

DECIMAL, BINARY, AND HEXADECIMAL

Decimal Numbering System

Ten *symbols*: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

Represent larger numbers as a sequence of *digits*

- Each digit is one of the available symbols

Example: 7061 in decimal (base 10)

- $7061_{10} = (7 \times 10^3) + (0 \times 10^2) + (6 \times 10^1) + (1 \times 10^0)$

Binary Numbering System

Binary is base 2

- Symbols: 0, 1

Convention: $2_{10} = 10_2 = 0b10$

Base 10	Base 8	Base 2
0	0	0
1	1	1
2	2	10
3	3	11
4	4	100
5	5	101
6	6	110
7	7	111
8	10	1000
9	11	1001

Example: What is 0b110 in base 10?

- $0b110 = 110_2 = (1 \times 2^2) + (1 \times 2^1) + (0 \times 1^0) = 6_{10}$

Hexadecimal Number System

Hexadecimal is base 16 (> 10)

- Symbols? 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B, C, D, E, F

Convention: $16_{10} = 10_{16} = 0x10$

Example: What is $0xA5$ in base 10?

- $0xA5 = A5_{16} = (10 \times 16^1) + (5 \times 16^0) = 165_{10}$

BASE CONVERSION

Converting to Base 10

Can convert from any base *to* base 10

- $110_2 = (1 \times 2^2) + (1 \times 2^1) + (0 \times 1^0) = 6_{10}$
- $0xA5 = A5_{16} = (10 \times 16^1) + (5 \times 16^0) = 165_{10}$

We learned to think in base 10, so this is fairly natural for us

Challenge: Convert into other bases (e.g. 2, 16)

Challenge Question

Convert 13_{10} to binary

Hints:

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

Converting from Decimal to Binary

Given a decimal number N:

- List increasing powers of 2 from right to left until $\geq N$
- From left to right, ask is that (power of 2) $\leq N$?
 - If **YES**, put a 1 below and subtract that power from N
 - If **NO**, put a 0 below and keep going

Example for ~~13~~:

~~5~~
~~1~~
0

$2^4=16$	$2^3=8$	$2^2=4$	$2^1=2$	$2^0=1$
0	1	1	0	1

Converting from Decimal to Base B

Given a decimal number N:

- List increasing powers of B from right to left until $\geq N$
- From left to right, ask is that (power of B) $\leq N$?
 - If **YES**, put *how many* of that power go into N and subtract from N
 - If **NO**, put a 0 and keep going

Example for ~~16~~5 into hexadecimal (base 16):

~~5~~
0

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

Converting Binary ↔ Hexadecimal

Hex → Binary

- Substitute hex digits, then drop **leading zeros**
- Example: 0x2D in binary
 - 0x2 is 0b0010, 0xD is 0b1101
 - Drop two leading zeros, answer is 0b101101

Binary → Hex

- Pad with **leading zeros** until multiple of 4, then substitute groups of 4
- Example: 0b101101
 - Pad to 0b 0010 1101
 - Substitute to get 0x2D

Base 10	Base 16	Base 2
0	0	0000
1	1	0001
2	2	0010
3	3	0011
4	4	0100
5	5	0101
6	6	0110
7	7	0111
8	8	1000
9	9	1001
10	A	1010
11	B	1011
12	C	1100
13	D	1101
14	E	1110
15	F	1111

Binary → Hex Practice

Convert 0b100110110101101

- How many digits? 15
- Pad: 0b 0100 1101 1010 1101
- Substitute: 0x4DAD

Base 10	Base 16	Base 2
0	0	0000
1	1	0001
2	2	0010
3	3	0011
4	4	0100
5	5	0101
6	6	0110
7	7	0111
8	8	1000
9	9	1001
10	A	1010
11	B	1011
12	C	1100
13	D	1101
14	E	1110
15	F	1111

Why are we learning this?

Why does all of this matter?

- Humans think about numbers in base 10 but **computers think about numbers in base 2**
- How is it that computers can do all of the amazing things that they do?
 - **Binary encoding**

BINARY ENCODING

Numerical Encoding

AMAZING FACT: You can represent *anything* countable using numbers!

- Need to agree on an **encoding**
- Kind of like learning a new language

Examples:

- Decimal Numbers: $0 \rightarrow 0b0$, $1 \rightarrow 0b1$, $2 \rightarrow 0b10$, etc.
- English Letters: BJC $\rightarrow 0x424A43$, yay $\rightarrow 0x796179$
- Emoticons: 😊 0x0, 😞 0x1, 😎 0x2, 😊 0x3, 😼 0x4, 🙋 0x5

Binary Encoding

With N binary digits, how many things can you represent? 2^N

- Need N bits to represent n things, where $2^N \geq n$
- Example: 5 bits for alphabet because $2^5 = 32 > 26$

A binary digit is known as a **bit**

A group of 4 bits (1 hex digit) is called a **nibble**

A group of 8 bits (2 hex digits) is called a **byte**

bit→2 things, nibble→16 things, byte→256 things

So What's It Mean?

A sequence of bits can have many meanings!

Consider the hex sequence 0x4E6F21

Common interpretations include:

- The decimal number 5140257
- The characters "No!"
- The background color of this slide
- The real number 7.203034×10^{-39} [floating point]

It is up to the program/programmer to decide how to **interpret** the sequence of bits

Summary

Humans think about numbers in decimal;
computers think about numbers in binary

- Base conversion to go between
- Hex is more human-readable than binary

All information on a computer is in binary

- Nice because big difference between “high” and “low”

Binary encoding can represent *anything*!

- Program needs to know how to interpret bits