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The Beauty and Joy of Computing

Lecture #3 Abstraction II



The Future of The Internet of Things (IoT)

- Started as Ubiquitous Computing coined by Mark Weisner in 1988.
- Gaining more momentum as smartphones and tablets become more prevalent.
- Current innovation tend to target private homes.



<http://blogs.parc.com/files/2010/09/parcpad.jpg>

<http://dailytechtrends.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Internet-of-Things-Nest-Thermostat.jpg>

Abstraction: Numbers



Abstraction: Numbers

- **Number bases**, including binary and decimal, are used for reasoning about digital data.
- Bits represent binary data using **base two** digits: zero and one.
- **Hexadecimal**, or **base-16**, is often used in reasoning about data e.g., colors in images.
- **Different bases help** in reasoning about digital data; digital data is stored in bits.

```
000000100000
000111011100
0010000000100
011011011011
011000000011
001000100010
001010001010
000101110010
000010000100
000001111000
```



Base 10 #s, Decimals

Digits: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Example: 3271

$$3271_{10} = (3 \times 10^3) + (2 \times 10^2) + (7 \times 10^1) + (1 \times 10^0)$$

Base 2 #s, Binary (to Decimal)

Digits: 0, 1 (binary digits → bits)

Example: “1101” in binary? (“0b1101”)

$$1101_2 = (1 \times 2^3) + (1 \times 2^2) + (0 \times 2^1) + (1 \times 2^0)$$

$$= 8 + 4 + 0 + 1$$

$$= 13$$

Base 16 #s, Hexadecimal (to Decimal)

Digits: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B, C, D, E, F
10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Example: “A5” in Hexadecimal?

$$\begin{aligned} 0xA5 &= A5_{16} = (10 \times 16^1) + (5 \times 16^0) \\ &= 160 + 5 \\ &= 165 \end{aligned}$$





Decimal vs Hexadecimal vs Binary

- N bits = 2^N things
- 4 Bits
 - 1 “Nibble”
 - 1 Hex Digit = 16 things
- 8 Bits
 - 1 “Byte”
 - 2 Hex Digits = 256 things
 - Color is usually 0-255 Red, 0-255 Blue, 0-255 Green (#4A00FF)

D	H	B
00	0	0000
01	1	0001
02	2	0010
03	3	0011
04	4	0100
05	5	0101
06	6	0110
07	7	0111
08	8	1000
09	9	1001
10	A	1010
11	B	1011
12	C	1100
13	D	1101
14	E	1110
15	F	1111





Smallest to Largest?



a) $0xC < 0b1010 < 11$

b) $0xC < 11 < 0b1010$

c) $11 < 0b1010 < 0xC$

d) $0b1010 < 11 < 0xC$

e) $0b1010 < 0xC < 11$



Abstraction: Base Conversion



Convert FROM decimal TO binary

- E.g., 13 to binary?
- Start with the columns

$\begin{array}{r} 13 \\ \hline 5 \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$

$2^3=8$	$2^2=4$	$2^1=2$	$2^0=1$
1	1	0	1

- Left to right, is (column) \leq number n ?
 - If yes, put how many of that column fit in n , subtract column * that many from n , keep going.
 - If not, put 0 and keep going. (and Stop at 0)





Convert FROM decimal TO hexadecimal

- E.g., 165 to hexadecimal?
- Start with the columns

$$\begin{array}{r} 165 \\ \underline{5} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$16^3 = 4096$	$16^2 = 256$	$16^1 = 16$	$16^0 = 1$
0	0	(10) A	5

- Left to right, is (column) \leq number **n**?
 - If yes, put how many of that column fit in **n**, subtract column * that many from **n**, keep going.
 - If not, put 0 and keep going. (and Stop at 0)





Convert Binary \leftrightarrow Hexadecimal

- Binary \rightarrow Hex? Easy!
 - Always **left-pad** with 0s to make full nibbles, then look up!
 - E.g., **0b11110** to Hex?
 - **0b11110 \rightarrow 0001 1110**
 - Then look up: **0x1E**
- Hex \rightarrow Binary? Easy!
 - Just look up, drop leading 0s
 - **0x1E \rightarrow 0001 1110 \rightarrow 0b11110**

D	H	B
00	0	0000
01	1	0001
02	2	0010
03	3	0011
04	4	0100
05	5	0101
06	6	0110
07	7	0111
08	8	1000
09	9	1001
10	A	1010
11	B	1011
12	C	1100
13	D	1101
14	E	1110
15	F	1111



