# Computer Mathematics

#### Week 2 Positional number systems





# **last week**

what is an electronic, digital computer?

**•** stores, manipulates, communicates binary data

binary data

bits, bytes, words

stores data: Random(ly) Access(ible) Memory

- each byte (or word) has a unique numeric address
	- **–** from 0 to sizeOfMemory − 1
- supplied via the address bus
- data can be written/read via the data bus





# **last week**

manipulates data: Central Processing Unit

- Program Counter
- Address Register
- Data Register
- **Instruction Register**
- Control Unit
- General Purpose Registers
- Arithmetic and Logic Unit
- Processor Status Register





# **last week**

Communicates data: Input/Output Controller

- PCI Peripheral Component Interconnect
- USB Universal Serial Bus





# **positional number representations**

each *digit position* in a number has a different *significance* or *weight* each weight is related to the next one by a constant multiplier

- the multiplier is called the *base* or *radix*  $r$  of the number
- position 0, immediately before the *radix point*, has weight  $1(r<sup>0</sup>)$
- as you move left, each weight is multiplied by the radix
- as you move right, each weight is divided by the radix

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}\nr^2 & r^1 & r^0 & r^{-1} & r^{-2} \\
\uparrow & & & \\
\uparrow & & & \\
\text{radix point} & & & \\
\text{(or 'separation')}\n\end{array}
$$

the value of the digit  $d_i$  in position  $i$  is

• the digit multiplied by the weight of its position,  $d_i \times r^i$ 

the value of a number is the sum of the values of all the digits

$$
\sum d_i \times r^i
$$



### **decimal system**

decimal numbers have base (radix)  $r = 10$ 

in Latin, "decima" means "one tenth part"

there are 10 symbols for the *digits*

 $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8$  and 9

position weights are powers of 10

. . . 10<sup>3</sup> 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>1</sup> 10<sup>0</sup> **.** 10<sup>−</sup><sup>1</sup> 10<sup>−</sup><sup>2</sup> 10<sup>−</sup><sup>3</sup> . . . 1000 100 10 1 <sup>1</sup> 10 1 100 1 1000 ↑ *decimal point*

the decimal radix is implied (or denoted by the subscript 10 when ambiguous)

e.g., converting the decimal number  $36.25_{10}$  to decimal:

| 3             | 6      | 2            | 5         |                |   |                 |         |
|---------------|--------|--------------|-----------|----------------|---|-----------------|---------|
| $10^1$        | $10^0$ | $10^{-1}$    | $10^{-2}$ |                |   |                 |         |
| $3 \times 10$ | +      | $6 \times 1$ | +         | $2 \times 0.1$ | + | $5 \times 0.01$ | = 36.25 |



# **binary system**

binary numbers have radix  $r = 2$ 

in Latin, "bini" means "two together"

there are 2 symbols for the digits

 $\bullet$  0 and 1

position weights are powers of 2

. . . 2 3 2 2 2 1 2 0 **.** 2 −1 2 −2 2 −3 . . . 8 4 2 1 <sup>1</sup> 2 1 4 1 8 ↑ *binary point*

the binary radix is denoted by the subscript 2

e.g., converting the binary number  $100010.01<sub>2</sub>$  to decimal:

1 0 0 0 1 0 **.** 0 1  $2^5$   $2^4$   $2^3$   $2^2$   $2^1$   $2^0$   $2^{-1}$   $2^{-2}$  $1 \times 32 + 0 \times 16 + 0 \times 8 + 0 \times 4 + 1 \times 2 + 0 \times 1 + 0 \times \frac{1}{2}$  $\frac{1}{2}$  + 1  $\times$   $\frac{1}{4}$  $\frac{1}{4}$  = 36.25



octal numbers have radix  $r = 8$ 

in Latin, "octo" means eight

8 symbols are used for the digits

 $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$  and 7

position weights are powers of 8

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccccc}\n & & & 8^3 & 8^2 & 8^1 & 8^0 & & 8^{-1} & 8^{-2} & 8^{-3} & \dots \\
 & & 512 & 64 & 8 & 1 & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{64} & \frac{1}{512} \\
 & & & & & & \uparrow & & \\
 & & & & & & \text{Total point} & & & \\
\end{array}
$$

the octal radix is denoted by the subscript 8

e.g., converting the octal number  $44.2<sub>8</sub>$  to decimal:

4 4 2  
\n
$$
8^1
$$
  $8^0$   $8^{-1}$   
\n $4 \times 8 + 4 \times 1 + 2 \times \frac{1}{8} = 36.25$ 



# **hexadecimal system**

hexadecimal numbers have radix  $r = 16$  in Greek, "hexa" means six (plus Latin "decima" meaning tenth) 16 symbols are used for the digits  $0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B, C, D, E$  and F position weights are powers of 16  $\cdots$   $16^3$   $16^2$   $16^1$   $16^0$   $\cdots$   $16^{-1}$   $16^{-2}$   $16^{-3}$   $\cdots$  $4096$  256 16 1  $\frac{1}{16}$ 1 256 1 4096 ↑ *hexadecimal point* the hexadecimal radix is denoted by the subscript 16 e.g., converting the hexadecimal number  $24.4_{16}$  to decimal: 2 4 **.** 4  $16^1$  16<sup>0</sup> 16<sup>-1</sup>  $2 \times 16$  +  $4 \times 1$  +  $4 \times \frac{1}{16}$  = 36.25

