



Representing Data with Bits

bits, bytes, numbers, and notation

https://cs.wellesley.edu/~cs240/

positional number representation

Base determines:

Maximum digit (base – 1). Minimum digit is 0.

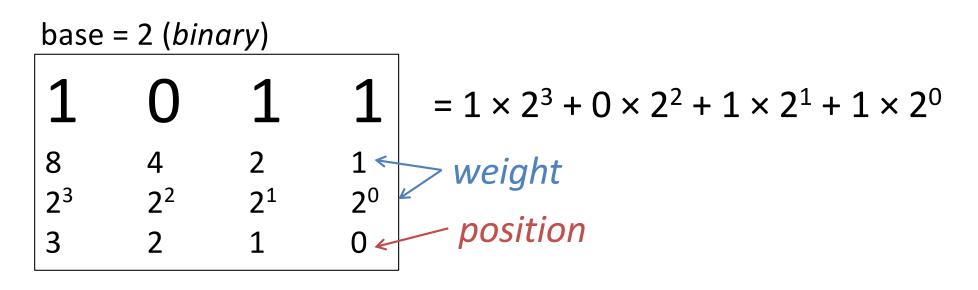
Weight of each position.

Each position holds a digit.

Represented value = sum of all position values

position value = digit value × base^{position}

binary = base 2 Binary digits are called *bits*: 0, 1



When ambiguous, subscript with base:

101₁₀ Dalmatians (movie)

101₂-Second Rule (folk wisdom for food safety)

Powers of 2: memorize up to $\geq 2^{12}$ (in base ten)

Power: 2 [?]	Decimal value
0	1
1	2
2	4
3	8
4	16
5	32
6	64
7	128
8	256

Power: 2 [?]	Decimal value					
9	512					
10	1024					
11	2048					
12	4096					
13	8192					
14	16384					
15	32768					
16	65536					

Shifting binary numbers

 $11011_2 = 27_{10}$

- What is 110110₂?
- What is 110111₂?
- What is 1101₂?

Converting binary to decimal

 $101011_2 = ?_{10}$

Start with *output*₁₀ = 0

Right to left(traditional algorithm)

Start with smallest power $2 = 2^{0} = 1$

If corresponding bit is 1, add power of 2 to *output*₁₀

Repeat until power of two for leftmost 1 in *input*₂ is found

Right to left (better algorithm)

Start with leftmost 1 bit in *input*₂ and $output_{10} = 1$

- For every 0, double output₁₀
- For every 1, double $output_{10}$ and add 1.

Converting binary to decimal

110101₂ => ??₁₀

 $10110111_2 => ??_{10}$

Converting decimal to binary

19₁₀ = ?₂

Start with *output*₂ = the empty string of binary digits

Left to right (traditional algorithm)

Find the largest **power of** 2_{10} that is $\leq input_{10}$.

Subtract it from *input*₁₀.

Add it to $output_2$.

Repeat with until *input*₁₀ is 0.

Right to left (better algorithm)

Divide $input_{10}$ by 2_{10} .

Prepend the remainder as a bit on the left end of *output*₂.

Repeat until *input*₁₀ is 0.



Converting decimal to binary

41₁₀ => ??₂

binary arithmetic



 $110_2 + 1011_2 = ?_2$ $1101_2 - 1011_2 = ?_2$

$$1001011_2 \times 2_{10} = ?_2$$

conversion and arithmetic

 $1001_2 = ?_{10}$ $19_{10} = ?_2$

 $240_{10} = ?_2$ $11010011_2 = ?_{10}$

 $_{1} = ?_{2}$ $101_2 + 1011$

$$L_2 = ?_2$$
 1001011₂ × 2₁₀



byte = 8 bits

a.k.a. octet

Smallest unit of data

used by a typical modern computer

Binary: $0000000_2 - 11111111_2$ Decimal: $000_{10} - 255_{10}$ Hexadecimal (Hex): $00_{16} - FF_{16}$

Byte = 2 hex digits!

Programmer's hex notation (C, etc.):

 $0xB4 = B4_{16}$ Stands for the following in binary: $0b10110100 = 10110100_2$

Octal (base 8) also useful.

4 bits is a nibble (or nibble)



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					
Α	10	1010					
В	11	1011					
С	12	1100					
D	13	1101					
Ε	14	1110					
F	15	1111					
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char: representing characters

A C-style string is represented by a series of bytes (*chars*).

