

Topic V02

Hexadecimal Notation and
Storing Data in Memory

Hexadecimal

Value	Binary	Digit
0	0000	
1	0001	
2	0010	
3	0011	
4	0100	
5	0101	
6	0110	
7	0111	

Value	Binary	Digit
8	1000	
9	1001	
10	1010	
11	1011	
12	1100	
13	1101	
14	1110	
15	1111	

Example: ECA8 6420

1110 1100 1010 1000 0110 0100 0010 0000

Hexadecimal Example

How do you represent the number $+19_{10}$ in 32-bits?

$$19 = 16 + 2 + 1$$

$$19 = 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0001\ 0011$$

$$19 = 0x00000013$$


How do you represent the number $+19_{10}$ in hexadecimal?

Hexadecimal Example

How do you represent the number -105_{10} in 32-bits?

$$105 = 64 + 32 + 8 + 1$$

$$105 = 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0110\ 1001$$

$$\overline{105} = 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1001\ 0110$$

$$\begin{array}{r} + \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$-105 = 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ \underline{1111}\ \underline{1001}\ \underline{0111}$$

$$-105 = 0xFFFFFFFF97$$

How do you represent the number -105_{10} in hexadecimal?

Hexadecimal Example

How do you represent the number -105_{10} in 32-bits?

$$105 = 64 + 32 + 8 + 1$$

$$105 = 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0110\ 1001$$

$$\overline{105} = 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1001\ 0110$$

$$\begin{array}{r} + \\ \hline -105 = 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1001\ 0110 \end{array}$$

Big End

1

-105 = 0xFFFF97

Little End

To store this number in memory we group the bits into 8-bit groups called bytes

Memory

The memory of a computer is simply an array of bytes.

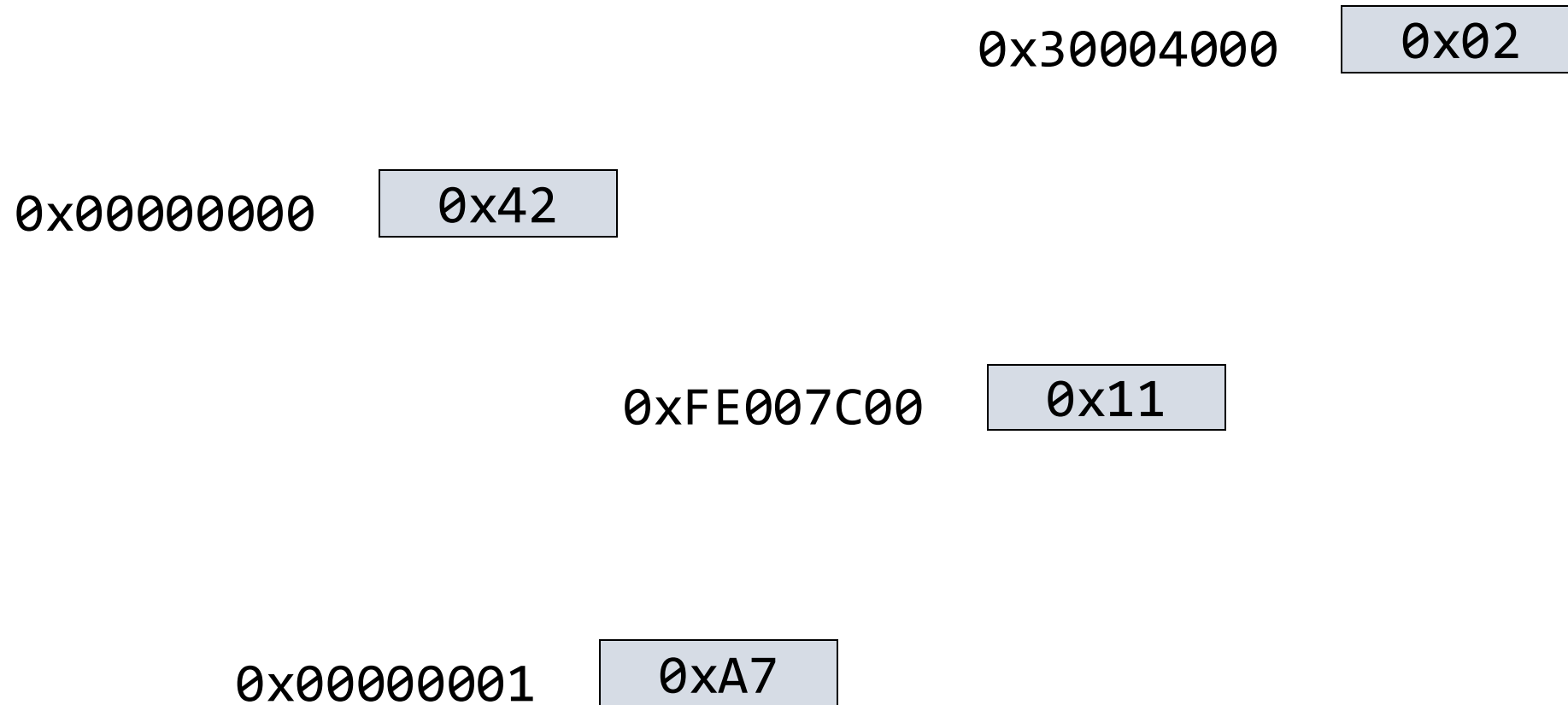
Thus, there is an index associated with each byte stored in memory.

The index of a given byte in memory is called its **address**.

The idea of an address



Address of a byte in memory



Some places do not have an address, they have a name:



A register in a processor does not have an address, it has a name

s0 

s1 

s2 

t0 

t1 

t2 

A byte in memory

A byte stored in memory has a value and an address.

