Bits, Bytes, and Integers

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Bits, Bytes, and Integers

- Representing information as bits
- Bit-level manipulations
- Integers
  - Representation: unsigned and signed
  - Conversion, casting
  - Expanding, truncating

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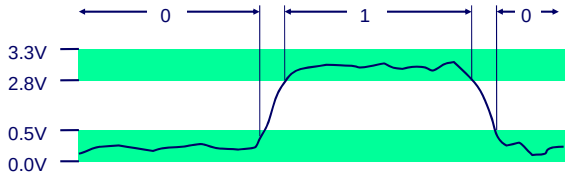
Binary Representations



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Encoding Byte Values

- Byte = 8 bits
  - Binary 00000000_2 to 11111111_2
  - Decimal: 0_{10} to 255_{10}
  - Hexadecimal 00_{16} to FF_{16}
    - Base 16 number representation
    - Use characters '0' to '9' and 'A' to 'F'
    - Write $FA1D37B_{16}$ in C as
      - 0xFA1D37B
      - 0xfa1d37b

Hex	Decimal	Binary
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
A	10	1010
B	11	1011
C	12	1100
D	13	1101
E	14	1110
F	15	1111

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Byte-Oriented Memory Organization

- Programs Refer to Virtual Addresses
  - Conceptually very large array of bytes
  - Actually implemented with hierarchy of different memory types
  - System provides address space private to particular "process"
    - Program being executed
    - Program can clobber its own data, but not that of others
- Compiler + Run-Time System Control Allocation
  - Where different program objects should be stored
  - All allocation within single virtual address space

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Machine Words

- Machine Has "Word Size"
  - Nominal size of integer-valued data
    - Including addresses
  - Most current machines use 32 bits (4 bytes) words
    - Limits addresses to 4GB
    - Becoming too small for memory-intensive applications
  - High-end systems use 64 bits (8 bytes) words
    - Potential address space ≈ 1.8 X 10^{19} bytes
    - x86-64 machines support 48-bit addresses: 256 Terabytes
  - Machines support multiple data formats
    - Fractions or multiples of word size
    - Always one or multiples of bytes

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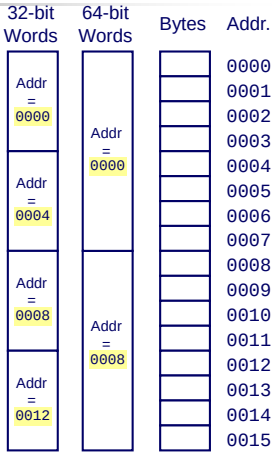
Word-Oriented Memory Organization

- Addresses Specify Byte Locations
  - Address of first byte in word
  - Addresses of successive words differ by 4 (32-bit) or 8 (64-bit)



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Data Representations

C Data Type	Typical 32-bit	Intel IA32	x86-64
char	1	1	1
short	2	2	2
int	4	4	4
long	4	4	8
long long	8	8	8
float	4	4	4
double	8	8	8
long double	8	10/12	10/16
pointer	4	4	8

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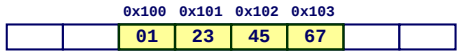
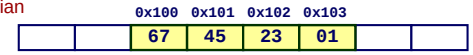
Byte Ordering

- How should bytes within a multi-byte word be ordered in memory?
- Big Endian (Sun, PPC Mac, Internet)
  - Most significant byte has lowest address
- Little Endian (Intel x86)
  - Least significant byte has lowest address
- Example
  - Variable x has 4-byte representation 0x01234567
  - Address given by &x is 0x100

Big Endian



Little Endian



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Reading Byte-Reversed Listings

- Disassembly
  - Text representation of binary machine code
  - Generated by program that reads the machine code
- Example Fragment

Address	Instruction Code	Assembly Rendition
8048365:	5b	pop %ebx
8048366:	81 c3 ab 12 00 00	add $0x12ab,%ebx
804836c:	83 bb 28 00 00 00 00	cmpl $0x0,0x28(%ebx)

- Deciphering Numbers
  - Value: 0x12ab
  - Pad to 32 bits: 0x000012ab
  - Split into bytes: 00 00 12 ab
  - Reverse: ab 12 00 00

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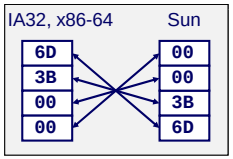
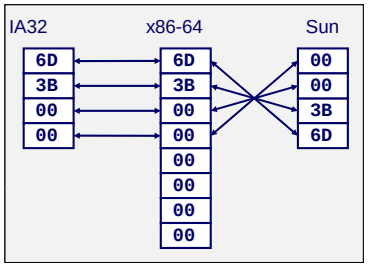
Representing Integers

