L05: Integers II CSE351, Autumn 2025

## The Hardware/Software Interface

#### Integers II

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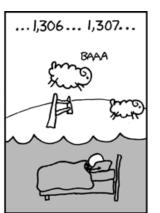
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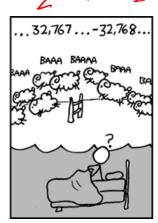
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http://xkcd.com/571/

#### **Relevant Course Information**

- HW3 due tonight, HW4 due Monday, HW5 due Wednesday
- Lab 1a due Monday (10/9)
  - Use ptest and dlc.py to check your solution for correctness (on the CSE Linux environment)
  - Submit pointer.c and lab1Asynthesis.txt to Gradescope
    - Make sure you pass the File and Compilation Check all the correct files were found and there
      were no compilation or runtime errors
- Lab 1b released today, due 10/16
  - Bit manipulation on a custom encoding scheme
  - Bonus slides at the end of today's lecture have relevant examples
- Reading 6 is dense, do it early if you can!

#### Runnable Code Snippets on Ed

- Ed allows you to embed runnable code snippets (e.g., readings, homework, discussion)
  - These are editable and rerunnable!
  - Hides compiler warnings, but will show compiler errors and runtime errors
  - Code must be inside of an int main() function
  - To use printf(), you must #include<stdio.h>
- Suggested use
  - Good for experimental questions about basic behaviors in C
  - NOT entirely consistent with the CSE Linux environment, so should not be used for any lab-related work

#### Lecture Outline (1/4)

- \* Integer Limitations
- Casting in C
- Bit Shifting
- Integer Representation Issues in Real Life

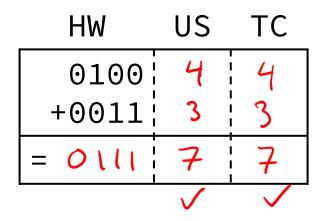
#### Integer Limits for w bits (Review)

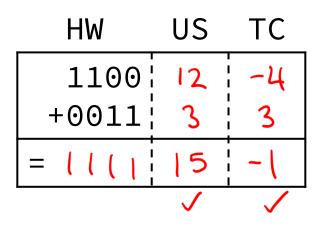
- Unsigned range
  - UMin = 0b00...0 = 0
  - UMax =  $0b11...1 = 2^w 1$
- Signed (Two's Complement) values
  - TMin =  $0b10...0 = -2^{w-1}$
  - TMax =  $0b01...1 = 2^{w-1} 1$
- \* Example: w = 8 (e.g., char)

$$-\infty \leftarrow -128 \qquad 0 \qquad +128 \qquad +256 \\ -2^{8-1} \qquad 0 \qquad +2^{8-1} \qquad +2^{8}$$

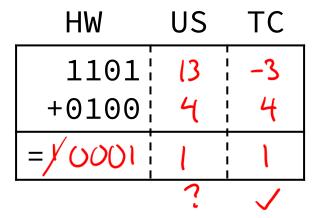
#### **Integer Arithmetic**

- The same addition procedure works for both unsigned and signed (Two's Complement) integers
  - Simplifies hardware: Only one algorithm for addition!
  - Algorithm: Normal binary addition, discard the highest carry bit
    - Called modular addition: result is sum modulo 2<sup>w</sup>
- 4-bit Examples: (HW = hardware, US = unsigned, TC = signed)





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#### **Arithmetic Overflow**

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

- When a calculation produces a result that can't be represented in the current encoding scheme
  - Integer range limited by fixed width This-Thex
  - Can occur in both the positive and negative directions
- C and Java ignore overflow exceptions
  - You end up with a bad value in your program and no warning/indication... oops!

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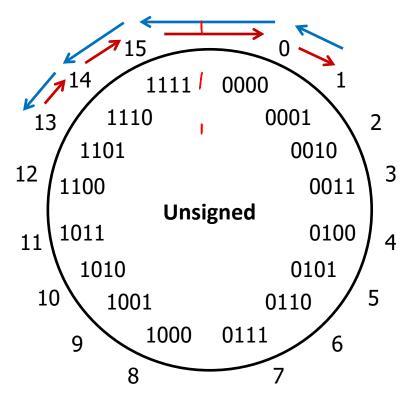
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\* Addition: drop carry bit  $(-2^{w})$ 

