Bits, Bytes, and Integers

15-213: Introduction to Computer Systems
3rd Lectures, May 28th, 2013

Instructors:

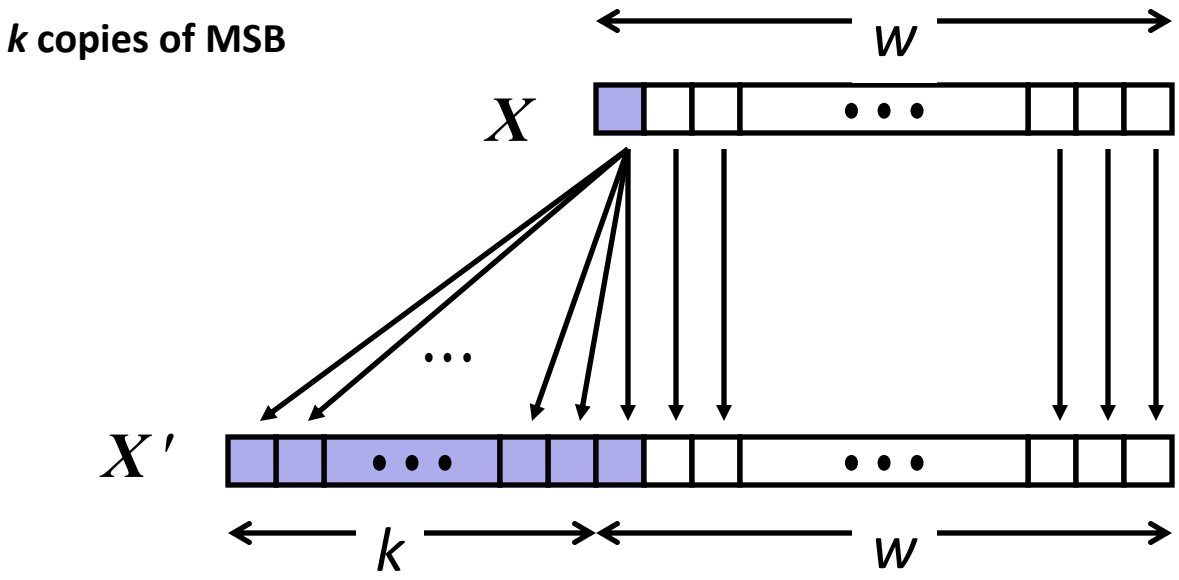
Greg Kesden

Today: Bits, Bytes, and Integers

- Representing information as bits
- Bit-level manipulations
- **Integers**
  - Representation: unsigned and signed
  - Conversion, casting
  - **Expanding, truncating**
  - Addition, negation, multiplication, shifting
  - Summary
- Representations in memory, pointers, strings

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:
  - $X' = x_{w-1}, \ldots, x_{w-1}, x_{w-1}, x_{w-2}, \ldots, x_0$



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

Summary:
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

Lets run some tests

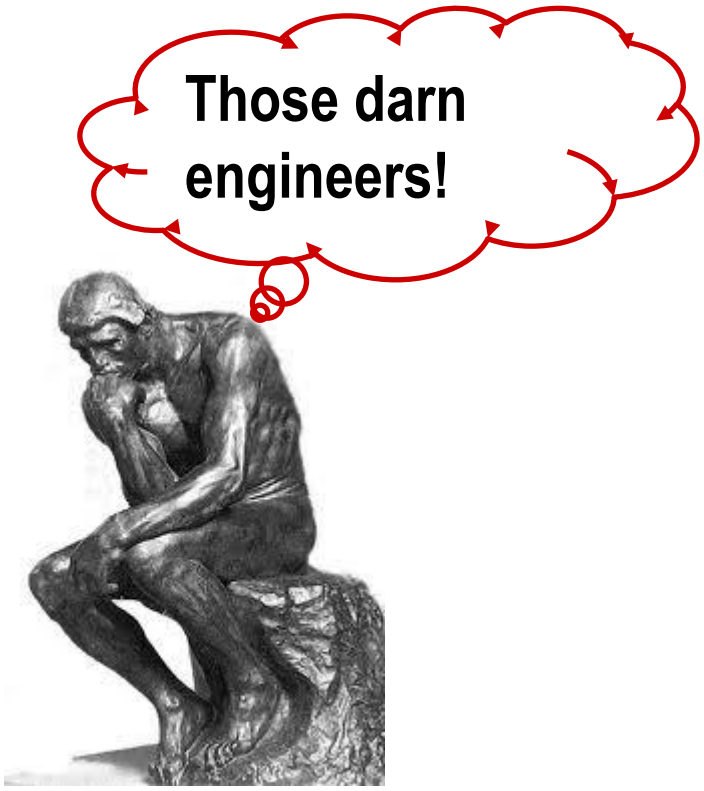
```
printf("%d\n", getValue());
```

- 50652
- 1500
- 9692
- 26076
- 17884
- 42460
- 34268
- 50652

Lets run some tests

```
int x=getValue(); printf("%d %08x\n",x, x);
```

- 50652 0000c5dc
- 1500 000005dc
- 9692 000025dc
- 26076 000065dc
- 17884 000045dc
- 42460 0000a5dc
- 34268 000085dc
- 50652 0000c5dc

