

- **Claim:** at least conceptually we could say that

$$123 \equiv \langle 3, 2, 1 \rangle,$$

i.e., the decimal literal 123 is basically just a sequence of digits.

- ▶ **Question:** given
 - ▶ a **bit** is a single binary digit, i.e., 0 or 1,
 - ▶ a **byte** is an 8-element sequence of bits, and
 - ▶ a **word** is a w -element sequence of bits

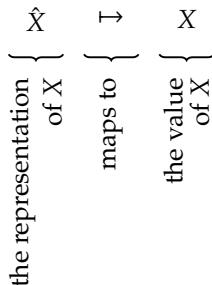
and so, e.g.,

$$01111011 \equiv \langle 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0 \rangle,$$

what do these things *mean* ... what do they *represent*?

- ▶ **Answer:** anything *we* decide they do!

► Concept:



i.e., we need

1. a concrete representation that we can write down, plus
2. a mapping that yields the correct value *and* is consistent (in both directions).

► Agenda:

1. useful properties of bit-sequences,
2. positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations.

Part 1: useful properties of bit-sequences

Definition

A given literal, say

$$X = 1111011,$$

can be interpreted in *two* ways:

1. A **little-endian** ordering is where we read bits in a literal from right-to-left, i.e.,

$$X_{LE} = \langle X_0, X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5, X_6 \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1 \rangle,$$

where

- ▶ the Least-Significant Bit (LSB) is the right-most in the literal (i.e., X_0), and
- ▶ the Most-Significant Bit (MSB) is the left-most in the literal (i.e., $X_{n-1} = X_6$).

2. A **big-endian** ordering is where we read bits in a literal from left-to-right, i.e.,

$$X_{BE} = \langle X_6, X_5, X_4, X_3, X_2, X_1, X_0 \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1 \rangle,$$

where

- ▶ the Least-Significant Bit (LSB) is the left-most in the literal (i.e., $X_{n-1} = X_6$), and
- ▶ the Most-Significant Bit (MSB) is the right-most in the literal (i.e., X_0).

Part 1: useful properties of bit-sequences

Definition

Following the idea of vectorial Boolean function, given an n -element bit-sequence X , and an m -element bit-sequence Y we can clearly

1. overload $\oslash \in \{\neg\}$, i.e., write

$$R = \oslash X,$$

to mean

$$R_i = \oslash X_i$$

for $0 \leq i < n$,

2. overload $\ominus \in \{\wedge, \vee, \oplus\}$, i.e., write

$$R = X \ominus Y,$$

to mean

$$R_i = X_i \ominus Y_i$$

for $0 \leq i < n = m$, where if $n \neq m$, we pad either X or Y with 0 until the $n = m$.

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- **Example:** in C, we use the computational (or **bit-wise**) operators \sim , $\&$, $|$, and \wedge this way: they apply NOT, AND, OR, and XOR to corresponding bits in the operands.

Part 1: useful properties of bit-sequences

Definition

Given two n -bit sequences X and Y , we can define some important properties named after Richard Hamming, a researcher at Bell Labs:

- ▶ The **Hamming weight** of X is the number of bits in X that are equal to 1, i.e., the number of times $X_i = 1$. This can be expressed as

$$\text{HW}(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} X_i.$$

- ▶ The **Hamming distance** between X and Y is the number of bits in X that differ from the corresponding bit in Y , i.e., the number of times $X_i \neq Y_i$. This can be expressed as

$$\text{HD}(X, Y) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} X_i \oplus Y_i.$$

Note that both quantities naturally generalise to non-binary sequences.

Part 1: useful properties of bit-sequences

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Note that both quantities naturally generalise to non-binary sequences.

- ▶ **Example:** given $X = \langle 1, 0, 0, 1 \rangle$ and $Y = \langle 0, 1, 1, 1 \rangle$ we find that

$$\text{HW}(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} X_i = 1 + 0 + 0 + 1 = 2$$

$$\text{HD}(X, Y) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} X_i \oplus Y_i = (1 \oplus 0) + (0 \oplus 1) + (0 \oplus 1) + (1 \oplus 1) = 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 = 3$$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (1)

- **Concept:** a **positional number system** expresses the value of a number x using a base- b (or radix- b) expansion, i.e.,

$$\hat{x} = \langle \hat{x}_0, \hat{x}_1, \dots, \hat{x}_{n-1} \rangle$$

$$\mapsto x$$

$$= \pm \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \hat{x}_i \cdot b^i$$

where each \hat{x}_i

- is one of n digits taken from the digit set $X = \{0, 1, \dots, b-1\}$,
- is “weighted” by some power of the base b .