*hexadecimal*

hexadecima

*decimal*

0 0

1 1

2 2

3 3

4 4

5 5

6 6

7 7

8 8

9 9

A 10

B 11

C 12

D 13

E 14

F 15



# **radix conversion: binary, octal and hexadecimal**

one octal digit represents exactly three binary digits  $(8^1 = 2^3)$ one hexadecimal digit represents four binary digits  $(16^1 = 2^4)$ converting between binary and either octal or hexadecimal is easy octal: convert bits in groups of three hexadecimal: convert bits in groups of four



to convert between octal and hexadecimal

• first convert to binary

recommendation:

- keep practising conversions between binary and hexadecimal  $($ ...) 1101 D
- until you can do it *without looking at the table* ( ..  $\cup$

1110 E

1111 F



some useful mathematical functions. . .

 $|x|$  is the 'floor' operator, giving the integer part of  $x$ x div y is the *integer* division operator  $x \mod y$  is the remainder operator frac  $(x)$  gives the fractional part of x

some observations. . .

moving the radix point left or right is easy

- multiplying a number by its radix moves the radix point to the right
- dividing a number by its radix moves the radix point to the left

the 'units' digit is particularly easy to 'extract' from a number

divide an integer by its radix and the remainder is the least significant digit



to convert a decimal number  $i.f$  to radix  $r$ 

- convert one digit at a time
- convert the *integral part* and *fractional part* separately

informally:

for the integral part  $i$ 

- repeatedly divide  $i$  by the radix  $r$
- write down the remainders from *right to left*

for the fractional part  $f$ 

- repeatedly multiply the fractional part  $f$  by the radix  $r$
- write down the integer parts of the results from *left to right*

more formally. . .



for the integral part i, convert the digits *from right to left*

repeat:

- isolate the least significant digit:  $d \leftarrow i \bmod r$  (the remainder of  $i \div r$ )
- write down  $d$ (to the left of any previous digits)
- discard the least significant digit:  $i \leftarrow i \operatorname{div} r$  (integer division operation) until  $i = 0$

example:  $100.25_{10}$  to octal (integral part)





for the fractional part f, convert the digits *from left to right*

while  $f \neq 0$ , repeat:

- isolate the most significant digit:  $d \leftarrow \lfloor f \times r \rfloor$  (integer part of product)
- $\bullet$  write down  $d$
- (to the right of any previous digits)
- discard the most significant digit:  $f \leftarrow \text{frac}(f \times r)$  (fractional part of product)

example:  $100.25_{10}$  to octal (fractional part)

$$
f \quad [f \times 8] \quad \text{frac}(f \times 8)
$$
  
.25 2 .0  
stop  $\rightarrow$  .0  $\uparrow$   
= .2<sub>8</sub>

 $\Rightarrow 100.25_{10} = 144.2_8$ 



example:  $25.25_{10}$  to binary



 $\Rightarrow$  25.25<sub>10</sub> = 11001.01<sub>2</sub>



#### **summary**

binary is the basis for all data representation in digital computers

understanding binary is important

binary data is almost always represented using hexadecimal (or octal) notation

understanding hexadecimal is important

binary data often represents numeric information

understanding conversions to and from decimal is important



arithmetic operations in positional number systems

addition, subtraction, multiplication, division

unsigned binary arithmetic

limits of binary representation

unsigned arithmetic overflow

## **glossary**

**base** — (radix) the factor by which the significance of a digit changes from one position to the next.

**digit position** — the distance from a digit to the radix point, usually numbered so that integral digit positions start at 0 and increase to the left and fractional positions start at −1 and decrease to the right.

div — A mathematical operator that computes the integer quotient of two numbers.

**floor**  $(|...|)$  — A mathematical operator that gives the largest integer that is no greater than the given real number.

 $frac$ — A unary mathematical operator that gives the fractional (non-integral) part of a real number.

**fractional part** — the part of a number to the right of the radix point, ignoring any integral part, whose value is between 0 and 1.

**integral part** — the part of a number to the left of the radix point, ignoring any fractional part.

**least significant digit** — the digit in a number (or part of a number) that has the smallest weight, usually the rightmost.

mod — a mathematical operator that gives the remainder on division of two integers.



# **glossary**

**most significant digit** — the digit in a number (or part of a number) that has the largest weight, usually the leftmost.

**radix** — (base) the factor by which the significance of a digit changes from one position to the next.

**radix point** — the symbol separating the integral and fractional parts of a number. Often a dot ('.' or '·') or comma (',').

**significance** — the relative importance of the contribution of a digit to the overall value of a number. Significance usually increases towards the left.

**weight** — the amount a digit is multiplied to obtain its contribution to the overall value of a number. Weights usually increase to the left, and decrease to the right, by a factor of the radix.