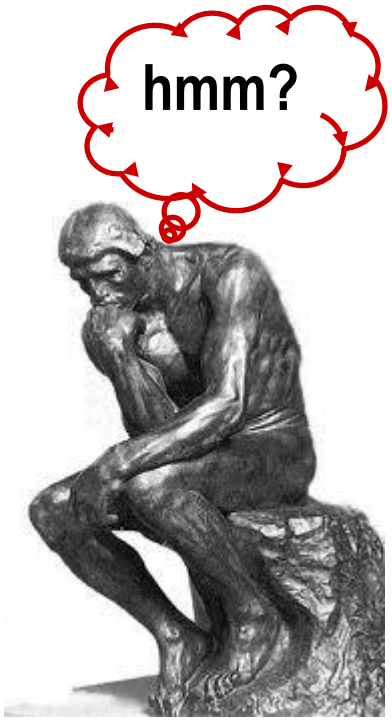


Only care about least significant 12 bits

```
int x=getValue();
x=(x & 0x0fff);
printf("%d\n",x);
```

Only care about least significant 12 bits

```
int x=getValue();
x=x(&0x0fff);
printf("%d\n",x);
```




```
printf("%x\n", x);
```

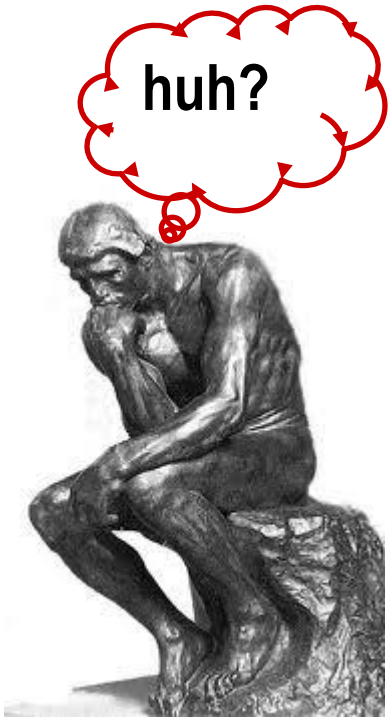
Must sign extend

```
int x=getValue();
x=(x&0x00fff)|(x&0x0800?0xfffff000:0);
printf("%d\n",x);
```

There is a better way.

Because you graduated from 213

```
int x=getValue();
x=(x&0x00fff)|(x&0x0800?0xfffff000:0);
printf("%d\n",x);
```



Lets be really thorough

```
int x=getValue();
x=(x&0x00fff)|(x&0x0800?0xfffff000:0);
printf("%d\n",x);
```

Today: Bits, Bytes, and Integers

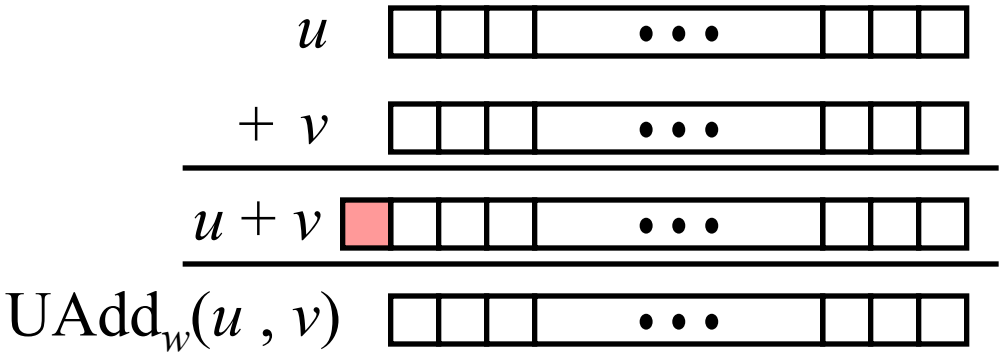
- Representing information as bits
- Bit-level manipulations
- **Integers**
  - Representation: unsigned and signed
  - Conversion, casting
  - Expanding, truncating
  - **Addition, negation, multiplication, shifting**
- Representations in memory, pointers, strings
- Summary

