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# Data Representation

# External vs. Internal Representation

- External representation:
  - Convenient for programmer
  - Decimal (base 10)
- Internal representation:
  - Actual representation of data in the computer's memory:  
Always binary (1's and 0's)

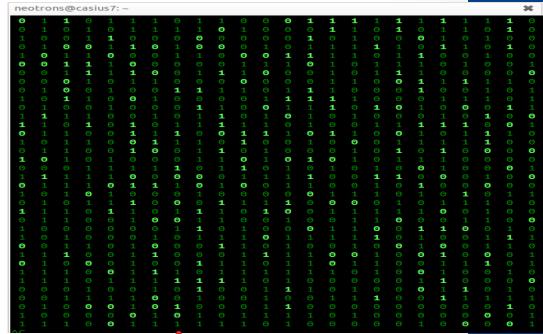


# Binary representation (base 2)

- On a computer all data is stored in binary
- Only two symbols: 0 and 1
- Each position is called a *bit*
- *Bits take up space*
- 8 bits make a *byte*
- *Example of a 4-bit number*

Represent  $15_{10}$  in binary using *positional encoding*

$$\begin{array}{r} 1024 \quad \underline{-} \\ \underline{\underline{1}} \quad \underline{\underline{0}} \quad \underline{\underline{0}} \quad \underline{\underline{0}} \quad \underline{\underline{0}} \quad \frac{1}{4} \quad \frac{0}{2} \quad \frac{1}{2^0} \\ \hline 512 \quad 256 \quad 128 \quad 64 \quad 32 \quad 16 \quad 8 \quad (Decimal 5) \\ \text{(1's place)} \end{array}$$



A terminal window titled "neutrons@casius7: ~" displaying a large grid of binary digits (0s and 1s). The grid is approximately 20 columns wide and 20 rows high, illustrating the storage of data in binary form.

- Actually the data is voltages
- We use the abstraction:
  - High voltage: 1 (true)
  - Low voltage: 0 (false)

Represent  $15_{10}$  in binary using  
positional encoding

1111

# Positional encoding for non-negative numbers

- Each position represents some power of the base
- Decimal (Base 10), Digits (0-9)
- Binary (Base 2), Digits (0,1)
- Hex (Base 16), Digits (0-9, A-F)

flex

X means this is a  
hex representation

$$0XA0 \rightarrow 10 \times 16 = 160_{10}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \overline{16^3} \quad \overline{256} \quad \overline{\frac{A}{16}} \quad \overline{\frac{0}{16^0}} \\ 16^3 \quad 256 \quad 16 \quad 16^0 \\ \end{array}$$

# $101_5 = ?$ In decimal

Using  
Positional  
encoding

A. 26

B. 51

C. 126

D. 130

$$(25) \overline{5^2} \quad \begin{array}{r} | \\ 0 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

Base 5

# Converting between binary and decimal

int  $x = 22;$

int  $x = \text{0b}10110$

binary rep.

Binary to decimal:  $1\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0_2 = ?_{10}$

$\frac{1}{16} \frac{0}{8} \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{2} \frac{0}{1}$

$$1 * 16 + 1 * 4 + 1 * 2 = 22$$

Decimal to binary:  $34_{10} = ?_2$

$\frac{1}{64} \frac{0}{32} \frac{0}{16} \frac{0}{8} \frac{1}{4} \frac{0}{2} \frac{0}{1}$

Binary to hex

1 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0<sub>1</sub>

(Binary)

int  $x = \text{0x} 16;$  (Hex)

# Hex to binary

- Each hex digit corresponds directly to four binary digits
- Programmers love hex, why?

$25B_{16} = ? \text{ In binary}$

0010 0101 1011

|    |   |      |
|----|---|------|
| 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 |

# Hexadecimal to decimal

$$25B_{16} = ? \text{ Decimal}$$

~~25B~~  
~~161~~

$$2 * 256 + 5 * 16 + 11 * 1$$

=



# Hexadecimal to decimal

- Use polynomial expansion
- $25B_{16} = 2*256 + 5*16 + 11*1 = 512 + 80 + 11$   
 $= 603$

- Decimal to hex:  $36_{10} = ?_{16}$

$36_{10}$

$$\begin{array}{r} & & 2 & \\ & - & \underline{256} & \\ & & 16 & \\ & & & \underline{4} \\ & & & 1 \end{array}$$

Binary to hex:  $1000111100$

$\overbrace{1000}^0 \overbrace{1111}^0 \overbrace{00}^0$

↓      ↓      ↓

2      3      C

A. 8F0

B. 23C

C. None of the above

# BIG IDEA: Bits can represent anything!!

| Numbers | Binary Code | Colors |
|---------|-------------|--------|
| 0       | 11          | Red    |
| 1       | 00          | Blue   |
| 2       | 01          | Orange |
| 3       | 10          | Purple |

How many (minimum) bits are required to represent the numbers 0 to 3?

# What is the maximum positive value that can be stored in a byte?

- A. 127
- B. 128
- C. 255
- D. 256

# BIG IDEA: Bits can represent anything!!

**Colors**

**Binary code**

*Red*

*Green*

*Blue*

How many (minimum) bits are required to represent the three colors?

# BIG IDEA: Bits can represent anything!!

## Characters

'a'

'b'

'c'

'd'

'e'

N bits can represent at most  $2^N$  things

# BIG IDEA: Bits can represent anything!!

- Logical values?
  - 0  $\Rightarrow$  False, 1  $\Rightarrow$  True
- colors ?
- Characters?
  - 26 letters  $\Rightarrow$  5 bits ( $2^5 = 32$ )
  - upper/lower case + punctuation  
 $\Rightarrow$  7 bits (in 8) ("ASCII")
  - standard code to cover all the world's languages  $\Rightarrow$  8,16,32 bits ("Unicode")  
[www.unicode.com](http://www.unicode.com)
- locations / addresses? commands?

Red

Green

Blue



MEMORIZE: N bits  $\Leftrightarrow$  at most  $2^N$  things



# Unicode

- Universal character encoding (extends ASCII to handle other languages)

```
>>> chinese = '\u4e16\u754c\u60a8\u597d!'
>>> print(chinese)
世界您好!
```

- Includes all ASCII characters using the same ascii encoding

```
>>> print('\u0048\u0049')
HI
>>>
```