$$\begin{array}{r}
13 & 1101 \\
+ 4 & + 0100 \\
\hline
1 & 1000
\end{array}$$

\* Subtraction: borrow  $(+2^{w})$ 



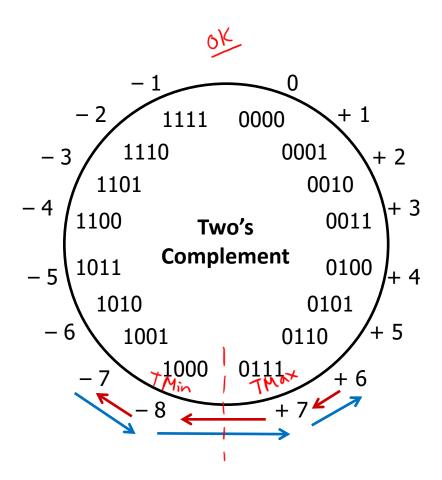


#### **Overflow: Two's Complement**

• Addition: (+) + (+) = (-) result?

**Subtraction:** (−) + (−) = (+)?

$$\begin{array}{rrr}
-7 & 1001 \\
-3 & -0011 \\
-10 & 0110 \\
6
\end{array}$$



#### **Arithmetic Overflow Summary**

- $\bullet$  Error is always a multiple of  $\pm 2^w$  because of modular arithmetic
  - Unsigned overflow occurs if result falls outside of [UMin, UMax]
    - There is a carryout from the MSB
  - Signed overflow occurs if result falls outside of [TMin, TMax]
    - Signs of both inputs to addition are the same, but the sign of the output is different
- Independent properties of the arithmetic operation
  - All four combinations of signed OF and unsigned OF are possible!

HW	US	TC	
1101	13	-3	
+0100	+ 4	+ 4	
= <u>1</u> 0001	= 1	= 1	

- √ unsigned overflow
- x signed overflow

represent 26=64 numbers

Unsigned

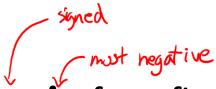
39

217

127

129

## Polling Questions (1/2)



❖ What is the value (and encoding) of ŤMin for a fictional 6-bit wide integer

data type?  $0b = \frac{1}{2^{5}} \frac{0}{2^{4}} \frac{0}{2^{3}} \frac{0}{2^{2}} \frac{0}{2^{1}} \frac{0}{2^{0}}$ 

 $-2^{n-1}=-2^{5}=(-32)$ 

Numeral

0x27

0xD9

0x7F

0x81

Signed

39

-39

127

-127

- For the following 8-bit integer additions, did signed and/or unsigned overflow occur?
  - [TMin, TMax] = [-128, 127]
  - [UMin, UMax] = [0, 255]
  - a) 0x27 + 0x81

sianed:	39	+	(-127)	=	- 88	un signed:	39 + 129 = 168
			(-127) n	0 (	sign ed	overflow	no un signed overfla

b) 
$$0x7F + 0xD9$$

signed:  $127 + (-39) = 88$ 

no signed overflow unsigned overflow unsigned overflow

#### Lecture Outline (2/4)

- Integer Limitations
- Casting in C
- Bit Shifting
- Integer Representation Issues in Real Life

#### **Data Types**

- How does a data type affect a variable?
  - Size of allocation (e.g., char vs. long)
  - How to interpret the bits (e.g., int vs. unsigned)
  - Valid operators/operations and their behavior (e.g., can't use subscript notation [] on integral types, normal vs. pointer arithmetic)
- What does it mean or what are the consequences of changing your data type?

#### Literals

- Constants/literals in your code also have "types"
  - Affect the stored/manipulated data and the behavior of operators
  - In C:
    - By default, literals (decimal or hex) are treated as signed integers
    - Use "U" (or "u") suffix to explicitly force *unsigned* (e.g., 100U, 4294967259u)
    - Integer literals generally have an assumed size of 4 bytes unless longer is needed
    - We will learn about floating point literals next lesson
- Can be confusing if types don't match
   Example: signed char c = 255u; printf("%d", c);
  - Example: int\* ip = 0x40210 + 1; no ponter arithmetic! type mismatch error

