Lecture 03 Data Operations

CS213 – Intro to Computer Systems Branden Ghena – Fall 2023

Slides adapted from: St-Amour, Hardavellas, Bustamente (Northwestern), Bryant, O'Hallaron (CMU), Garcia, Weaver (UC Berkeley)

Northwestern

Administrivia

- You should all have access to Piazza and Gradescope
	- Contact me via email immediately if you don't!!

- Office hours are now running
	- See Canvas homepage for office hours times
	- Mix of in-person and online hours
		- Online uses gather.town (Room B)
	- Office hours queue on the Canvas homepage

Administrivia

- Homework 1 due next week Tuesday
	- Submit on Gradescope
- Pack Lab should be out later today!
	- Sometime this evening
- You'll do Pack Lab on one of the EECS servers
	- Usually we use Moore, but any EECS server should be fine for this lab
	- SSH + Command Line interface
	- I'll make a Piazza post with some details on accessing the servers

Schedule change

- No lecture on Thursday this week
	- I'm going to be out-of-town on Wednesday and Thursday

- We'll push all of the lectures back one day
	- But there was a "TBD" day on October 24th
	- So we'll catch up again without missing any lectures completely
- Instead of class, everyone go relax for 80 minutes (maybe outside)

Today's Goals

• Explore operations we can perform on integers and more generally on binary numbers

• Understand the edge cases of those operations

C versus the hardware

- Operations you can perform on binary numbers have edge conditions
	- Usually going above or below the bit width
- If we say what happens in that scenario, it'll be what "the hardware" (i.e., a computer) does
	- In today's examples, pretty much every computer does the same thing
- That is not the same as what C does
	- Unclear choices are left as: **UNDEFINED BEHAVIOR**
	- Which is to say, the compiler can make any choice it wants

Outline

• **Integer Operations**

- **Addition**
- Negation and Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Binary Operations
	- Boolean Algebra
	- Shifting
	- Bit Masks

Unsigned Addition

- Like grade-school addition, but in base 2, and ignores final carry
	- If you want, can do addition in base 10 and convert to base 2. Same result! But here we're going to understand what the hardware is doing.
- **Example: Adding two 4-bit numbers**

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n1 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1\n\end{array}
$$

$$
+\ \frac{0011}{1000}
$$

$$
\cdot 5_{10} + 3_{10} = 8_{10} \sqrt{3}
$$

Unsigned Addition and Overflow

- What happens if the numbers get too big?
- **Example: Adding two 4-bit numbers**

- \cdot 13₁₀ + 3₁₀ = 16₁₀
	- Too large for 4 bits! Overflow
	- Result is the 4 least significant bits (all we can fit): so 0_{10}
	- Truncate most-significant bits that do not fit
		- Gives us modular (= modulo) behavior: 16 modulo $2^4 = 0$

Modulo behavior in binary numbers

Unsigned addition is modular

- Implements modular arithmetic
	- UAdd_w(u, v) = $(u + v)$ mod 2^w
- Need to drop carry bit, otherwise results will keep getting bigger
	- Example in base 10: $80_{10} + 40_{10} = 120_{10}$ (2-digit inputs become a 3-digit output!)

- Warning: C does not tell you that the result had an overflow!
	- **Unsigned** addition in C silently truncates most-significant bits beyond the limit

Signed (2's Complement) Addition

- Works exactly the same as unsigned addition!
	- Just add the numbers in binary, and the result will work out
- Signed and unsigned sum have the exact same bit-level representation
	- Computers use the same machine instruction and the same hardware!
	- That's a big reason 2's complement is so nice! Shares operations with unsigned

Signed addition example

- Same addition method as unsigned
- **Example: Adding two 4-bit signed numbers**

$$
1\overline{0}\overline{1}1 \qquad (-8 + 3 = -5)
$$

+
$$
\underline{0011} \qquad (-8 + 6 = -2)
$$

$$
\cdot -5_{10} + 3_{10} = -2_{10} \sqrt{}
$$

Combining negative and positive numbers

- Overflow sometimes makes signed addition work!
- **Example: Adding two 4-bit signed numbers**

$$
\begin{array}{c}\n1111 \\
1101 \\
+ 0011 \\
\hline\n10000\n\end{array} \quad (-8 + 5 = -3)
$$

