written in the form $a_{k-1}a_{k-2}...a_1a_0$ where a_i is either 0 or 1
 - o Example: 11000111₂
- Compute the decimal number as follows:
 - O $A_{10} = a_{k-1} * 2^{k-1} + ... a_1 * 2^1 + a_0 * 2^0$
- Example: convert 0111001₂ to the decimal notation:
 - O The magnitude is $0*2^6+1*2^5+1*2^4+1*2^3+0*2^2+0*2^1+1*2^0=32_{10}+16_{10}+8_{10}+1_{10}=57_{10}$

Decimal to unsigned binary conversion

- The textbook describes a method based on comparing with descending powers of 2 and subtracting
- A simpler technique is based on short division by 2 with remainder
 - Start by writing the number to be converted
 - o Divide it by 2
 - o Write *quotient* of the division underneath the number
 - o Write remainder of the division next to the number
 - Repeat last 3 steps until the quotient becomes 0
 - Write down the sequence of remainders, starting from the bottom, this is your answer
- Example: 156₁₀=?₂

156 0

78 0

39 1

19 1

9 1

4 0

2 0

1 1

0 0

O The answer is $156_{10} = 010011100_2$

3.	Write the following decimal numbers using 8-bit unsigned representations.	Show your
	work.	

- a) 67
- b) 85

- 4. Write the decimal numbers represented by each of the following unsigned binary patterns. Show your work.
 - a) 01101001
- b) 10001110