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (1)

► Beware!

- for $b > 10$ we can't express \hat{x}_i using a single Arabic numeral,
- for $b = 16$, for example, we use letters instead:

A	\mapsto	10
B	\mapsto	11
C	\mapsto	12
D	\mapsto	13
E	\mapsto	14
F	\mapsto	15

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (2)

Example

Consider an example where we

1. set $b = 10$, i.e., deal with **decimal** numbers, and
2. have $\hat{x}_i \in X = \{0, 1, \dots, 10 - 1 = 9\}$.

This means we can write

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} = 123 &= \langle 3, 2, 1 \rangle_{(10)} \\ &\mapsto x \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \hat{x}_i \cdot 10^i \\ &= 3 \cdot 10^0 + 2 \cdot 10^1 + 1 \cdot 10^2 \\ &= 3 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 10 + 1 \cdot 100 \\ &= 123_{(10)}\end{aligned}$$

i.e., represent the value “one hundred and twenty three” in a variety of ways using different bases.

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (2)

Example

Consider an example where we

1. set $b = 2$, i.e., deal with **binary** numbers, and
2. have $\hat{x}_i \in X = \{0, 2 - 1 = 1\}$.

This means we can write

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} = 1111011 &= \langle 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1 \rangle_{(2)} \\ &\mapsto x \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \hat{x}_i \cdot 2^i \\ &= 1 \cdot 2^0 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^6 \\ &= 1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0 \cdot 4 + 1 \cdot 8 + 1 \cdot 16 + 1 \cdot 32 + 1 \cdot 64 \\ &= 123_{(10)}\end{aligned}$$

i.e., represent the value “one hundred and twenty three” in a variety of ways using different bases.

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (2)

Example

Consider an example where we

1. set $b = 8$, i.e., deal with **octal** numbers, and
2. have $\hat{x}_i \in X = \{0, 1, \dots, 8 - 1 = 7\}$.

This means we can write

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} = 173 &= \langle 3, 7, 1 \rangle_{(8)} \\ &\mapsto x \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \hat{x}_i \cdot 8^i \\ &= 3 \cdot 8^0 + 7 \cdot 8^1 + 1 \cdot 8^2 \\ &= 3 \cdot 1 + 7 \cdot 8 + 1 \cdot 64 \\ &= 123_{(10)}\end{aligned}$$

i.e., represent the value “one hundred and twenty three” in a variety of ways using different bases.

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (2)

Example

Consider an example where we

1. set $b = 16$, i.e., deal with **hexadecimal** numbers, and
2. have $\hat{x}_i \in X = \{0, 1, \dots, 16 - 1 = 15\}$.

This means we can write

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} = 7B &= \langle B, 7 \rangle_{(16)} \\ &\mapsto x \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \hat{x}_i \cdot 16^i \\ &= 11 \cdot 16^0 + 7 \cdot 16^1 \\ &= 11 \cdot 1 + 7 \cdot 16 \\ &= 123_{(10)}\end{aligned}$$

i.e., represent the value “one hundred and twenty three” in a variety of ways using different bases.

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (3)

- **Problem:** we want to represent and perform various operations on elements of \mathbb{Z} , *but*
 1. it's an infinite set, and
 2. so far we've ignored the issue of sign.
- **Solution:** in C, for example, we get

$$\begin{array}{llll} \text{unsigned char} & \simeq & \text{uint8_t} & \mapsto \{ 0, \dots, +2^8 - 1 \} \\ \text{char} & \simeq & \text{int8_t} & \mapsto \{ -2^7, \dots, 0, \dots, +2^7 - 1 \} \end{array}$$

but why *these*, and how do they work?

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (4)

Unsigned

Definition

An unsigned integer can be represented in n bits by using the natural binary expansion. That is, we have

$$\hat{x} = \langle \hat{x}_0, \hat{x}_1, \dots, \hat{x}_{n-1} \rangle$$

$$\mapsto x$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \hat{x}_i \cdot 2^i$$

for $\hat{x}_i \in \{0, 1\}$, which yields

$$0 \leq x \leq 2^n - 1.$$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (5)

Unsigned

Example ($n = 8$)

11111111	\mapsto	$1 \cdot 2^7 + 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+255_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
10000101	\mapsto	$1 \cdot 2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+133_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
10000000	\mapsto	$1 \cdot 2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+128_{(10)}$
01111111	\mapsto	$0 \cdot 2^7 + 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+127_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
01111011	\mapsto	$0 \cdot 2^7 + 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+123_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
00000001	\mapsto	$0 \cdot 2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+1_{(10)}$
00000000	\mapsto	$0 \cdot 2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+0_{(10)}$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (6)

Unsigned

► Fact:

- each hexadecimal digit $x_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 15\}$,
- four bits gives $2^4 = 16$ possible combinations, so
- each hexadecimal digit can be thought of as a short-hand for four binary digits.