Decimal: 15213
Binary: 0011 1011 0110 1101
Hex: 3 B 6 D

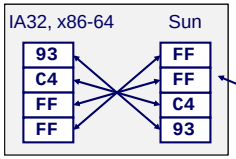
int A = 15213;



long int C = 15213;



int B = -15213;



Two's complement representation (Covered later)

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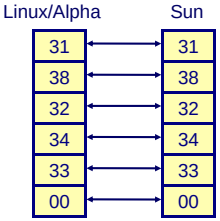
Representing Strings

- Strings in C
  - Represented by array of characters
  - Each character encoded in ASCII
    - Standard 7-bit encoding of characters
    - Character "0" has code 0x30
      - Digit *i* has code 0x30+*i*
  - String should be null-terminated
    - Final character = 0
- Compatibility
  - Byte ordering not an issue

```
char S[6] = "18243";
```



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Bits, Bytes, and Integers

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- Bit-level manipulations
- Integers
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Boolean Algebra

- Algebraic representation of logic
  - Encode "True" as 1 and "False" as 0

And

- **A&B = 1 when both A=1 and B=1**

&	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

Or

- **A|B = 1 when either A=1 or B=1**

|	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1

Not

- **~A = 1 when A=0**

~	
0	1
1	0

Exclusive-Or (Xor)

- **A^B = 1 when either A=1 or B=1, but not both**

^	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

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Boolean Algebra on Bit Vectors

- Operate on Bit Vectors
  - Operations applied bitwise

```
  01101001     01101001     01101001
& 01010101   | 01010101   ^ 01010101   ~ 01010101
  01000001     01111101     00111100     10101010
```

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Representing & Manipulating Sets

- Representation
  - Width w bit vector represents subsets of {0, …, w–1}
  - $a_j = 1$ if $j \in A$
    - 01101001 { 0, 3, 5, 6 }
    - *76543210*
    - 01010101 { 0, 2, 4, 6 }
    - *76543210*
- Operations

&	Intersection	01000001	{ 0, 6 }
|	Union	01111101	{ 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 }
^	Symmetric difference	00111100	{ 2, 3, 4, 5 }
~	Complement	10101010	{ 1, 3, 5, 7 }

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Bit-Level Operations in C

- Operations &, |, ~, ^ Available in C
  - Apply to any "integral" data type
    - long, int, short, char, unsigned
  - View arguments as bit vectors
  - Arguments applied bit-wise
- Examples
  - ~0x41 = 0xBE
    - $\sim 01000001_2 = 10111110_2$
  - ~0x00 = 0xFF
    - $\sim 00000000_2 = 11111111_2$
  - 0x69 & 0x55 = 0x41
    - $01101001_2 \,\&\, 01010101_2 = 01000001_2$
  - 0x69 | 0x55 = 0x7D
    - $01101001_2 \mid 01010101_2 = 01111101_2$

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Contrast: Logic Operations in C

- Contrast to Logical Operators
  - &&, ||, !
    - View 0 as "False"
    - Anything nonzero as "True"
    - Always return 0 or 1
    - Early termination
- Examples (char data type)
  - !0x41 = 0x00
  - !0x00 = 0x01
  - !!0x41 = 0x01
  - 0x69 && 0x55 = 0x01
  - 0x69 || 0x55 = 0x01
  - p && *p (avoids null pointer access)

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Shift Operations

- Left Shift: x << y
  - Shift bit-vector x left y positions
    - Throw away extra bits on left
    - Fill with 0's on right
- Right Shift: x >> y
  - Shift bit-vector x right y positions
    - Throw away extra bits on right
  - Logical shift
    - Fill with 0's on left
  - Arithmetic shift
    - Replicate most significant bit on right

Argument x	01100010
<< 3	00010000
Log. >> 2	00011000
Arith. >> 2	00011000

Argument x	10100010
<< 3	00010000
Log. >> 2	00101000
Arith. >> 2	11101000

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Encoding Integers

Unsigned

$$B2U(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} x_i \cdot 2^i$$

Two's Complement

$$B2T(X) = -x_{w-1} \cdot 2^{w-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-2} x_i \cdot 2^i$$

Sign Bit

```
short int x =  15213;
short int y = -15213;
```

- C `short` 2 bytes long

	Decimal	Hex	Binary
x	15213	3B 6D	00111011 01101101
y	-15213	C4 93	11000100 10010011

- Sign Bit
  - For 2's complement, most significant bit indicates sign
    - 0 for nonnegative, 1 for negative
- What is the bit representation of -1?