- \cdot -3₁₀ + 3₁₀ = 0₁₀
	- Too large for 4 bits! Drop the carry bit
	- Result is what we expect as long as we truncate

Signed addition and overflow

- Overflow can still happen in signed addition though
- **Example: Adding two 4-bit signed numbers**

$$
\begin{array}{r} 111 \\ 0101 \\ + 0011 \\ \hline 1000 \end{array}
$$

•
$$
5_{10} + 3_{10} = -8_{10}
$$
 (+8 is too big to fit)

• Remember, this was also unsigned $5_{10} + 3_{10} = 8_{10}$

Signed addition and negative overflow

- Overflow also happens in the negative direction
- **Example: Adding two 4-bit signed numbers**

1011 + 1011 10110 1 1 1

$$
\cdot -5_{10} + -5_{10} = +6_{10} (-10 \text{ was too small to fit})
$$

Overflow: hardware vs C standard

- Hardware implementations for unsigned and signed addition are the same
	- Both implement truncation of overflowing bits, leads to modular arithmetic

• Unsigned overflow in C is defined as modular arithmetic

- Signed overflow in C is **UNDEFINED BEHAVIOR**
	- Compiler *probably* does modular result
	- But there are no promises about this and it can make *assumptions*
	- So don't rely on it

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Special boss in Chrono Trigger

- Dream Devourer
	- Special boss in the Nintendo DS edition
- Wanted to make it even more challenging
	- \cdot ~32000 hit points
	- Takes *forever* to defeat
- Hit points stored as a 16-bit signed integer • Range: -32768 to +32767
- **How do speedrunners defeat the boss?**

Chrono Trigger signed overflow bug

• Solution: heal it

• Hit points go negative and it dies

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	- Bit Masks

Negating a number

- In C:
	- $x = -y;$

- Operation
	- Determine the negative, signed version of the number (two's complement)
	- Hardware method: flip bits and add one
- Completement operator (\sim)
	- Flips all bits: zeros become a one and ones become a zero
	- $~0$ b1011 -> 0b0100

Negating via Complement & Increment

• Claim: The following is true for 2's complement

•
$$
\sim x + 1 = -x
$$

\n• Complement
\n• Observation: $\sim x + x = 1111...11_2 = -1$
\n• Observation: $\sim x + x = 1111...11_2 = -1$
\n• $\frac{100111000110}{-11111111111}$

• Increment

•
$$
\sim x + 1 = \sim x + x - x + 1 = -2 - x + 1 = -x
$$

- Example, 4 bits: $6_{10} = 0110_2$
	- Complement: $1001_2 \rightarrow$ Increment = $1010_2 = -8 + 2 = -6_{10}$

Subtraction in two's complement

- Subtraction becomes addition of the negative number
	- \bullet 5 3 = 5 + -3 = 2
- Both unsigned and signed subtraction
	- Convert subtractor to its two's complement negative form
		- i.e., negate it
	- Then do addition
	- Treat result as an unsigned number

$$
\begin{array}{cccc}\n & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\
+ & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 1 & 0\n\end{array} \quad (-3)
$$

C rules vs hardware rules

• Exact same overflow rules apply

- Unsigned subtraction can wrap below zero to make a large number
	- Modular arithmetic

- Signed subtraction is **UNDEFINED BEHAVIOR**
	- And therefore should not be trusted

Break + practice

- Adding two 8-bit binary numbers:
	- Also determine the decimal version of the result

00010101 + 10110001

Break + practice

- Adding two 8-bit binary numbers:
	- Also determine the decimal version of the result

Break + practice

- Adding two 8-bit binary numbers:
	- Also determine the decimal version of the result

What about unsigned subtraction 21-79?

