Floating Point

§3.5 Floating Point

- Representation for non-integral numbers
  - Including very small and very large numbers
- Like scientific notation
  - -2.34×10^{56} ← normalized
  - $+0.002 \times 10^{-4}$ ← not normalized
  - $+987.02 \times 10^{9}$ ← not normalized
- In binary
  - $\pm 1.xxxxxxx_2 \times 2^{yyyy}$
- Types `float` and `double` in C

Floating Point Standard

- Defined by IEEE Std 754-1985
- Developed in response to divergence of representations
  - Portability issues for scientific code
- Now almost universally adopted
- Two representations
  - Single precision (32-bit)
  - Double precision (64-bit)

IEEE Floating-Point Format

S	Exponent	Fraction
	single: 8 bits double: 11 bits	single: 23 bits double: 52 bits

$$x = (-1)^S \times (1 + \text{Fraction}) \times 2^{(\text{Exponent} - \text{Bias})}$$

- S: sign bit (0 ⇒ non-negative, 1 ⇒ negative)
- Normalize significand: 1.0 ≤ |significand| < 2.0
  - Always has a leading pre-binary-point 1 bit, so no need to represent it explicitly (hidden bit)
  - Significand is Fraction with the "1." restored
- Exponent: excess representation: actual exponent + Bias
  - Ensures exponent is unsigned
  - Single: Bias = 127; Double: Bias = 1203

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 19

Single-Precision Range

- Exponents 00000000 and 11111111 reserved
- Smallest value
  - Exponent: 00000001
    ⇒ actual exponent = 1 – 127 = –126
  - Fraction: 000…00 ⇒ significand = 1.0
  - $\pm 1.0 \times 2^{-126} \approx \pm 1.2 \times 10^{-38}$
- Largest value
  - exponent: 11111110
    ⇒ actual exponent = 254 – 127 = +127
  - Fraction: 111…11 ⇒ significand ≈ 2.0
  - $\pm 2.0 \times 2^{+127} \approx \pm 3.4 \times 10^{+38}$

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 20

Double-Precision Range

- Exponents 0000…00 and 1111…11 reserved
- Smallest value
  - Exponent: 00000000001
    ⇒ actual exponent = 1 – 1023 = –1022
  - Fraction: 000…00 ⇒ significand = 1.0
  - $\pm 1.0 \times 2^{-1022} \approx \pm 2.2 \times 10^{-308}$
- Largest value
  - Exponent: 11111111110
    ⇒ actual exponent = 2046 – 1023 = +1023
  - Fraction: 111…11 ⇒ significand ≈ 2.0
  - $\pm 2.0 \times 2^{+1023} \approx \pm 1.8 \times 10^{+308}$

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 21

Floating-Point Precision

- Relative precision
  - all fraction bits are significant
  - Single: approx 2^{-23}
    - Equivalent to $23 \times \log_{10}2 \approx 23 \times 0.3 \approx 6$ decimal digits of precision
  - Double: approx 2^{-52}
    - Equivalent to $52 \times \log_{10}2 \approx 52 \times 0.3 \approx 16$ decimal digits of precision

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 22

Floating-Point Example

- Represent –0.75
  - $-0.75 = (-1)^1 \times 1.1_2 \times 2^{-1}$
  - S = 1
  - Fraction = $1000\ldots00_2$
  - Exponent = –1 + Bias
    - Single: –1 + 127 = 126 = 01111110_2
    - Double: –1 + 1023 = 1022 = 01111111110_2
- Single: 1011111101000…00
- Double: 1011111111101000…00

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 23

Floating-Point Example

- What number is represented by the single-precision float

  11000000101000…00
  - S = 1
  - Fraction = $01000\ldots00_2$
  - Exponent = 10000001_2 = 129
- $x = (-1)^1 \times (1 + 01_2) \times 2^{(129-127)}$

  $= (-1) \times 1.25 \times 2^2$

  $= -5.0$

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 24

Denormal Numbers

- Exponent = 000...0 ⇒ hidden bit is 0

$$x = (-1)^S \times (0 + \text{Fraction}) \times 2^{-\text{Bias}}$$

- Smaller than normal numbers
  - allow for gradual underflow, with diminishing precision
- Denormal with fraction = 000...0

$$x = (-1)^S \times (0 + 0) \times 2^{-\text{Bias}} = \pm 0.0$$

Two representations of 0.0!