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Encoding Example (Cont.)

```
x =     15213: 00111011 01101101
y =    -15213: 11000100 10010011
```

Weight	15213		-15213	
1	1	1	1	1
2	0	0	1	2
4	1	4	0	0
8	1	8	0	0
16	0	0	1	16
32	1	32	0	0
64	1	64	0	0
128	0	0	1	128
256	1	256	0	0
512	1	512	0	0
1024	0	0	1	1024
2048	1	2048	0	0
4096	1	4096	0	0
8192	1	8192	0	0
16384	0	0	1	16384
-32768	0	0	1	-32768
Sum		**15213**		**-15213**

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Numeric Ranges

- Unsigned Values
  - *UMin* = 0
    000…0
  - *UMax* = $2^w - 1$
    111…1
- Two's Complement Values
  - *TMin* = -2^{w-1}
    100…0
  - *TMax* = $2^{w-1} - 1$
    011…1

Values for $W = 16$

	Decimal	Hex	Binary
UMax	65535	FF FF	11111111 11111111
TMax	32767	7F FF	01111111 11111111
TMin	-32768	80 00	10000000 00000000
-1	-1	FF FF	11111111 11111111
0	0	00 00	00000000 00000000

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Values for Different Word Sizes

	W			
	8	16	32	64
UMax	255	65,535	4,294,967,295	18,446,744,073,709,551,615
TMax	127	32,767	2,147,483,647	9,223,372,036,854,775,807
TMin	-128	-32,768	-2,147,483,648	-9,223,372,036,854,775,808

- Observations
  - |*TMin*| = *TMax* + 1
    - Asymmetric range
  - *UMax* = 2 * *TMax* + 1

- **C Programming**
  - #include <limits.h>
  - Declares constants, e.g.,
    - ULONG_MAX
    - LONG_MAX
    - LONG_MIN
  - Values platform specific

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Unsigned & Signed Numeric Values

X	B2U(X)	B2T(X)
0000	0	0
0001	1	1
0010	2	2
0011	3	3
0100	4	4
0101	5	5
0110	6	6
0111	7	7
1000	8	–8
1001	9	–7
1010	10	–6
1011	11	–5
1100	12	–4
1101	13	–3
1110	14	–2
1111	15	–1

- Equivalence
  - Same encodings for nonnegative values
- Uniqueness
  - Every bit pattern represents unique integer value
  - Each representable integer has unique bit encoding

⇒ Can Invert Mappings

- $U2B(x) = B2U^{-1}(x)$
  - Bit pattern for unsigned integer
- $T2B(x) = B2T^{-1}(x)$
  - Bit pattern for two's comp integer

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Bits, Bytes, and Integers

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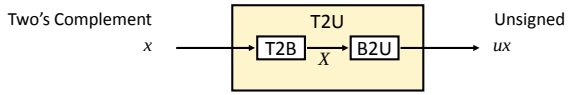
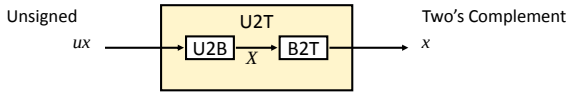
Mapping Between Signed & Unsigned



Maintain Same Bit Pattern



Maintain Same Bit Pattern

- Mappings between unsigned and two's complement numbers: keep bit representations and reinterpret

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Mapping Signed ↔ Unsigned

Bits	Signed	Unsigned
0000	0	0
0001	1	1
0010	2	2
0011	3	3
0100	4	4
0101	5	5
0110	6	6
0111	7	7
1000	-8	8
1001	-7	9
1010	-6	10
1011	-5	11
1100	-4	12
1101	-3	13
1110	-2	14
1111	-1	15

=

+/- 16

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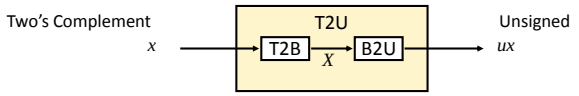
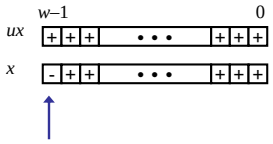
Relation between Signed & Unsigned



Maintain Same Bit Pattern

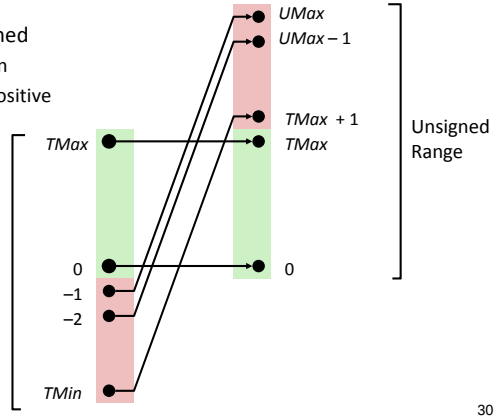


Large negative weight
becomes
Large positive weight

$$ux = \begin{cases} x & x \geq 0 \\ x + 2^w & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Conversion Visualized