That would treat the result as unsigned, with the value 198 Modular arithmetic in action

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Multiplication

- Goal: Compute the Product of two **^w**-bit numbers x, y
	- Either signed or unsigned
- But, exact results can be bigger than **^w** bits
	- Double the size (2*w*), in fact!
	- Example in base 10: 50_{10} * $20_{10} = 1000_{10}$
		- (2-digit inputs become a 4-digit output!)
- As with addition, result is truncated to fit in **^w** bits
	- Because computers are finite, results can't grow indefinitely

Unsigned Multiplication

• **Standard Multiplication Function**

- Equivalent to grade-school multiplication
- But ignores most significant w bits of the result
- As a person, we can do base 10 multiplication, convert to base 2, then truncate
- Implements modular arithmetic like addition does UMult_w (u, v) = $(u \cdot v)$ mod 2^w

Unsigned multiplication

• **Example: Multiplying two 4-bit numbers**

Signed (2's Complement) Multiplication

• **Standard Multiplication Function**

- Ignores most significant w bits
- Lower bits still give the correct result
	- So we can use same machine instruction for both!
	- Again, that's one reason why 2's complement is so nice

• **In C, signed overflow is undefined**

• ...but probably you'll see the two's complement behavior

Signed multiplication

- **Example: Multiplying two's complement 5-bit numbers**
	- **11110 x 00011 11110 + 111100 -2 3 1011010**

What are these two 5-bit numbers?

What is the result of this addition?

$$
-2_{10} * 3_{10} = -6_{10} \checkmark
$$

What about divide?

- Annoying operation, not going to discuss in this class
	- Similar to long division process
	- Tedious and complicated to get right
- I've worked on computers that don't have hardware support for division at all!!

- Important thing to remember is that integers don't have fractional parts
	- In C: $1/2 = 0$
	- We'll need a different encoding for fractional numbers: floating point

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Boolean algebra

- You've programmed with **and** and **or** in earlier classes
	- Written **&&** and **||** in C and C++
- **Boolean algebra is a generalization of that**
	- A mathematical system to represent logic (propositional logic)
	- \cdot 2 truth values: true = **1**, false = \bullet
	- Operations: and **&**, or **|**, not (or complement) **~**

Performing Boolean algebra

- **Follow the rules for each operation to compute results**
	- Rules are like those you know from programming

Truth tables for Boolean algebra

- For each possible value of each input, what is the output
	- Column for each input
	- Column for the output operation

Exclusive Or (xor)

- An operation you likely haven't used before:
	- Xor either A or B, but not both

 \cdot \land symbol in C

- We can build Xor out of &, I, and \sim
	- $A^{\wedge}B = (\sim A \& B)$ | $(A \& \sim B)$ • (exactly one of A and B is true)
	- $A^{\wedge}B = (A \mid B)$ & $\sim(A \& B)$ • (either is true but not both are true)
	- The two definitions are equivalent • Produce the same Truth Table

Practice problem

Practice problem

Practice problem

This is equivalent to B (A has no influence on the solution)

De Morgan's Law

• We can express Boolean operators in terms of the others

- De Morgan's laws: allow swapping & with |
	- A & B = \sim (\sim A | \sim B) \rightarrow \sim (A & B) = \sim A | \sim B • (neither A nor B is false)
	- A | B = \sim (\sim A & \sim B) \rightarrow \sim $(A | B) = \sim$ A & \sim B • (A and B are not both false)
	- Useful for simplifying logical statements

Generalized Boolean algebra

- Boolean operations can be extended to work on collections of bits (i.e., bytes)
- Operations are applied one bit at a time: **bitwise**

- All of the properties of Boolean algebra still apply
	- Relationships between operations, etc.
- Bitwise operations are usable in C: **&**, **|**, **~** , **^**
	- Can operate on any integer type (long, int, short, char, signed or unsigned)

