

L8 Float Representation, Evaluation order for logical expressions

C Programming: Tilde Operator (~)

What is `~` in C?

- `~` is the **bitwise NOT operator**.
- Flips every bit:
 - `0 → 1`
 - `1 → 0`

Example:

`x = 5; // 0000 0101 (in 8 bits)`

`~x = ? // 1111 1010`



Example with Unsigned Integer

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    unsigned int x = 5;    // 0000...0101
    printf("x = %u\n", x);
    printf("~x = %u\n", ~x);
}
```

Example with Signed Integer

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int x = 5;    // 0000...0101
    printf("x = %d\n", x);
    printf("~x = %d\n", ~x);
}
```



Floating Point Representation (IEEE 754)

C uses IEEE 754 Standard for float (32-bit) and double (64-bit).

Sign (1 bit)	Exponent (8 bits)	Mantissa (23 bits)
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$$(-1)^{\text{sign}} \times (1.\text{mantissa}) \times 2^{(\text{exponent}-127)}$$

Example

Number: 5.75

- Convert to binary:

$$5.75 = 101.11_2$$

$$= 1.0111 \times 2^2$$

Sign = 0 (positive)

Exponent = $127 + 2 = 129 = 10000001_2$

Mantissa = 0111000...

Final 32-bit pattern:

```
0 10000001 01110000000000000000000000000000
```



Float Representation Example – 0.15625

Convert decimal to binary fraction:

```
0.15625 × 2 = 0.3125 → 0
0.3125 × 2 = 0.625   → 0
0.625 × 2 = 1.25     → 1
0.25 × 2 = 0.5       → 0
0.5 × 2 = 1.0        → 1
```

Binary = 0.00101_2 Normalize: 1.01×2^{-3} . Sign = 0

Exponent = $127 - 3 = 124 = 01111100_2$

Mantissa = 01000000...

Final bit pattern: 0 01111100 010000000000000000000000

Another Float Example – Negative Number

Number: -7.5

Binary: $111.1_2 = 1.111 \times 2^2$

Sign = 1

Exponent = $127 + 2 = 129 = 10000001_2$

Mantissa = 1110000...

Final representation:

1 10000001 11100000000000000000000000000000



The Problem: Exact Representation

- Not all decimal real numbers can be represented **exactly** in binary.
- Example: `0.1` in base 10 looks simple.
- In **binary (base 2)**, `0.1` = `0.000110011001100110011...` (repeating infinitely).
- A `float` has **limited bits**, so it stores only an approximation.



Example in C

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    float x = 0.1f;
    if (x == 0.1f)
        printf("Equal\n");
    else
        printf("Not Equal\n");

    printf("x = %.25f\n", x);
    return 0;
}
```



The Problem

- Floating point numbers (`float` , `double`) are stored in **binary (IEEE 754)**.
- Many decimal values **cannot be represented exactly**.
- Equality checks (`==`) often fail due to **rounding errors**.

Example: Equality Failure

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    float x = 0.1f;
    float y = 0.2f;
    float z = 0.3f;

    if (x + y == z) {
        printf("Equal\n");
    } else {
        printf("Not Equal\n");
    }
}
```



Why?

Internally (IEEE 754, 32-bit float):

0.1 \rightarrow 0.10000000149011612

0.2 \rightarrow 0.20000000298023224

0.3 \rightarrow 0.30000001192092896

$x + y = 0.3000000119...$

$z = 0.3000000119...$

Tiny differences cause `==` to fail.



The Fix: Use an Epsilon

Instead of `==`, check if the difference is within tolerance:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>

int main() {
    float x = 0.1f, y = 0.2f, z = 0.3f;
    float epsilon = 1e-6;

    if (fabs((x + y) - z) < epsilon) {
        printf("Approximately Equal\n");
    } else {
        printf("Not Equal\n");
    }
}
```



Logical Operators in C

- **AND (&&)**

True if *both* operands are true.

- **OR (||)**

True if *at least one* operand is true.

- **NOT (!)**

Negates a condition.



Evaluation Order – Short-Circuit

In C, evaluation is **left-to-right** with **short-circuiting**:

- `A && B` → If `A` is false, `B` is not evaluated.
- `A || B` → If `A` is true, `B` is not evaluated.

This is called **short-circuit evaluation**.

Example: Short-Circuit AND

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int x = 0;
    if (x != 0 && (10 / x > 1)) {
        printf("Condition true\n");
    } else {
        printf("Condition false\n");
    }
}
```



Example: Short-Circuit OR

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int x = 5;
    if (x == 5 || (10 / x == 2)) {
        printf("True branch\n");
    }
}
```

Example with Side Effects

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int a = 0, b = 1;
    if (a++ > 0 && b++) {
        printf("Inside if\n");
    }
    printf("a = %d, b = %d\n", a, b);
}
```