In a 32-bit machine the address has 32 bits, and thus it is represented using eight hexadecimal digits.

For example, if the memory address `0x30004000` contains the byte `0100 0010`, on paper we represent this as:

Address	Value
<code>0x30004000</code>	<code>0x42</code>

In this drawing each box stores 1 byte.

Memory Organization

In RISC-V an integer is represented by 4 bytes

A memory address references a single byte

The difference between the addresses of two consecutive integers in memory is 4

Store the numbers $+19_{10}$ and -105_{10} in memory, in consecutive addresses, starting at address $0x10001000$:

($+19_{10} = 00010011_2 = 0x00000013$)
($-105_{10} = 10010111_2 = 0xFFFFFFFF97$)

This value is represented by four bytes:

$0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x13$

	Address	Value
↑ High Address	$0x10001007$	$0x97$
	$0x10001006$	$0xFF$
	$0x10001005$	$0xFF$
	$0x10001004$	$0xFF$
	$0x10001003$	$0x13$
	$0x10001002$	$0x00$
	$0x10001001$	$0x00$
↓ Low Address	$0x10001000$	$0x00$

In this example:

The memory address of $+19_{10}$ is $0x10001000$

The memory address of -105_{10} is $0x10001004$

Each box stores a single byte.

Endianness

In the previous example, there are two ways to store the numbers:

$+19_{10} = 0x0000\ 0013$ at the address $0x10001000$

$-105_{10} = 0xFFFF\ FF97$ at the address $0x10001004$

Address	Value
$0x10001007$	$0x97$
$0x10001006$	$0xFF$
$0x10001005$	$0xFF$
$0x10001004$	$0xFF$
$0x10001003$	$0x13$
$0x10001002$	$0x00$
$0x10001001$	$0x00$
$0x10001000$	$0x00$

Address	Value
$0x10001007$	$0xFF$
$0x10001006$	$0xFF$
$0x10001005$	$0xFF$
$0x10001004$	$0x97$
$0x10001003$	$0x00$
$0x10001002$	$0x00$
$0x10001001$	$0x00$
$0x10001000$	$0x13$

What is the difference?

Little-End and Big-End

$+19_{10} = 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0001\ 0011$ (binary)

Big end of $+19_{10}$

Little end of $+19_{10}$

$+19_{10} = 0x0000\ 0013$ (hexadecimal)

$-105_{10} = 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1001\ 0111$ (binary)

Big end of -105_{10}

Little end of -105_{10}

$-105_{10} = 0xFFFF\ FF97$ (hexadecimal)

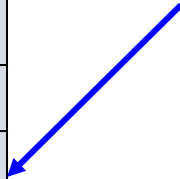
Endianness

The question is: which **end** of the integer do we store at the lower address in memory?

Address	Value
0x10001007	0x97
0x10001006	0xFF
0x10001005	0xFF
0x10001004	0xFF
0x10001003	0x13
0x10001002	0x00
0x10001001	0x00
0x10001000	0x00

Big-Endian Byte Order

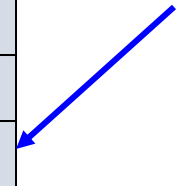
Big end of $+19_{10}$



Address	Value
0x10001007	0xFF
0x10001006	0xFF
0x10001005	0xFF
0x10001004	0x97
0x10001003	0x00
0x10001002	0x00
0x10001001	0x00
0x10001000	0x13

Little-Endian Byte Order

Little end of $+19_{10}$



RISC-V, DECstations and Intel 80x86 are little-endians
MIPS, Sun SPARC and IBM POWER are big-endians

RISC-V is Little Endian

Address	Value
0x1000100F	0x00
0x1000100E	0x00
0x1000100D	0x00
0x1000100C	0x07
0x1000100B	0x00
0x1000100A	0x00
0x10001009	0x00
0x10001008	0x05
0x10001007	0x00
0x10001006	0x00
0x10001005	0x00
0x10001004	0x03
0x10001003	0x00
0x10001002	0x00
0x10001001	0x00
0x10001000	0x01

Address	Value
0x1000101F	0x00
0x1000101E	0x00
0x1000101D	0x00
0x1000101C	0x0F
0x1000101B	0x00
0x1000101A	0x00
0x10001019	0x00
0x10001018	0x0D
0x10001017	0x00
0x10001016	0x00
0x10001015	0x00
0x10001014	0x0B
0x10001013	0x00
0x10001012	0x00
0x10001011	0x00
0x10001010	0x09

Least-significant byte at
lowest address of a word

This is the word:
0x0000 000B

In a big-endian machine
this would be the word:
0x0B00 0000

What we Have learned

Value	Binary	Digit
0	0000	0
1	0001	1
2	0010	2
3	0011	3
4	0100	4
5	0101	5
6	0110	6
7	0111	7

Value	Binary	Digit
8	1000	8
9	1001	9
10	1010	a
11	1011	b
12	1100	c
13	1101	d
14	1110	e
15	1111	f

	Address	Value
↑ High Address	0x10001007	0x97
	0x10001006	0xFF
	0x10001005	0xFF
	0x10001004	0xFF
	0x10001003	0x13
	0x10001002	0x00
	0x10001001	0x00
↓ Low Address	0x10001000	0x00

Address	Value
0x10001007	0x97
0x10001006	0xFF
0x10001005	0xFF
0x10001004	0xFF
0x10001003	0x13
0x10001002	0x00
0x10001001	0x00
0x10001000	0x00

Big-Endian Byte Order

Big end of +19₁₀

Address	Value
0x10001007	0xFF
0x10001006	0xFF
0x10001005	0xFF
0x10001004	0x97
0x10001003	0x00
0x10001002	0x00
0x10001001	0x00
0x10001000	0x13

Little end of +19₁₀

Little-Endian Byte Order