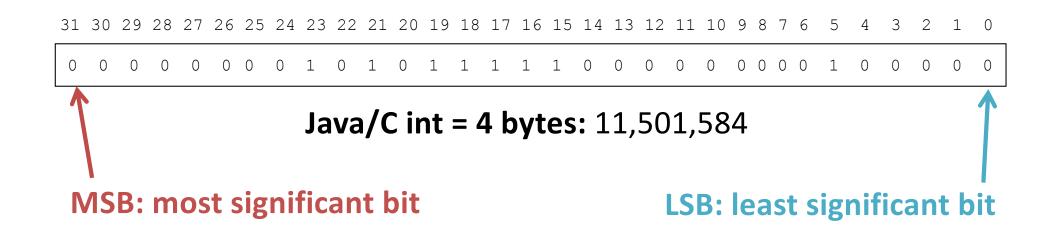
- One-byte ASCII codes for each character.
- ASCII = American Standard Code for Information Interchange

32	space	48	0	64	@	80	Р	96	`	112	р
33	!	49	1	65	А	81	Q	97	а	113	q
34	"	50	2	66	В	82	R	98	b	114	r
35	#	51	3	67	С	83	S	99	с	115	S
36	\$	52	4	68	D	84	Т	100	d	116	t
37	%	53	5	69	Е	85	U	101	е	117	u
38	&	54	6	70	F	86	V	102	f	118	v
39	,	55	7	71	G	87	W	103	g	119	w
40	(56	8	72	н	88	Х	104	h	120	х
41)	57	9	73	- 1	89	Y	105	- 1	121	У
42	*	58	:	74	J	90	Z	106	j	122	z
43	+	59	;	75	К	91	[107	k	123	{
44	,	60	<	76	L	92	\setminus	108		124	
45	-	61	=	77	М	93]	109	m	125	}
46		62	>	78	Ν	94	^	110	n	126	~
47	/	63	?	79	0	95	_	111	0	127	del

word |wərd|, n.

Natural unit of data used by processor.

```
Fixed size (e.g. 32 bits, 64 bits)
Defined by ISA: Instruction Set Architecture
machine instruction operands
word size = register size = address size
```



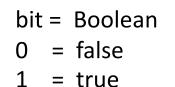
fixed-size data representations

(size in bytes)

Java Data Type	e C Data Type	[word = 32 bits]	[word = 64 bits]
boolean		1	1
byte	char	1	1
char		2	2
short	short int	2	2
int	int	4	4
float	float	4	4
	🔪 long int	4	8
double	double	8	8
long	long long	8	8
	long double	8	16

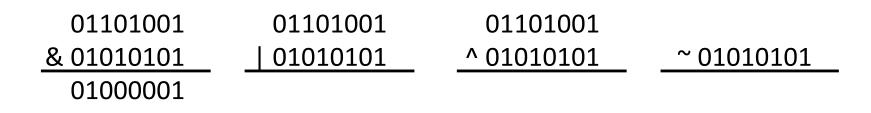
Depends on word size!







Bitwise operators on fixed-width **bit vectors**. AND & OR | XOR ^ NOT ~



Laws of Boolean algebra apply bitwise.

01010101 ^ 01010101

e.g., DeMorgan's Law: (A | B) = A & B

bitwise operators in C



& | ^ ~ apply to any integral data type
long, int, short, char, unsigned

Examples (char) ~0x41 =

 $\sim 0 \times 00 =$

0x69 & 0x55 =

0x69 | 0x55 =

Many bit-twiddling puzzles in upcoming assignment

Representation Example 1: Sets as Bit Vectors



Representation: *n*-bit vector gives subset of {0, ..., n–1}.

$$a_i = 1 \equiv i \in A$$

a = 0b01101001 A = {0, 3, 5, 6} 76543210

b = 0b01010101 B = { 0, 2, 4, 6 } 76543210

Bitwise OperationsSet Operations $a \& b = 0b0100001 \{0, 6\}$ Intersection $a | b = 0b0111101 \{0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ Union $a \land b = 0b00111100 \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ Symmetric difference $\sim b = 0b10101010 \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$ Complement

logical operations in C



&& || ! apply to any "integral" data type long, int, short, char, unsigned

0 is false nonzero is true result always 0 or 1

early termination a.k.a. short-circuit evaluation

Examples (char) !0x41 = !0x00 = !!0x41 = 0x69 && 0x55 = 0x69 || 0x55 =

Representation Example 2: Playing Cards

52 cards in 4 suits

How do we encode suits, face cards?

What operations should be easy to implement?

Get and compare rank

Get and compare suit

A ♣			2 *	*		3 ‡	*		4 * *	*	5 ≁≁	*	6 ♣ ♣	*	7.	÷. +	8 *	*	9 • •	• •	10 * *		J *	Q *	K *
	•	* •	ŧ	÷	÷ S		* *	ŧ Σ	÷	**	*	♣ •* \$	*	♣ **		⊧* ⊧*2	•	* * * * 8			*	* * *	Matter in the second se		
A ∳			2 •	۰		3 ♠	♠ ♠	ŀ	4 ♠		5 . ♠	♠ ♠	6 ♠ ♠	♠ ♠	7.	• • •	8 ♠ ♠ ♠		9				J +		K.
			∳ 2	Ý	Ż	7	Ý	Ś	Ý	♥ ‡	•	∳ \$	•	*\$	17		' ●	¥ 8		• • •	1 0	₩ Ol	*		
÷	•	۲	÷	•	2	÷	*	۲	•	♥ ♠₽	₽ ♥ 	• •	••	♥ ♥ ♠ĝ	ŕ			8	3	6		i i			÷
A •	•	•	2 ◆	•	* 2	3 ◆	* * *	• Σ	4 • •	◆ ◆ ‡	5 ↓ ◆	• • • •	€ ◆ ◆ ◆	♦ ♦ ♦ •	7		8		9	6		Ő			K.