#### Type Casting: Implicit (Review)

- Casting converts data of one data type into a different data type
  - Different programming languages may not allow casting or only in certain cases
- C is known for having very flexible casts, with different effects:
- Changes in bit width (e.g., short to int)
   Changes in interpretations (e.g., int to unsigned int, long int to char\*)
  - Full changes in representations (e.g., int to float) next lesson
- An implicit cast is done automatically by the compiler to fix type mismatches
  - Needs to be a well-defined conversion between the two types

#### **Type Casting: Explicit (Review)**

- Casting converts data of one data type into a different data type
  - Different programming languages may not allow casting or only in certain cases
- C is known for having very flexible casts, with different effects:
  - Changes in bit width (e.g., short to int)
  - Changes in interpretations (e.g., int to unsigned int, long int to char\*)
  - Full changes in representations (e.g., int to float)
- \* An explicit cast can be performed by the programmer by using the syntax: (data\_type) expression

  \* Very powerful, very dangerous!
  - Suppress compiler warnings for implicit casts
  - Forcibly cause changes in interpretation or representation

#### **Casting: Bit Width Change (Mostly Review)**

- Longer to shorter
  - e.g., long  $\rightarrow$  int  $\rightarrow$  short  $\rightarrow$  char
  - *Truncation* (*i.e.*, drop upper bytes)

- Shorter to longer
  - e.g., char  $\rightarrow$  short  $\rightarrow$  int  $\rightarrow$  long
  - **Zero extension**: Add all zeros
    - In C, done for unsigned data
  - Sign extension: Add all {old sign bit/MSB}
    - In C, done for signed data to preserve value

```
unsigned char uc = 0xFF;

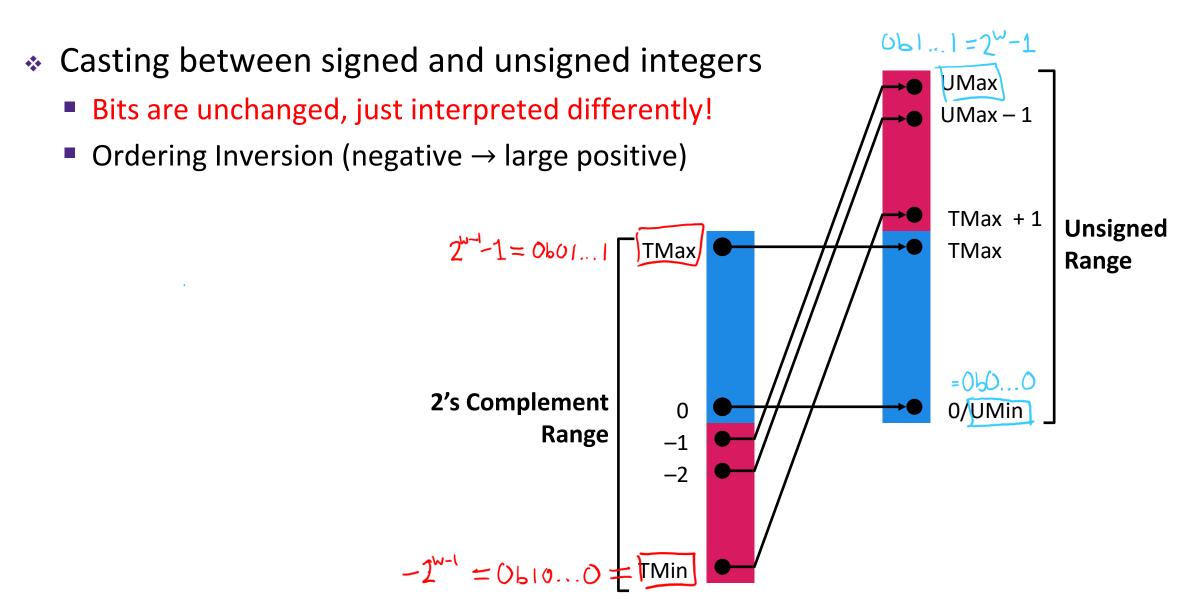
unsigned short us = uc; //0x00FF

signed char sc = 0xFF;

short ss = sc; // 0xFFFF

sc = 0x10; ss = sc; // 0x000
```

#### **Casting: Interpretation Change**



#### **Data Types: Operator Behavior (Review)**

- Expression Evaluation
  - When you mixed unsigned and signed in a single expression, then signed values are implicitly cast to unsigned
  - Including comparison operators <, >, ==, <=, >=
- Examples: For 8-bit data, what will the following expressions evaluate to?