Single Precision		Double Precision		Represents
E(8)	F(23)	E(11)	F(52)	
0	0	0	0	True 0
0	Nonzero	0	Nonzero	Denormalized number
1-254	Anything	1-2046	Anything	Float point number
255	0	2047	0	infinity
255	nonzero	2047	nonzero	NaN

Infinities and NaNs

- Exponent = 111...1, Fraction = 000...0
  - ±Infinity
  - Can be used in subsequent calculations, avoiding need for overflow check
- Exponent = 111...1, Fraction ≠ 000...0
  - Not-a-Number (NaN)
  - Indicates illegal or undefined result
    - e.g., 0.0 / 0.0
  - Can be used in subsequent calculations

Floating-Point Addition

- Consider a 4-digit decimal example
  - $9.999 \times 10^{1} + 1.610 \times 10^{-1}$
- 1. Align decimal points
  - Shift number with smaller exponent
  - $9.999 \times 10^{1} + 0.016 \times 10^{1}$
- 2. Add significands
  - $9.999 \times 10^{1} + 0.016 \times 10^{1} = 10.015 \times 10^{1}$
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - 1.0015×10^{2}
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - 1.002×10^{2}

Floating-Point Addition

- Now consider a 4-digit binary example
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} + -1.110_2 \times 2^{-2}$ (0.5 + –0.4375)
- 1. Align binary points
  - Shift number with smaller exponent
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} + -0.111_2 \times 2^{-1}$
- 2. Add significands
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} + -0.111_2 \times 2^{-1} = 0.001_2 \times 2^{-1}$
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-4}$, with no over/underflow
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-4}$ (no change) = 0.0625

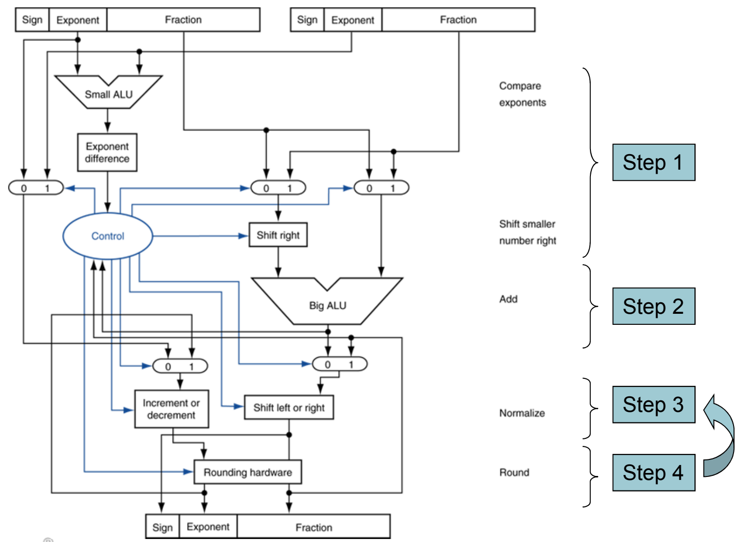
Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 29

FP Adder Hardware

- Much more complex than integer adder
- Doing it in one clock cycle would take too long
  - Much longer than integer operations
  - Slower clock would penalize all instructions
- FP adder usually takes several cycles
  - Can be pipelined

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 30

FP Adder Hardware



FP Instructions in MIPS

- FP hardware is coprocessor 1
  - Adjunct processor that extends the ISA
- Separate FP registers
  - 32 single-precision: $f0, $f1, … $f31
  - Paired for double-precision: $f0/$f1, $f2/$f3, …
    - Release 2 of MIPs ISA supports 32 × 64-bit FP reg's
- FP instructions operate only on FP registers
  - Programs generally don't do integer ops on FP data, or vice versa
  - More registers with minimal code-size impact
- FP load and store instructions
  - `lwc1`, `ldc1`, `swc1`, `sdc1`
    - e.g., `ldc1 $f8, 32($sp)`