Warning: bitwise operations are NOT logical operations

- Logical operations in C: **||**, **&&**, **!** (logical Or, And, and Not)
	- Only operate on a single bit
		- View 0 as "False"
		- View *anything nonzero* as "True"
		- Always return 0 or 1
	- Short-circuit evaluation: only checks the first operand if that is sufficient
- Examples
	- $10x41$ -> $0x00$ $10x00 -> 0x01$ $10x41 -> 0x01$
	- 0x59 && 0x35 -> 0x01
	- (p != NULL) && $*$ p (short circuit evaluation avoids null pointer access)
- Don't confuse the two!! It's a common C mistake

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Left Shift: **x << y**

- Shift bit-vector x left by y positions
	- Throw away extra bits on left
	- Fill empty bits with 0
		- Same behavior for signed or unsigned

- Equivalent to multiplying by 2^y
	- And then taking modulo (i.e. truncating overflow bits)
- Undefined behavior in C when:
	- \cdot **y** < 0, or **y** \geq bit width(x)
	- Also when some non-0 bits get shifted off (*probably* they get truncated)

Right Shift: **x >> y**

- Shift bit-vector x right y positions • Throw away extra bits on right
- But how to fill the new bits that open up?
	- Will depend on signed vs unsigned
- Unsigned: Logical shift
	- Always fill with 0's on left
- Signed: Arithmetic shift
	- Replicate most significant bit on left
	- Necessary for two's complement integer representation (sign extension!)
- Undefined behavior in C when:
	- $y < 0$, or $y \geq b$ it width(x)

Practice shifting in C

unsigned char x = 0b10100010; x << 3 = ? 0b00010000 0b00101000 x >> 2 = ? 0b11101000 x >> 2 = ? signed char x = 0b10100010; unsigned char x = 0b10100010; Steps: 0b10100010**000** 0b10100010**000** Steps: 0b**00**10100010 0b**00**10100010 Steps: 0b**11**10100010 0b**11**10100010

Note:

GCC supports the prefix **0b** for binary literals (like **0x**… for hex) directly in C. This is not part of the C standard! It may not work on other compilers.

Concept: Not all operations are equally expensive!

- Some operations are pretty simple to perform in hardware
	- E.g., addition, shifting, bitwise operations
	- Also true of doing the same by hand on paper
- Others are much more involved
	- E.g., multiplication, or even more so division
	- Consider long multiplication / long division; quite tedious!
	- Hardware is not doing the exact same thing, but similar principle
- **Trick:** try to replace expensive operations with simple ones!
	- Doesn't work in all cases, but often does when mult/div by constants

Shift to divide

- Division by powers of two could be shifts
	- unsigned int $x = y / 2$; unsigned int $x = y \gg 1$;
- Even more important because division is a complicated operation
	- Multiply is implemented in (relatively) simple hardware on most systems
	- Compiler might actually translate your divide-by-powers-of-two operations into shift operations though!
- Warning: rounding needs to be handled correctly for signed numbers and division
	- See bonus slides

Compilers automatically chose the best operations

- Should you use shifts instead of multiply/divide in your C code? • **NO**
- Just write out the math
	- Math is more readable if that's what you meant
	- Compiler automatically converts code for you for best performance
- These two mean the same thing, but one is way more understandable
	- int $x = y * 32;$
	- int $x = (y \ll 5)$;

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Bit Masking

- How do you manipulate certain bits within a number?
- Combines some of the ideas we've already learned
	- \sim , &, |, <<, >>
- Steps
	- 1. Create a "bit mask" which is a pattern to choose certain bits
	- 2. Use & or | to combine it with your number
	- 3. Optional: Use >> to move the bits to the least significant position

Bit mask values

- Selecting bits, use the AND operation
	- 1 means to select that bit
	- 0 means to not select that bit
- Writing bits
	- Writing a one, use the OR operation
		- 1 means to write a one to that position
		- 0 is unchanged
	- Writing a zero, use the AND operation
		- 0 means to write a zero to that position
		- 1 is unchanged

Select bottom four bits: **num & 0x0F**

Set $6th$ bit to one: **num | (1 << 6) num | (0b01000000)**

```
Clear 6<sup>th</sup> bit to zero:
         num & ( \sim (1 \leq \leq 6) )num & (~(0b01000000))
         num & (0b10111111)
```
Example: swap nibbles in byte

- Nibble 4 bits (one hexit)
	- Input: 0x4F -> Output 0xF4
	- Method:
		- 1. Shift and select upper four bits
		- 2. Shift and select lower four bits
		- 3. Combine the two nibbles

What are the values of the new upper bits?