#### Lecture Outline (3/4)

- Integer Limitations
- Casting in C
- **\* Bit Shifting**
- Integer Representation Issues in Real Life

#### Shift Operations (Review, 1/2)

- Throw away (drop) extra bits that "fall off" the end
- Left shift (x<<n) bit vector x by n positions</p>
  - Fill with 0's on right
- Right shift (x>>n) bit-vector x by n positions
  - Logical shift (for unsigned values)
    - Fill with 0's on left
  - Arithmetic shift (for signed values)
    - Replicate most significant bit on left (maintains sign of x)

## Shift Operations (Review, 2/2)

digit dix2 changes power of 2 by n because it moved positions

#### Arithmetic:

- Left shift (x << n) is equivalent to multiply by  $2^n$
- Right shift (x>>n) is equivalent to <u>divide</u> by  $2^n$
- Shifting is faster than general multiply and divide operations!

(compiler will try to optimize for you)

#### Notes:

Shifts by n<0 or  $n\ge w$  (w is bit width of x) are undefined

- In C: behavior of >> is determined by the compiler
  - In gcc / C lang, depends on data type of x (signed/unsigned)
- In Java: logical shift is >>> and arithmetic shift is >>

### **Left Shifting 8-bit Example**

- No difference in left shift operation for unsigned and signed numbers (just manipulates bits)
  - Difference comes during interpretation:  $x*2^n$ ?

```
Unsigned
                                    Signed
 x = 25;
                                      25
                                            25
                    00011001
L1 = x << 2;
                                    100
                                           100
                 ∞011001
L2 = x << 3;
                99911001000
                                           200
                        signed overflow
L3 = x << 4; 000110010000
                             unsigned overflow
```

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#### **Logical Right Shifting 8-bit Example**

- Reminder: C operator >> does logical shift on unsigned values and arithmetic shift on signed values
  - Logical Shift: x/2<sup>n</sup>?

$$xu = 240u$$
;  $11110000 = 240_{8=30}$   
 $R1u = xu>>3$ ;  $00011110000 = 30_{4=7.5}$   
 $R2u = xu>>5$ ;  $0000011110000 = 7$ 

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#### **Arithmetic Right Shifting 8-bit Negative Example**

- Reminder: C operator >> does logical shift on unsigned values and arithmetic shift on signed values
  - Arithmetic Shift: x/2<sup>n</sup>?

$$xs = -16;$$
 11110000 = -16

R1s =  $xs >> 3;$  111111110000 =  $-2_{4} = -05$ 

R2s =  $xs >> 5;$  11111111110000 = -1

#### **Arithmetic Right Shifting 8-bit Positive Example**

- Reminder: C operator >> does logical shift on unsigned values and arithmetic shift on signed values
  - Arithmetic Shift: x/2<sup>n</sup>?

$$xs = 112;$$
 01110000 = 112

R3s =  $xs >> 3;$  00001110000 =  $14_{4} = 35$ 

R4s =  $xs >> 5;$  0000001110000 = 3

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- \* For unsigned char uc = 0xA1;, what are the produced data for the cast (unsigned short)uc?

  2 bytes

  2 bytes
- What is the result of the following expressions?
  - (signed char)uc >> 2
  - (unsigned char)uc >> 3

```
signed: 06 1010 0001 arithmetic 061110 1000 = 0x E81
```

unsigned: 
$$06/010$$
  $000t \xrightarrow{logical} 060001 0100 = 0 \times 14$ 

#### Lecture Outline (4/4)

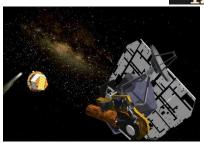
- Integer Limitations
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#### Integer Representation Issues in Real Life

- 1985: Therac-25 radiation therapy machine
  - Overdoses of radiation due to arithmetic overflow of incrementing a 1-byte safety flag variable
- \* **2000**: Y2K problem
  - Limited representation (two-digit decimal year)
- 2013: Deep Impact spacecraft lost
  - Suspected integer overflow from storing time as tenth-seconds in unsigned int: 8/11/2013, 00:38:49.6
- 2038: Unix epoch time rollover (seconds since 1/1/1970)
  - Signed 32-bit integer representation rolls over to TMin in 2038