- 2's Comp. → Unsigned
  - Ordering Inversion
  - Negative → Big Positive



Signed vs. Unsigned in C

- Constants
  - By default are considered to be signed integers
  - Unsigned if have "U" as suffix
    `0U, 4294967259U`
- Casting
  - Explicit casting between signed & unsigned same as U2T and T2U

```
int tx, ty;
unsigned ux, uy;
tx = (int) ux;
uy = (unsigned) ty;
```

  - Implicit casting also occurs via assignments and procedure calls

```
tx = ux;
uy = ty;
```


Casting Surprises

- Expression Evaluation
  - If there is a mix of unsigned and signed in single expression, ***signed values implicitly cast to unsigned***
  - Examples for *W* = 32: TMIN = -2,147,483,648 , TMAX = 2,147,483,647

Constant$_1$	Constant$_2$	Relation	Evaluation
0	0U	==	unsigned
-1	0	<	signed
-1	0U	>	unsigned
2147483647	-2147483647-1	>	signed
2147483647U	-2147483647-1	<	unsigned
-1	-2	>	signed
(unsigned)-1	-2	>	unsigned
2147483647	2147483648U	<	unsigned
2147483647	(int) 2147483648U	>	signed

Security Vulnerability

```
/* Kernel memory region holding user-accessible data */
#define KSIZE 1024
char kbuf[KSIZE];

/* Copy at most maxlen bytes from kernel region to user buffer */
int copy_from_kernel(void *user_dest, int maxlen) {
    /* Byte count len is minimum of buffer size and maxlen */
    int len = KSIZE < maxlen ? KSIZE : maxlen;
    memcpy(user_dest, kbuf, len);
    return len;
}
```

```
#define MSIZE 528

void getstuff() {
    char mybuf[MSIZE];
    copy_from_kernel(mybuf, MSIZE);
    printf("%s\n", mybuf);
}
```

- Real example: similar to code found in FreeBSD's implementation of getpeername

Malicious Usage

```
/* Kernel memory region holding user-accessible data */
#define KSIZE 1024
char kbuf[KSIZE];

/* Copy at most maxlen bytes from kernel region to user buffer */
int copy_from_kernel(void *user_dest, int maxlen) {
    /* Byte count len is minimum of buffer size and maxlen */
    int len = KSIZE < maxlen ? KSIZE : maxlen;
    memcpy(user_dest, kbuf, len);
    return len;
}
```

```
#define MSIZE 528

void getstuff() {
    char mybuf[MSIZE];
    copy_from_kernel(mybuf, -MSIZE);
    . . .
}
```

- **`-MSIZE`**, when interpreted as **`unsigned int`** by **`memcpy`**, becomes a very large integer

Casting Signed ↔ Unsigned: Basic Rules

- Bit pattern is maintained
- But reinterpreted
- Can have unexpected effects: adding or subtracting 2^w
- Expression containing signed and unsigned int
  - `int` is cast to `unsigned`!!

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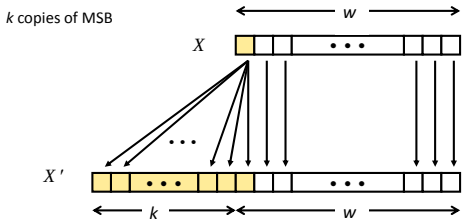
Sign Extension

- Task:
  - Given *w*-bit signed integer *x*
  - Convert it to *w*+*k*-bit integer with same value
- Rule:
  - Make *k* copies of sign bit:
  - $X' = x_{w-1}, \ldots, x_{w-1}, x_{w-1}, x_{w-2}, \ldots, x_0$



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Sign Extension Example

```
short int x =  15213;
int      ix = (int) x;
short int y = -15213;
int      iy = (int) y;
```

	Decimal	Hex	Binary
x	15213	3B 6D	00111011 01101101
ix	15213	00 00 3B 6D	00000000 00000000 00111011 01101101
y	-15213	C4 93	11000100 10010011
iy	-15213	FF FF C4 93	11111111 11111111 11000100 10010011

- Converting from smaller to larger integer data type
- C automatically performs sign extension

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Expanding, Truncating: Basic Rules

- Expanding (e.g., short int to int)
  - Unsigned: zeros added
  - Signed: sign extension
  - Both yield expected result
- Truncating (e.g., unsigned to unsigned short)
  - Unsigned/signed: bits are truncated
  - Result reinterpreted
  - Unsigned: mod operation
  - Signed: similar to mod
  - For small numbers yields expected behavior

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Disclaimer

These slides were adapted from the CMU course slides provided along with the textbook of “Computer Systems: A programmer’s Perspective” by Bryant and O’Hallaron. The slides are intended for the sole purpose of teaching the computer organization course at the University of Rochester.

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