CS 240

#2: Hexadecimal, UTF8, and C Programming

Computer Systems | Aug. 26, 2021 · Wade Fagen-Ulmschneider

Representing Data: Hexadecimal

Binary data gets really long, really fast! The number of students enrolled at University of Illinois is **0b1100 1100 0110 1011**

To represent binary data in a compact way, we often will use **hexadecimal** -- or "base-16" -- denoted by the prefix **0x**.

Hexadecimal Digits:

Place of Hexadecimal Numbers:

Hex Number:	С	0	f	f	е	е
Place Value:	16 ⁵	16 ⁴	16³	16²	16 ¹	16⁰
Decimal Place Value:	1048576	65536	4096	256	16	1
SUM:						

Translation from Decimal to Hexadecimal:

$$11_{10} = 0x$$

$$87_{10} = 0x$$

$$34_{10} = 0$$

$$255_{10} = 0x$$

Hexadecimal is particularly useful as it :

University of Illinois student population in Fall 2020 (52,331):							
0b	0b 1100 1100 0110 10						
0x							

Number of people following Taylor Swift on Twitter (88,681,056):							
9b	101	0100	1001	0010	1010	0110	0000
0x							

Representing Letters: ASCII

Representing numbers is great -- but what about words? Can we make sentences with binary data?

- **Key Idea:** Every letter is _____ binary bits.* (This means that every letter is hex digits.)
- Global standard called the American Standard Code for **Information Interchange (ASCII)** is a ___ for translating numbers to characters.
- ASCII was not the first but was developed from a long history of other encodings. Charles MacKenzie's "Coded Character Set, History, and Development" has an over 500-page history on character encodings! (Linked on the website!)

ASCII Character Encoding Examples:							
Binary	Hex	Char.	Binary	Hex	Char.		
0b 0100 0001	0x41	A	0b 0110 0001	0x61	а		
0b 0100 0010	0x42	В	0b 0110 0010	0x62	b		
		С			C		
		D			d		
0b0010 0100	0x24	\$	0b0111 1011	0x7b	{		

...and now we can form sentences!

Q: Are there going to be any issues with ASCII?

Representing Letters: Other Character Encodings

Since ASCII uses only 8 bits, we are limited to only 256 unique characters. There's far more than 256 characters -- and what about EMOJIs??

- Many other character encodings exist other than ASCII.
- The most widely used character encoding is known as **Unicode Transformation Format (8-bit)** or ...
- Standard is **ISO/IEC 10646** (Latest update is :2002, or v13).

UTF-8 uses a ______-bit design where each character by be any of the following:

Length	Byte #1	Byte #2	Byte #3	Byte #4
1-byte	0			
2-bytes:	110	10		
3-bytes:	1110	10	10	
4-bytes:	1111 0	10	10	10

Unicode characters are represented by U+## (where ## is the hex value of the character encoding data) and all 1-byte characters match the ASCII character encoding:

• 'a' is ASCII _____, or _____.

Example: ε (epsilon) is defined as **U+03b5**. How do we encode this?

Example: I received the following binary message encoded in UTF-8: 0100 1000 0110 1001 1111 0000 1001 1111 1000 1110 1000 1001

1. What is the hexadecimal representation of this message?

the byte	length	of this	message?	
	the byte	the byte length	the byte length of this	the byte length of this message?

3. What is the **character length** of this message?

4. What does the message say?

Programming in C

One example of a plain-text file in a C source code file. Today, you'll see your very first Machine Problem in CS 240!

- You already know how to program in C++!
- Programming in C is a simplification of the C++ programming.

- 1. Program Starting Point of ALL C PROGRAMS:
- 2. Printing Using printf() (from <stdio.h>):

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2
3 int main() {
4   int i = 42;
5   char *s = "Hello, world!";
6   float f = 3.14;
7
8   printf("%d %s %f\n", i, s, f);
9   printf("%d\n", s[0]);
10   printf("%f\n", s[0]);
11   printf("%d\n", s);
12   return 0;
13 }
```

printf has a variable
number of arguments:

First argument

Additional arguments

- **3.** Pointers:
- **4.** Heap Memory Allocation:

```
1 int main() {
2   char *s = malloc(10);
3   int *num = malloc( sizeof(int) );
4   
5   printf("%p %p\n", s, num);
6   return 0;
7 }
```

5. Strings -- #include <string.h>

Four Key Functions:

- strcmp(char *s1, char *s2) -- Compares two strings
- strcat(char *dest, char *src) -- Concatenate two strings
- strcpy(char *dest, char *src) -- Copies a string
- strlen(char *s) -- Returns the length of the string