#### **Discussion Question**

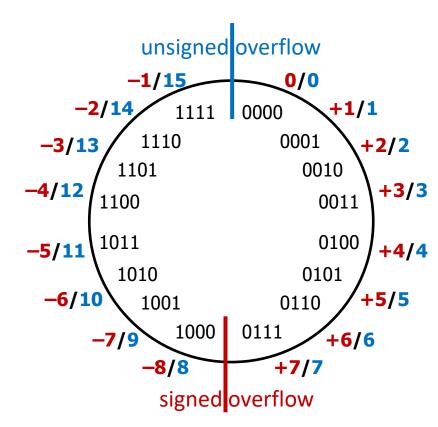
- Discuss the following question(s) in groups of 3-4 students
  - I will call on a few groups afterwards so please be prepared to share out
  - Be respectful of others' opinions and experiences
- Given that arithmetic overflow is a well-known property of integers in computing, what do you think are some of the causes and pressures that perpetuate these issues?
  - Think broadly! Ideas could be technical, economic, societal, etc.

## **Summary (1/3)**

- \* We can only represent a limited range of numbers in w bits ( $2^w$  things)
  - Unsigned: [UMin, UMax]
  - Signed: [TMin, TMax]



- Integer arithmetic is the same in hardware regardless of interpretation
  - When we exceed the limits, arithmetic overflow occurs following the rules of modular arithmetic
    - Signed vs. unsigned overflow depends on interpretation of numbers:



### **Summary (2/3)**

- Data types determine size, interpretations, and operator behaviors
- Casting (implicit or explicit) can convert values between different data types
  - Be careful of the possible consequences of casting (truncation, zero/sign extension, change in interpreted value, change in operator behaviors like comparisons and shifting)

### **Summary (3/3)**

- Shifting is a useful bitwise operator
  - Throw away (drop) extra bits that "fall off" the end
  - Left shifting always fills with 0's
  - Right shifting can be arithmetic (fill with copies of sign bit) or logical (fill with 0's)
  - Shifts by n<0 or n≥w (w is bit width) are undefined</p>
- Common use cases: constant multiplication, bit masking

# BONUS SLIDES

Some examples of using shift operators in combination with bitmasks, which you may find helpful for Lab 1b.

- Extract the 2<sup>nd</sup> most significant byte of an int
- Extract the sign bit of a signed int
- Conditionals as Boolean expressions

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#### **Using Shifts and Masks**

- Extract the 2<sup>nd</sup> most significant byte of an int:
  - First shift, then mask: (x>>16) & 0xFF

X	00000001	00000010	00000011	00000100
x>>16	00000000	00000000	00000001	00000010
0×FF	00000000	0000000	0000000	11111111
(x>>16) & 0xFF	0000000	0000000	0000000	00000010

Or first mask, then shift: (x & 0xFF0000)>>16

×	00000001	00000010	00000011	00000100
0xFF0000	0000000	11111111	00000000	00000000
x & 0xFF0000	00000000	00000010	00000000	00000000
(x&0xFF0000)>>16	00000000	0000000	00000000	00000010

#### **Using Shifts and Masks**

- Extract the sign bit of a signed int:
  - First shift, then mask: (x>>31) & 0x1
    - Assuming arithmetic shift here, but this works in either case
    - Need mask to clear 1s possibly shifted in

X	<b>0</b> 000001	00000010	00000011	00000100
x>>31	0000000	00000000	00000000	0000000 <b>0</b>
0x1	00000000	00000000	00000000	00000001
(x>>31) & 0x1	00000000	0000000	00000000	00000000

x	<b>1</b> 0000001	00000010	00000011	00000100
x>>31	11111111	11111111	11111111	1111111 <b>1</b>
0x1	0000000	00000000	0000000	00000001
(x>>31) & 0x1	0000000	0000000	0000000	00000001

#### **Using Shifts and Masks**

- Conditionals as Boolean expressions
  - For int x, what does (x<<31)>>31 do?

x=!!123	00000000	00000000	0000000	00000001
x<<31	10000000	00000000	00000000	00000000
(x<<31)>>31	11111111	11111111	11111111	11111111
!x	00000000	00000000	00000000	00000000
!x<<31	0000000	00000000	0000000	00000000
(!x<<31)>>31	00000000	00000000	00000000	00000000

- Can use in place of conditional:
  - In C: if(x) {a=y;} else {a=z;} equivalent to a=x?y:z;
  - a=(((!!x<<31)>>31)&y) | (((!x<<31)>>31)&z);