Unsigned Addition

Operands: *w* bits

True Sum: *w*+1 bits

Discard Carry: *w* bits



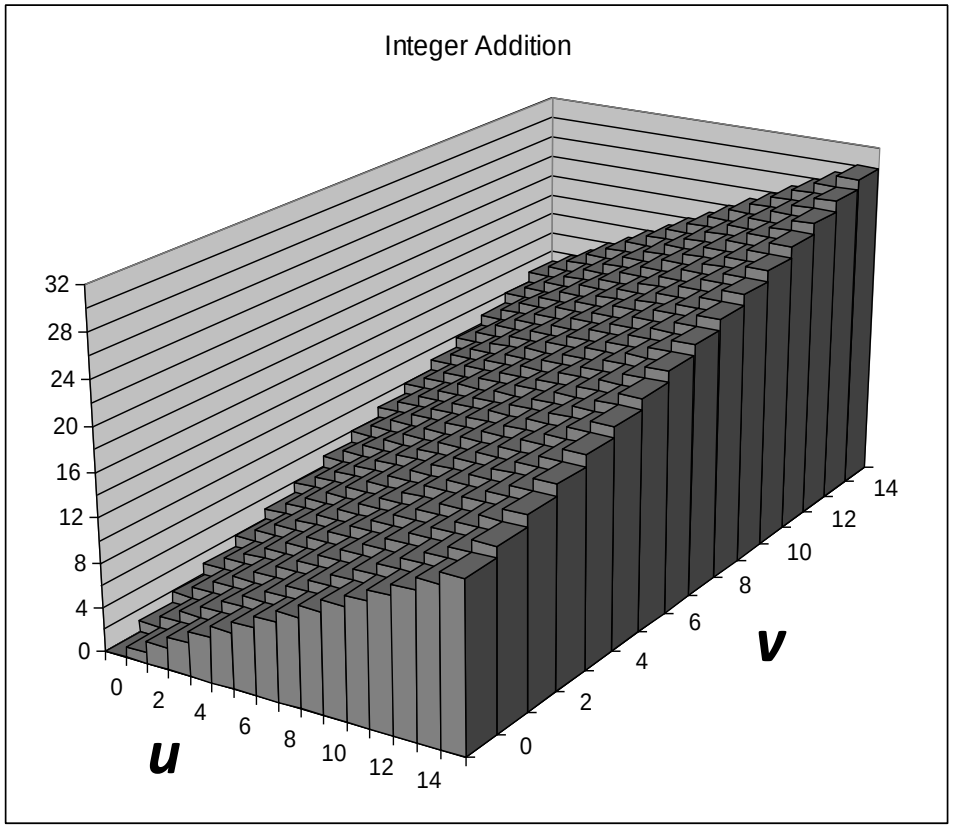
- **Standard Addition Function**
  - Ignores carry output
- **Implements Modular Arithmetic**

  $s = \text{UAdd}_w(u , v) = u + v \mod 2^w$

Visualizing (Mathematical) Integer Addition

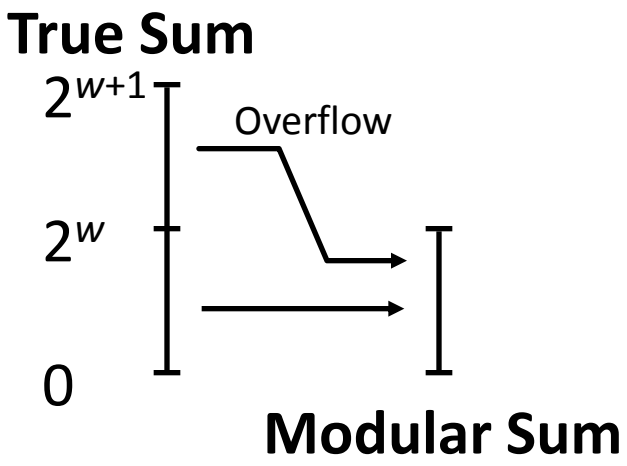
- **Integer Addition**
  - 4-bit integers *u*, *v*
  - Compute true sum $\text{Add}_4(u , v)$
  - Values increase linearly with *u* and *v*
  - Forms planar surface