FP Instructions in MIPS

- Single-precision arithmetic
  - `add.s`, `sub.s`, `mul.s`, div.s
    - e.g., `add.s $f0, $f1, $f6`
- Double-precision arithmetic
  - `add.d`, `sub.d`, `mul.d`, `div.d`
    - e.g., `mul.d $f4, $f4, $f6`
- Single- and double-precision comparison
  - `c.`*`xx`*`.s`, `c.`*`xx`*`.d` (*xx* is `eq`, `lt`, `le`, …)
  - Sets or clears FP condition-code bit
    - e.g. `c.lt.s $f3, $f4`
- Branch on FP condition code true or false
  - `bc1t`, `bc1f`
    - e.g., `bc1t TargetLabel`

FP Example: °F to °C

- C code:

```
float f2c (float fahr) {
  return ((5.0/9.0)*(fahr - 32.0));
}
```

  - `fahr` in $f12, result in $f0, literals in global memory space
- Compiled MIPS code:

```
f2c: lwc1  $f16, const5($gp)
     lwc2  $f18, const9($gp)
     div.s $f16, $f16, $f18
     lwc1  $f18, const32($gp)
     sub.s $f18, $f12, $f18
     mul.s $f0,  $f16, $f18
     jr    $ra
```

FP Example: Array Multiplication

- X = X + Y × Z
  - All 32 × 32 matrices, 64-bit double-precision elements
- C code:

```
void mm (double x[][],
         double y[][], double z[][]) {
  int i, j, k;
  for (i = 0; i! = 32; i = i + 1)
    for (j = 0; j! = 32; j = j + 1)
      for (k = 0; k! = 32; k = k + 1)
        x[i][j] = x[i][j]
                  + y[i][k] * z[k][j];
}
```

  - Addresses of x, y, z in \$a0, \$a1, \$a2, and i, j, k in \$s0, \$s1, \$s2

FP Example: Array Multiplication

- MIPS code:

```
    li   $t1, 32       # $t1 = 32 (row size/loop end)
    li   $s0, 0        # i = 0; initialize 1st for loop
L1: li   $s1, 0        # j = 0; restart 2nd for loop
L2: li   $s2, 0        # k = 0; restart 3rd for loop
    sll  $t2, $s0, 5   # $t2 = i * 32 (size of row of x)
    addu $t2, $t2, $s1 # $t2 = i * size(row) + j
    sll  $t2, $t2, 3   # $t2 = byte offset of [i][j]
    addu $t2, $a0, $t2 # $t2 = byte address of x[i][j]
    l.d  $f4, 0($t2)   # $f4 = 8 bytes of x[i][j]
L3: sll  $t0, $s2, 5   # $t0 = k * 32 (size of row of z)
    addu $t0, $t0, $s1 # $t0 = k * size(row) + j
    sll  $t0, $t0, 3   # $t0 = byte offset of [k][j]
    addu $t0, $a2, $t0 # $t0 = byte address of z[k][j]
    l.d  $f16, 0($t0)  # $f16 = 8 bytes of z[k][j]
```

…

FP Example: Array Multiplication

```
…
sll  $t0, $s0, 5        # $t0 = i*32 (size of row of y)
addu  $t0, $t0, $s2     # $t0 = i*size(row) + k
sll   $t0, $t0, 3       # $t0 = byte offset of [i][k]
addu  $t0, $a1, $t0     # $t0 = byte address of y[i][k]
l.d   $f18, 0($t0)      # $f18 = 8 bytes of y[i][k]
mul.d $f16, $f18, $f16 # $f16 = y[i][k] * z[k][j]
add.d $f4, $f4, $f16    # f4=x[i][j] + y[i][k]*z[k][j]
addiu $s2, $s2, 1       # $k k + 1
bne   $s2, $t1, L3      # if (k != 32) go to L3
s.d   $f4, 0($t2)       # x[i][j] = $f4
addiu $s1, $s1, 1       # $j = j + 1
bne   $s1, $t1, L2      # if (j != 32) go to L2
addiu $s0, $s0, 1       # $i = i + 1
bne   $s0, $t1, L1      # if (i != 32) go to L1
```

Chapter 3 — Arithmetic for Computers — 40