Unsigned -> Will be zero

```
uint8 t lower = input >> 4;
uint8 t upper = input << 4;
uint8 t output = upper | lower; // combines two halves
```
Shifting implicitly zero'd out irrelevant bits. Otherwise we would have needed an & operation too.

Example: selecting bits

• Select bits 2 and 3 from a number

 0b01100100 & 0b00001100 0b00000100

Finally, shift right by two to get the values in the least significant position:

0b00000001

Input: 0b01100100 0b01100100 Mask: 0b00001100

In C: result = (input & 0×0 C) >> 2;

Practice: C example of bitwise operators

```
unsigned char x = 13;
unsigned char y = 11;
unsigned char z = x \& y;
```
- What decimal value is in z now?
	- Remember: unsigned char is an 8-bit value

Practice: C example of bitwise operators

```
unsigned char x = 13;
unsigned char y = 11;
unsigned char z = x \& y;
```
- What decimal value is in z now?
	- Remember: unsigned char is an 8-bit value
	- x: 0b00001101
	- y: 0b00001011
	- z: 0b00001001 -> 9

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Outline

• Dividing with bit shift

- Bonus material isn't required and won't be on an exam
	- Unless it becomes main lecture material in a different lecture
- Usually the material is just for students who want more depth
	- As is the case here

Unsigned Power-of-2 Divide with Right Shift

- **Quotient of unsigned by power of 2**
	- **u >> k** gives **u / 2^k**
	- Uses logical shift
	- Pink part would be remainder / fractional part (right of the point)
		- Shift just drops it: equivalent to rounding *down*

 $\lfloor x \rfloor$: round x down

 x : round x up

Signed Power-of-2 Divide with Shift (Almost)

- **Quotient of signed by power of 2**
	- **x >> k** gives **x / 2^k**
	- Uses arithmetic shift
	- Also rounds down, again by dropping bits
		- But signed division should round **towards 0!** (that's its math definition)
		- That means rounding **up** for negative numbers!

• **Example, 4 bits: -6 / 4 = -1.5 (should round towards 0, to -1)**

- 1010₂ >> 2 = 1110_2 = -2_{10}
- Rounds the wrong way!

Correct Signed Power-of-2 Divide

- Want $\vert x \rangle$ **2**^k | (round towards 0)
	- Math identity: $\lceil x / y \rceil = \lfloor (x + y 1) / y \rfloor$
	- Compute negative case as $\lfloor (x+2^k-1)/2^k \rfloor \rightarrow$ gets us correct rounding!
	- Computing both cases in C: **(x<0 ? (x + (1<<k)-1) : x) >> k**
		- Biases dividend toward 0

all bits at positions 0...(k-1) are 0

Biasing has no effect; all affected bits are dropped

- **Example, 4 bits: -8 / 2² = -2 bias =** $(1 < 2)$ **-1 = 3**
	- $(1000 + 0011) >> 2 = 1011 >> 2 = 110 = -2₁₀$ (correct, no rounding)

Correct Signed Power-of-2 Divide (Cont.) **Case 2: Rounding**

Biasing adds 1 to final result; just what we wanted

- Example, 4 bits: $-6 / 2^2 = -1$ bias = $(1 < 2) 1 = 3$
	- $(1010 + 0011) >> 2 = 1101 >> 2 = 1111 = -1₁₀$ (correct, rounds towards 0)
- **Compiler does that for you (but you need to be able to read it!)**