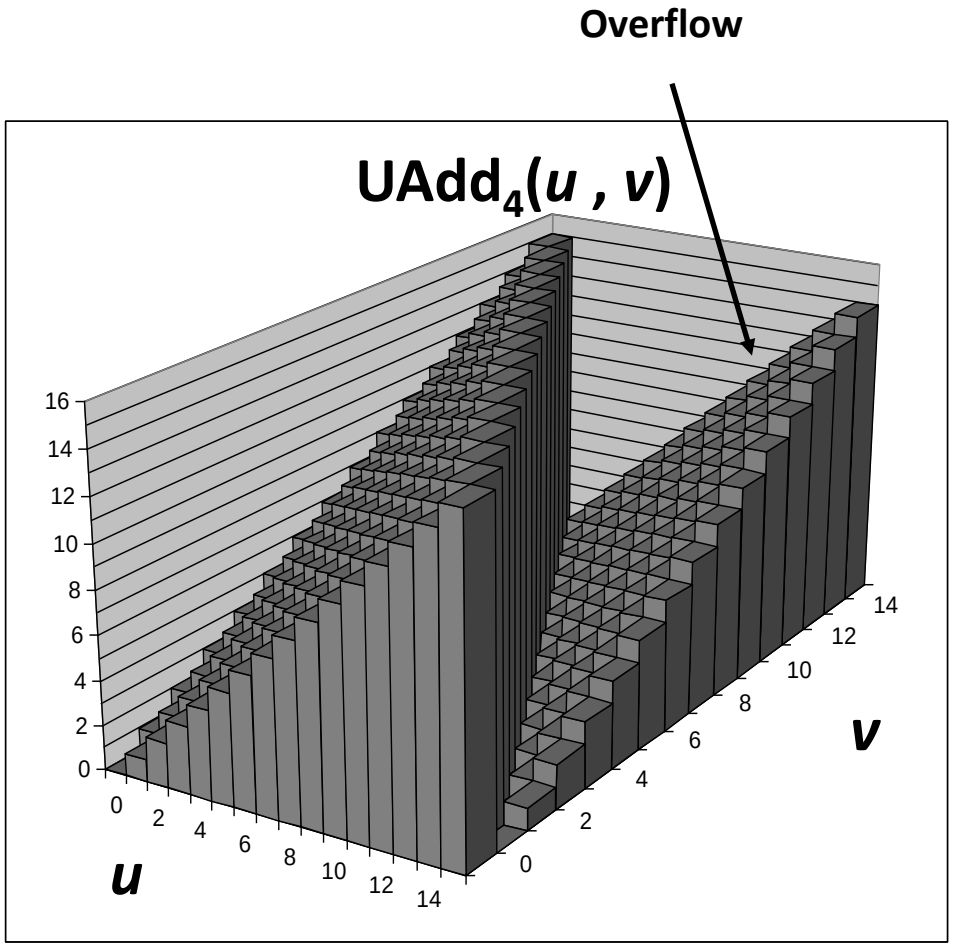
$\text{Add}_4(u , v)$



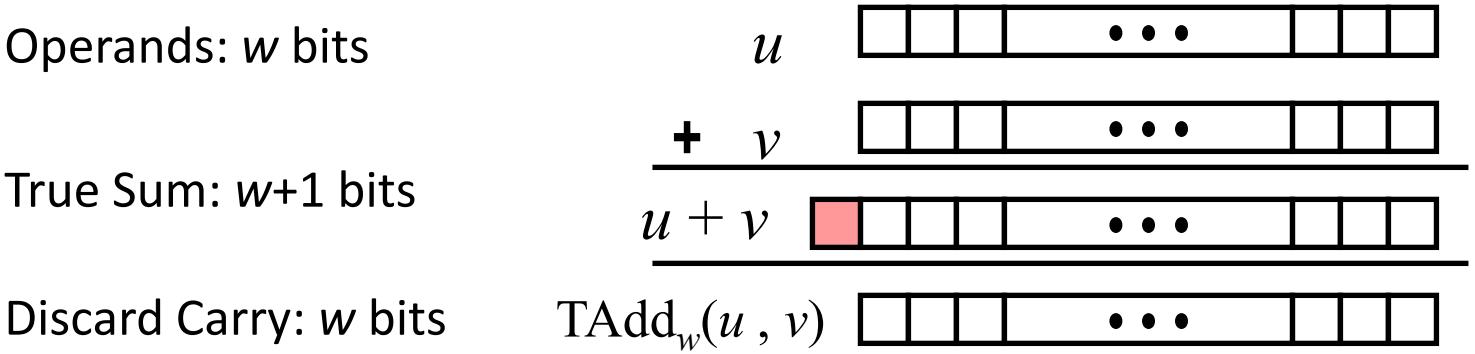
Visualizing Unsigned Addition

- **Wraps Around**
  - If true sum ≥ 2^w
  - At most once





Two's Complement Addition



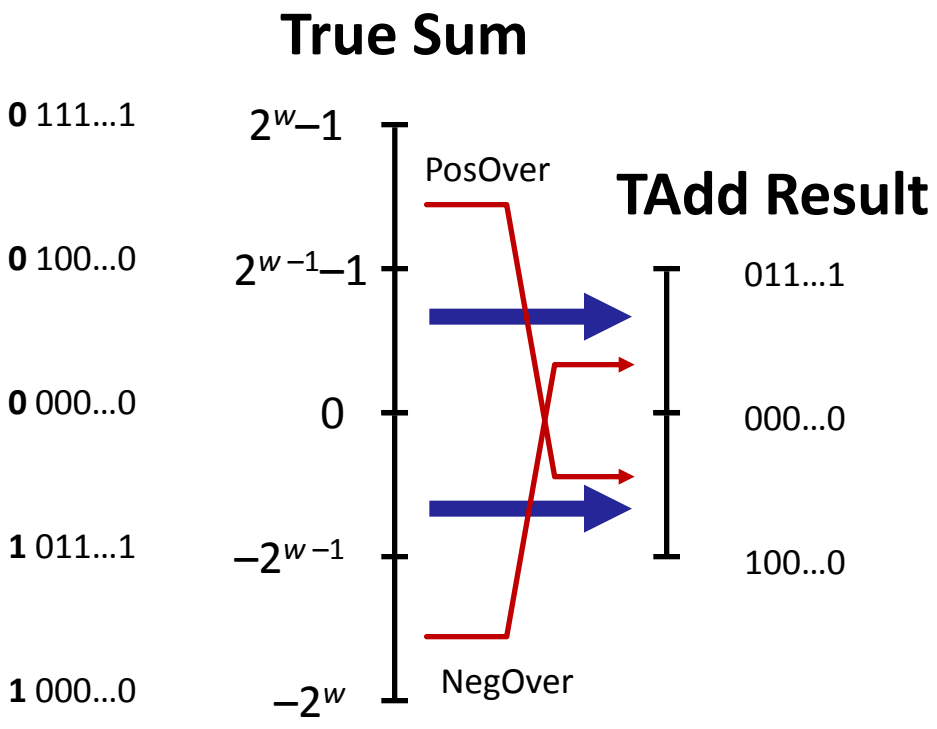
- **TAdd and UAdd have Identical Bit-Level Behavior**
  - Signed vs. unsigned addition in C:

```
int s, t, u, v;
s = (int) ((unsigned) u + (unsigned) v);
t = u + v
```

