

Assignment 3

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1 Convert IEEE.754 Single Precision to Decimal

Convert the value of 01000001001011000000000000000000 to decimal.

1.1 Determining Sign

The first bit is the sign, which is 1. Our result is positive.

1.2 Unbiased Exponent

The second part of the sequence is the exponent stored as an 8-bit unsigned integer with a bias of 127.

$$10000010$$

So our exponent must be such that:

$$10000010 = x + 1111111 \quad (1)$$

or $x = 10000010 - 1111111$ or $x = 130 - 127$ which is

$$x = 00000011 \quad (2)$$

So our exponent is 3.

1.3 Fraction

The fraction of the binary representation is the remaining 23-bits

$$01011000000000000000000$$

Placing a 1 in front of the significant bits and disregarding the trailing '0's

$$101011$$

1.4 Denormalize

If we combine the exponent, significand and sign, we end up with a binary number.

$$+1.01011 * 2^3$$

If we denormalize the binary number we get:

3 IEEE Floating Point Representation

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Single Precision | 32-bits: 1-bit for the sign, 8-bits for the exponent, and 23-bits for the fractional part of the significand. Approximate normalized range 2^{-126} to 2^{127} . Also called a <i>short real</i> . |
| Double Precision | 64-bits: 1-bit for the sign, 11-bits for the exponent, and 52-bits for the fractional part of the significand. Approximate normalized range: 2^{-1022} to 2^{1023} . Also called a <i>long real</i> . |

4 Passing Parameters

4.1 C Style Call

In order to make a C style call, the values or addresses to be used must be pushed to the stack. The function being called must adjust the base pointer to access the appropriate memory, and then restore ebp for a proper return.

```
.code
addnumbers proc
    push ebp
    mov ebp, esp
    sub eax, eax
    mov eax, dword ptr [ebp+8]
    add dword ptr [ebp+12]
    add dword ptr [ebp+16]
    ret
add_numbers endp

main proc
    push 1
    push 2
    push 3
    call add_numbers
    add esp, 12
main endp
end main
```

In the above function 3 values are pushed to the stack. 'addnumbers' is called and control is transferred. In the subroutine eax is given the first value, and the rest are added. The return value is passed in eax to the caller. The stack is adjusted by the caller.

4.2 Passing by Registers

Passing by registers is generally a bad idea for several reasons. Passing by registers can make your source difficult to follow and maintain as it's not always

clear without stepping through the program how a particular register might be use in a process, unless of course it has been documented. Furthermore, by relying on registers to hold and pass data, you make the program logic overly complex, as well as introduce errors, as register states must now be constantly maintained via the stack each time a process, or function, is to be called.

5 16-bit 2s' Compliment

The representation and method to arrive at -378 in 16-bit 2s' compliment is:

$$((2^{16} - 1) - 378) + 1 = 1111111010000110$$