► Example: we can perform the following translation steps

$$\begin{aligned} 8AC &= \langle \quad C, \quad A, \quad 8, \quad \rangle_{(16)} \\ &= \langle \langle 0, 0, 1, 1 \rangle_{(2)}, \quad \langle 0, 1, 0, 1 \rangle_{(2)}, \quad \langle 0, 0, 0, 1 \rangle_{(2)} \rangle_{(16)} \\ &= \langle \quad 0, 0, 1, 1, \quad 0, 1, 0, 1, \quad 0, 0, 0, 1 \quad \rangle_{(16)} \\ &\mapsto 2220_{(10)} \end{aligned}$$

such that in C, for example,

$$0x8AC = 2220_{(10)}.$$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (7)

Unsigned

- **Fact:** left-shift (resp. right-shift) of some x by y digits is equivalent to multiplication (resp. division) by b^y .
- **Example:** taking $b = 2$ we find that

$$\begin{aligned}x \times 2^y &= (\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \cdot 2^i) \times 2^y \\&= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \cdot 2^i \times 2^y \\&= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \cdot 2^{i+y} \\&= x \ll y\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}x/2^y &= (\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \cdot 2^i)/2^y \\&= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \cdot 2^i / 2^y \\&= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} x_i \cdot 2^{i-y} \\&= x \gg y\end{aligned}$$

such that in C, for example,

$$\begin{aligned}0x8AC \ll 2 &\mapsto 2220_{(10)} \times 2^2 = 8880_{(10)} \mapsto 0x22B0 \\0x8AC \gg 2 &\mapsto 2220_{(10)} / 2^2 = 555_{(10)} \mapsto 0x22B\end{aligned}$$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (12)

Signed, sign-magnitude

Definition

A signed integer can be represented in n bits by using the **sign-magnitude** approach; 1 bit is reserved for the sign (0 means positive, 1 means negative) and $n - 1$ for the magnitude. That is, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} &= \langle \hat{x}_0, \hat{x}_1, \dots, \hat{x}_{n-1} \rangle \\ &\mapsto x \\ &= (-1)^{\hat{x}_{n-1}} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \hat{x}_i \cdot 2^i\end{aligned}$$

for $\hat{x}_i \in \{0, 1\}$, which yields

$$-2^{n-1} + 1 \leq x \leq +2^{n-1} - 1.$$

Note that there are two representations of zero (i.e., $+0$ and -0).

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (13)

Signed, sign-magnitude

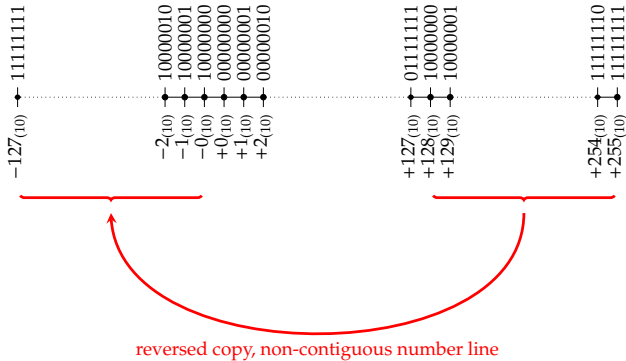
Example ($n = 8$)

$$\begin{array}{rclcl}
 01111111 & \mapsto & (-1)^0 & \cdot & (1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0) = +127_{(10)} \\
 & \vdots & & & \vdots \\
 01111011 & \mapsto & (-1)^0 & \cdot & (1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0) = +123_{(10)} \\
 & \vdots & & & \vdots \\
 00000001 & \mapsto & (-1)^0 & \cdot & (0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0) = +1_{(10)} \\
 00000000 & \mapsto & (-1)^0 & \cdot & (0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0) = +0_{(10)} \\
 10000000 & \mapsto & (-1)^1 & \cdot & (0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0) = -0_{(10)} \\
 10000001 & \mapsto & (-1)^1 & \cdot & (0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0) = -1_{(10)} \\
 & \vdots & & & \vdots \\
 11111011 & \mapsto & (-1)^1 & \cdot & (1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0) = -123_{(10)} \\
 & \vdots & & & \vdots \\
 11111111 & \mapsto & (-1)^1 & \cdot & (1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0) = -127_{(10)}
 \end{array}$$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (14)