  - Will give `s == t`

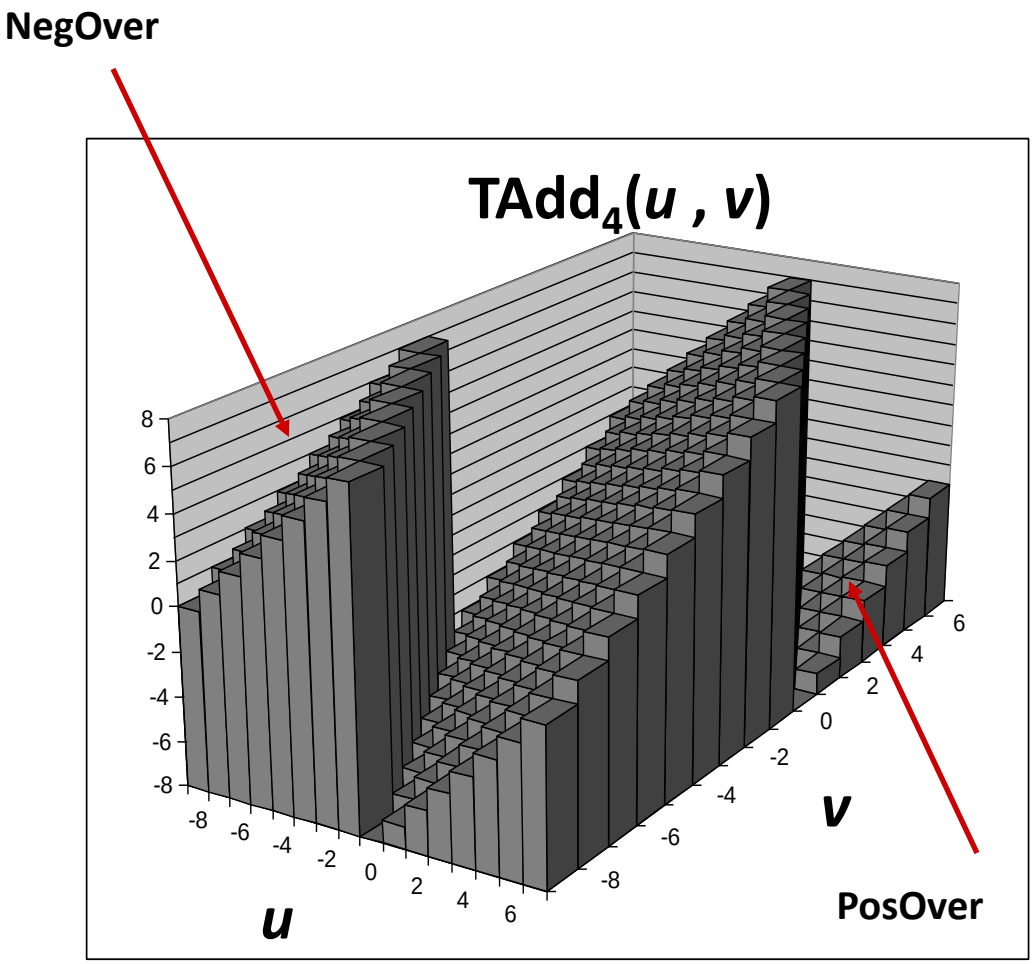
TAdd Overflow

- **Functionality**
  - True sum requires *w*+1 bits
  - Drop off MSB
  - Treat remaining bits as 2's comp. integer