Data as Bits 23

Two possible representations

52 cards – 52 bits with bit corresponding to card set to 1

52 bits in 2 x 32-bit words

"One-hot" encoding

Hard to compare values and suits independently Not space efficient

4 bits for suit, 13 bits for card value – 17 bits with two set to

Pair of one-hot encoded values

Easier to compare suits and values independently

Smaller, but still not space efficient

Two better representations

Binary encoding of all 52 cards – only 6 bits needed

Number cards uniquely from 0 Smaller than one-hot encodings. Hard to compare value and suit

low-order 6 bits of a byte

Binary encoding of suit (2 bits) and value (4 bits) separately

Number each suit uniquely Number each value uniquely Still small

Easy suit, value comparisons



Compare Card Suits

mask: a bit vector that, when bitwise ANDed with another bit vector v, turns all but the bits of interest in v to 0

 0
 0
 1
 1
 0
 0
 0

 #define SUIT MASK 0x30
 suit
 value

int sameSuit(char card1, char card2) {
 return !((card1 & SUIT_MASK) ^ (card2 & SUIT_MASK));

//same as (card1 & SUIT_MASK) == (card2 & SUIT_MASK);
}

```
char hand[5]; // represents a 5-card hand
...
if ( sameSuit(hand[0], hand[1]) ) { ... }
```

Compare Card Values

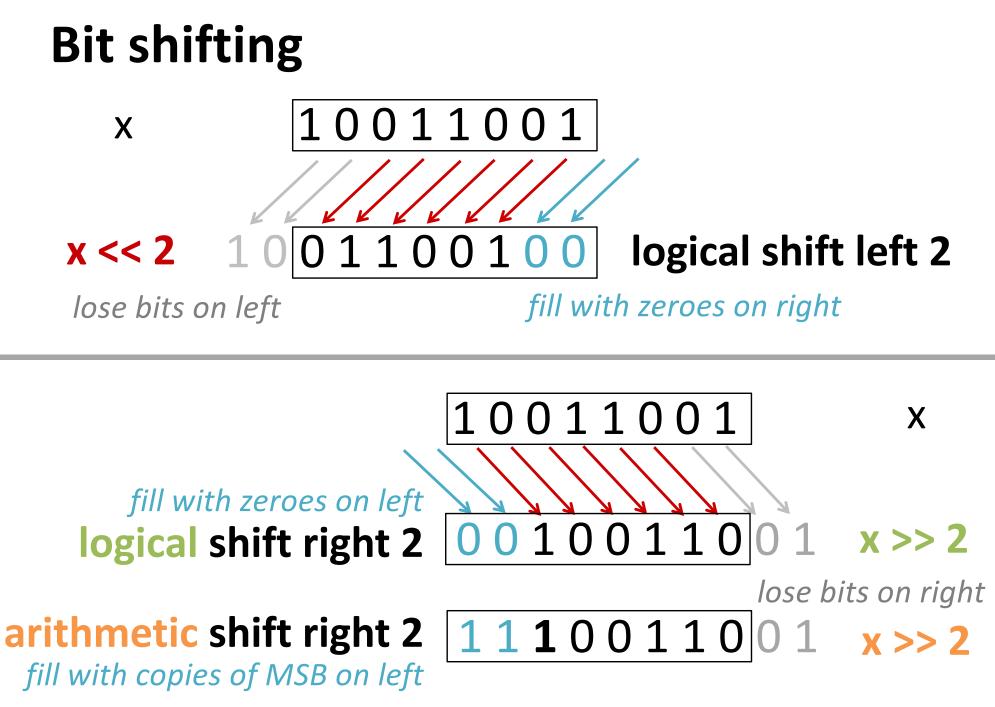
}

mask: a bit vector that, when bitwise
ANDed with another bit vector v, turns
all but the bits of interest in v to 0
#define VALUE MASK

int greaterValue(char card1, char card2) {

char hand[5]; // represents a 5-card hand
...

if (greaterValue(hand[0], hand[1])) { ... }



Shift gotchas

!!!

Logical or arithmetic shift right: how do we tell?

- C: compiler chooses
 - Usually based on type: rain check!

Java: >> is arithmetic, >>> is logical

Shift an *n*-bit type by at least 0 and no more than n-1.

C: other shift distances are undefined.

anything could happen

Java: shift distance is used modulo number of bits in shifted type

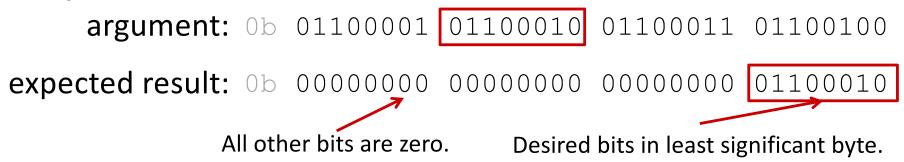
Given int x: x << 34 == x << 2

Shift and mask: extract a bit field



extracts the 2nd most significant byte from its 32-bit integer argument.

Example behavior:



int get2ndMSB(int x) {