Signed, sign-magnitude

Example ($n = 8$)



Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (15)

Signed, two's-complement

Definition

A signed integer can be represented in n bits by using the **two's-complement** approach; the basic idea is to weight the $(n-1)$ -th bit using -2^{n-1} rather than $+2^{n-1}$, and all other bits as normal. That is, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x} &= \langle \hat{x}_0, \hat{x}_1, \dots, \hat{x}_{n-1} \rangle \\ &\mapsto x \\ &= \hat{x}_{n-1} \cdot -2^{n-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \hat{x}_i \cdot 2^i\end{aligned}$$

for $\hat{x}_i \in \{0, 1\}$, which yields

$$-2^{n-1} \leq x \leq +2^{n-1} - 1.$$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (16)

Signed, two's-complement

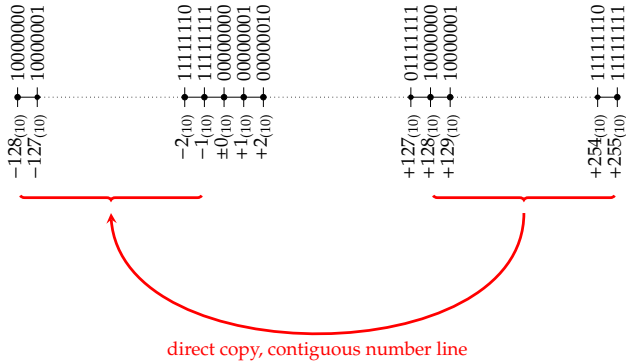
Example ($n = 8$)

01111111	\mapsto	$0 \cdot -2^7 + 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+127_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
01111011	\mapsto	$0 \cdot -2^7 + 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+123_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
00000001	\mapsto	$0 \cdot -2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+1_{(10)}$
00000000	\mapsto	$0 \cdot -2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$+0_{(10)}$
11111111	\mapsto	$1 \cdot -2^7 + 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$-1_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
10000101	\mapsto	$1 \cdot -2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$-123_{(10)}$
\vdots				\vdots
10000000	\mapsto	$1 \cdot -2^7 + 0 \cdot 2^6 + 0 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0$	$=$	$-128_{(10)}$

Part 2: positional number systems \leadsto standard integer representations (17)

Signed, two's-complement

Example ($n = 8$)



► Take away points:

1. We control what bit-sequences mean: we can interpret an instance of the C char data-type as
 - a signed 8-bit integer, *or*
 - a generic object which can take one of 2^8 states,
and, as a result, can represent *anything*, e.g.,
 - a pixel within an image,
 - a character within a document,
 - a number within a matrix,
 - ...
2. Beyond this, knowing about various standard representations is important and useful in a general sense.

Additional Reading

- ▶ *Wikipedia: Numeral system*. URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numeral_system.
- ▶ D. Page. “Chapter 1: Mathematical preliminaries”. In: *A Practical Introduction to Computer Architecture*. 1st ed. Springer, 2009.
- ▶ B. Parhami. “Part 1: Number representation”. In: *Computer Arithmetic: Algorithms and Hardware Designs*. 1st ed. Oxford University Press, 2000.
- ▶ W. Stallings. “Chapter 9: Number systems”. In: *Computer Organisation and Architecture*. 9th ed. Prentice Hall, 2013.
- ▶ A.S. Tanenbaum and T. Austin. “Appendix A: Binary numbers”. In: *Structured Computer Organisation*. 6th ed. Prentice Hall, 2012.

References

- [1] [Wikipedia: Numeral system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numeral_system). URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numeral_system (see p. 29).
- [2] D. Page. “Chapter 1: Mathematical preliminaries”. In: *A Practical Introduction to Computer Architecture*. 1st ed. Springer, 2009 (see p. 29).
- [3] B. Parhami. “Part 1: Number representation”. In: *Computer Arithmetic: Algorithms and Hardware Designs*. 1st ed. Oxford University Press, 2000 (see p. 29).
- [4] W. Stallings. “Chapter 9: Number systems”. In: *Computer Organisation and Architecture*. 9th ed. Prentice Hall, 2013 (see p. 29).
- [5] A.S. Tanenbaum and T. Austin. “Appendix A: Binary numbers”. In: *Structured Computer Organisation*. 6th ed. Prentice Hall, 2012 (see p. 29).