Visualizing 2's Complement Addition

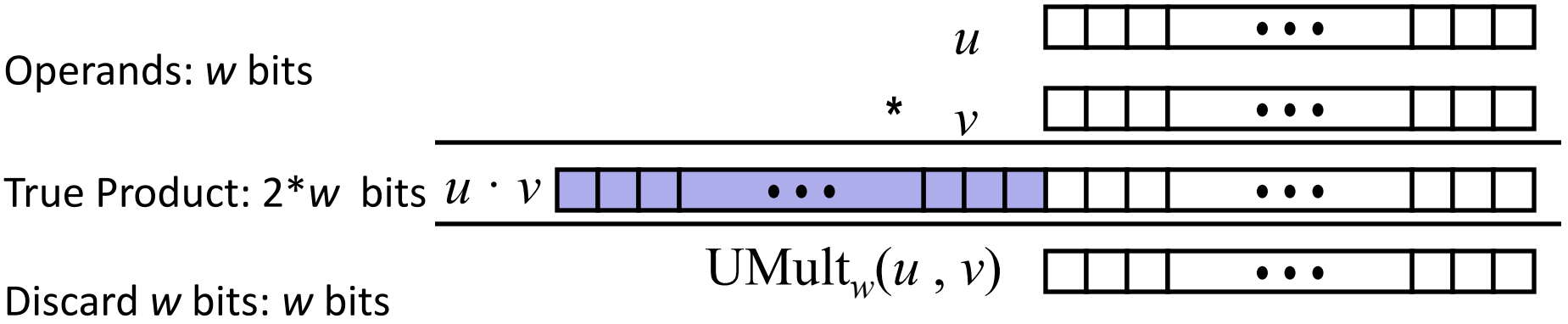
- **Values**
  - 4-bit two's comp.
  - Range from -8 to +7
- **Wraps Around**
  - If sum $\geq 2^{w-1}$
    - Becomes negative
    - At most once
  - If sum $< -2^{w-1}$
    - Becomes positive
    - At most once



Multiplication

- **Goal: Computing Product of *w*-bit numbers *x*, *y***
  - Either signed or unsigned
- **But, exact results can be bigger than *w* bits**
  - Unsigned: up to 2*w* bits
    - Result range: $0 \le x * y \le (2^w - 1)^2 = 2^{2w} - 2^{w+1} + 1$
  - Two's complement min (negative): Up to 2*w*-1 bits
    - Result range: $x * y \ge (-2^{w-1})*(2^{w-1}-1) = -2^{2w-2} + 2^{w-1}$
  - Two's complement max (positive): Up to 2*w* bits, but only for $(TMin_w)^2$
    - Result range: $x * y \le (-2^{w-1})^2 = 2^{2w-2}$
- **So, maintaining exact results…**
  - would need to keep expanding word size with each product computed
  - is done in software, if needed
    - e.g., by "arbitrary precision" arithmetic packages

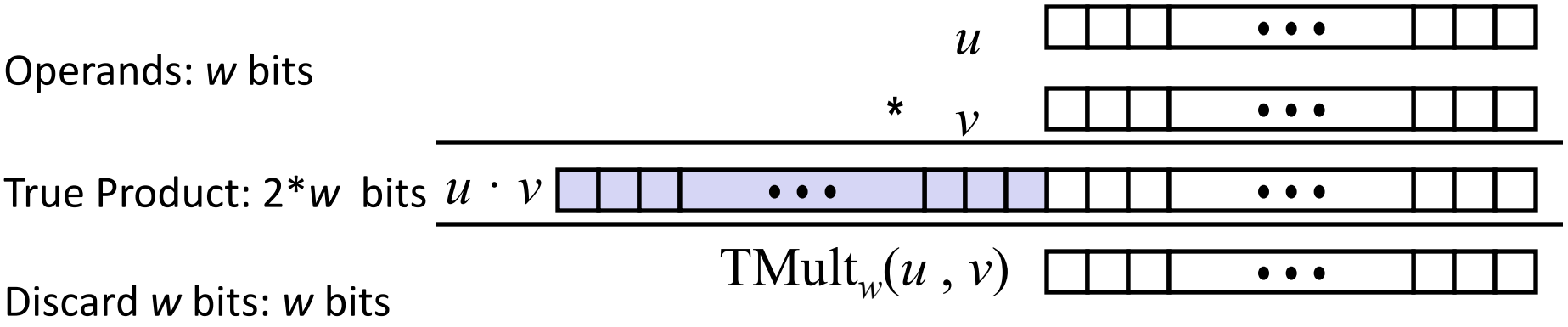
Unsigned Multiplication in C



- **Standard Multiplication Function**
  - Ignores high order *w* bits
- **Implements Modular Arithmetic**