Abstraction: Power, Limitations



Abstraction (revisited): Digital Data

- A combination of abstractions is used to represent digital data.
- At the lowest level all digital data are represented by bits.
 - **Bits can represent anything!**
- Bits are grouped to represent higher-level abstractions including numbers and characters.
 - Logical values? 0 → False, 1 → True
 - Colors? 00 → Red, 01 → Green, 10 → Blue
 - Characters? 00000 → 'a', 00001 → 'b', ...
- Higher-level abstractions such as Internet protocol (IP) packets, images, and audio files are comprised of groups of bits that represent different parts of the abstractions.





Interpretation of a Binary Sequence...

- ...depends on how it is used (e.g., as instruction, number, text, sound, or image).
- The sequence of bits that represents...
 - ...an instruction may also represent data processed by that instruction.
 - ...a character/letter may also represent a number.
 - ...a color in an image may also represent a sound in an audio file.

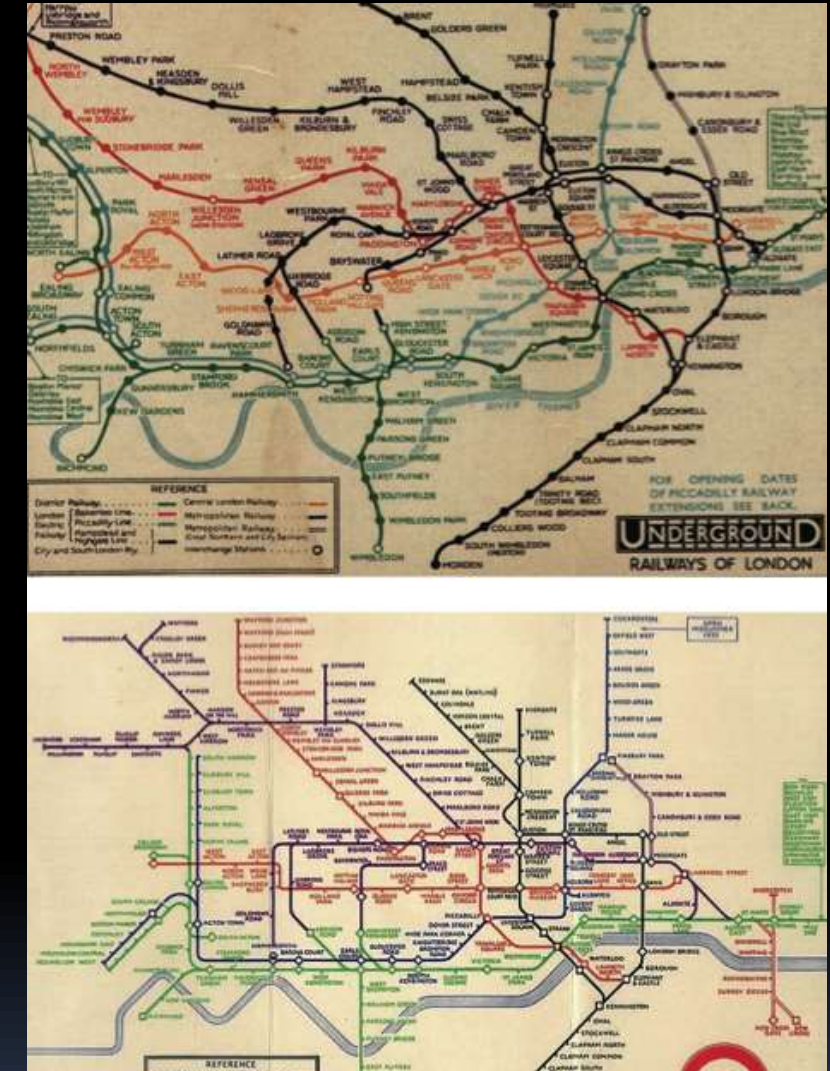
(Wikipedia)





Detail Removal Often Comes At A Cost

- Removing detail isn't universally a positive thing.
 - The simplification often **takes out the subtle aspects** of the original
 - Cliff notes not always better than novel!



The London Underground
1928 Map & Harry Beck 1933
map.