  $\text{UMult}_w(u , v) = u \cdot v \mod 2^w$

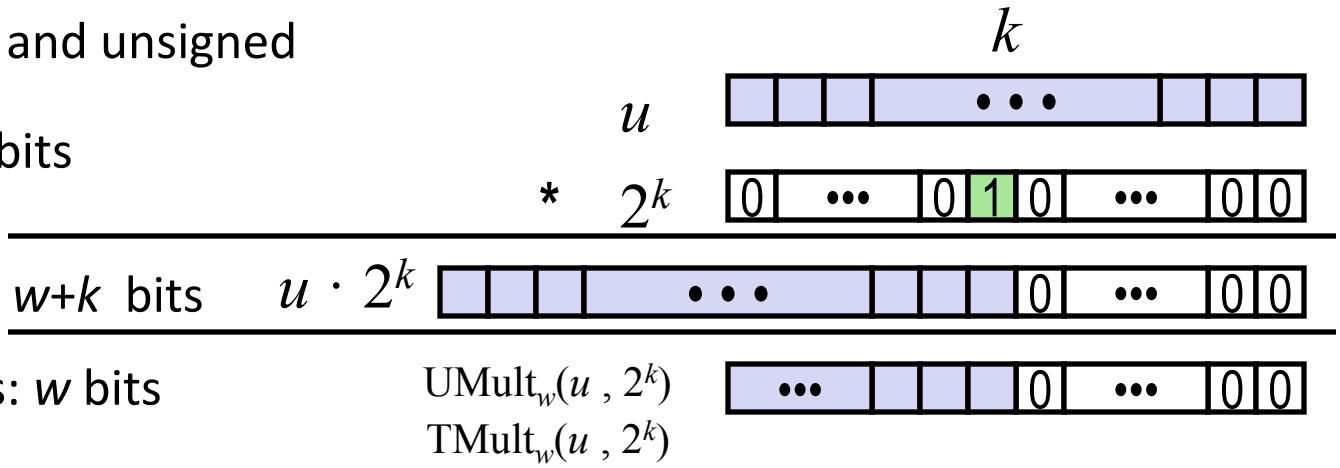
Signed Multiplication in C



- **Standard Multiplication Function**
  - Ignores high order *w* bits
  - Some of which are different for signed vs. unsigned multiplication
  - Lower bits are the same

Power-of-2 Multiply with Shift

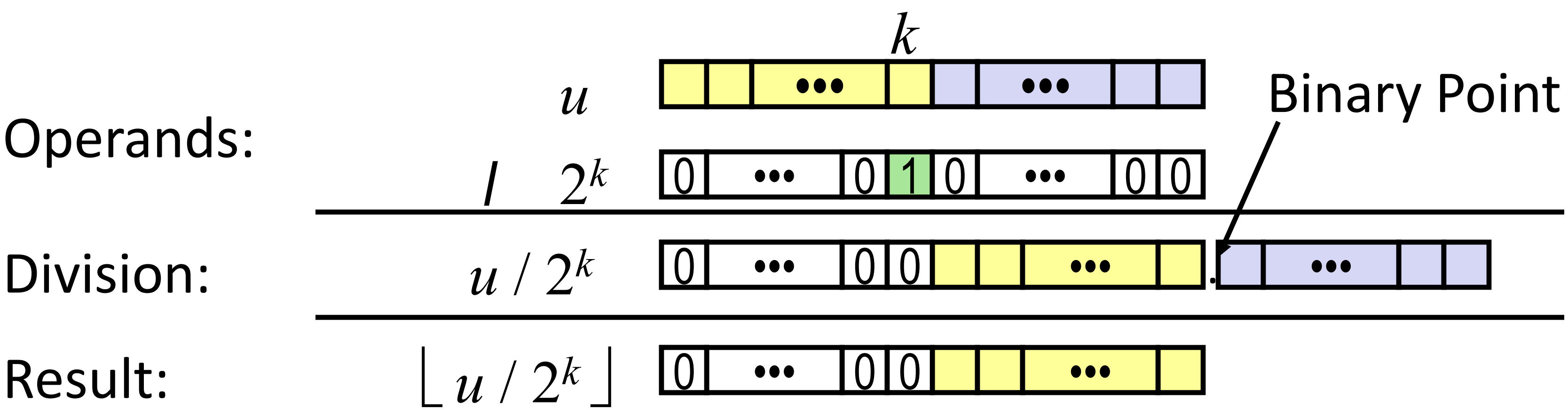
- **Operation**
  - `u << k` gives `u * 2^k`
  - Both signed and unsigned



- **Examples**
  - `u << 3 == u * 8`
  - `u << 5 - u << 3 == u * 24`
  - Most machines shift and add faster than multiply
    - Compiler generates this code automatically