Overflow and Roundoff

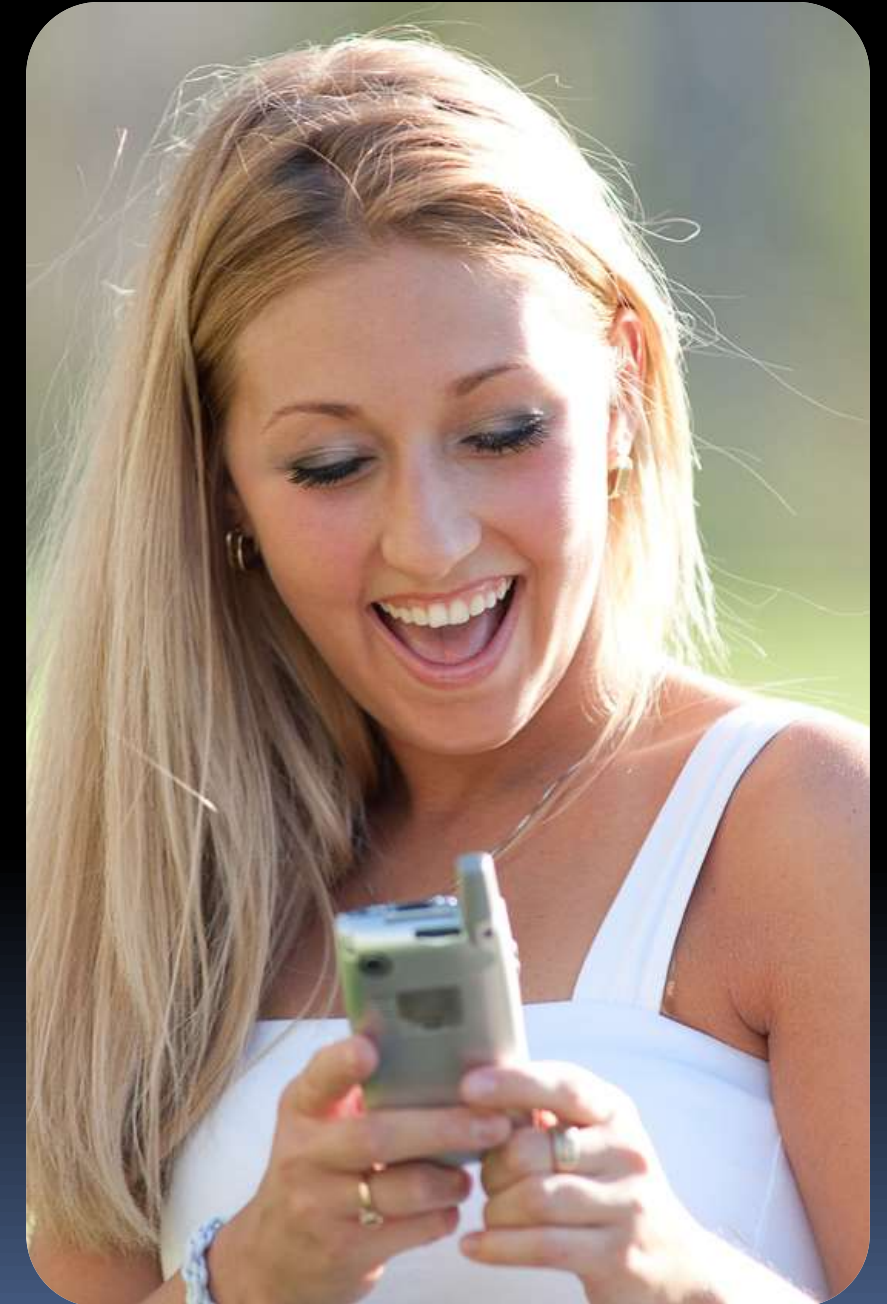
- Overflow
 - When the **number of represented things exceeds digits** allocated for it.
 - E.g., Odometer rollover
 - $99999 \rightarrow 00000$
 - E.g., Adding $15 + 2$ using 4 bits:
 - $0b1111 + 0b10 = 0b1$
- Roundoff error
 - When the **true real number can't be stored exactly** given the encoding due to the fixed number of bits
 - E.g., $\pi = 3.14$
 - Sometimes this error accumulates causing problems!





Summary: Abstractions everywhere!

- Applications and systems are designed, developed, and analyzed using levels of hardware, software, and conceptual abstractions.
 - E.g., Mobile apps and systems
 - E.g., Web services (both an application and a system)
- This course will include examples of abstractions used in modeling the world, managing complexity, and communicating with people as well as with machines.



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