Unsigned Power-of-2 Divide with Shift

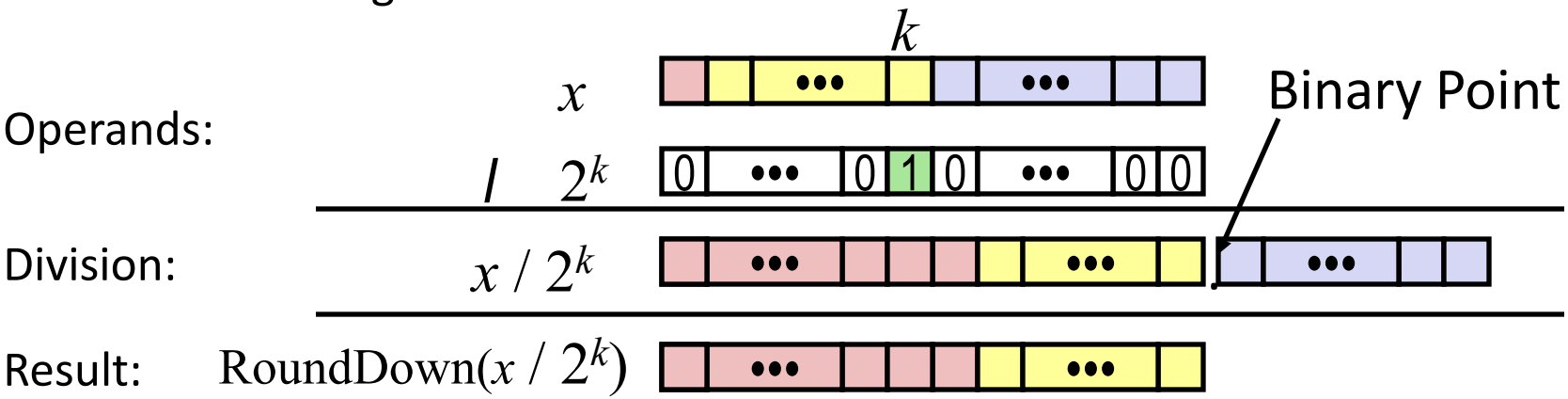
- **Quotient of Unsigned by Power of 2**
  - `u >> k` gives $\lfloor$ `u / 2`^{k} $\rfloor$
  - Uses logical shift



	Division	Computed	Hex	Binary
`x`	15213	15213	`3B 6D`	`00111011 01101101`
`x >> 1`	7606.5	7606	`1D B6`	`00011101 10110110`
`x >> 4`	950.8125	950	`03 B6`	`00000011 10110110`
`x >> 8`	59.4257813	59	`00 3B`	`00000000 00111011`

Signed Power-of-2 Divide with Shift

- **Quotient of Signed by Power of 2**
  - **x >> k** gives $\lfloor$ **x / 2^k** $\rfloor$
  - Uses arithmetic shift
  - Rounds wrong direction when **x< 0**

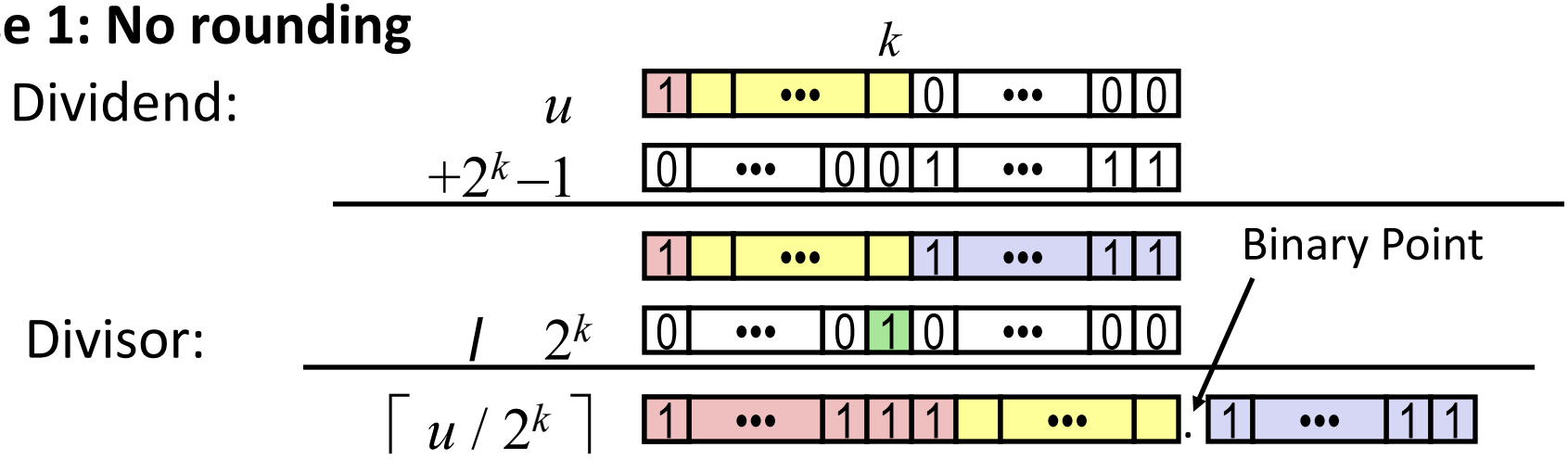


	Division	Computed	Hex	Binary
y	-15213	-15213	C4 93	11000100 10010011
y >> 1	-7606.5	-7607	E2 49	11100010 01001001
y >> 4	-950.8125	-951	FC 49	11111100 01001001
y >> 8	-59.4257813	-60	FF C4	11111111 11000100

Correct Power-of-2 Divide

- **Quotient of Negative Number by Power of 2**
  - Want $\lceil$ `x / 2^k` $\rceil$ (Round Toward 0)
  - Compute as $\lfloor$ `(x+2^k-1) / 2^k` $\rfloor$
    - In C: `(x + (1<<k)-1) >> k`
    - Biases dividend toward 0

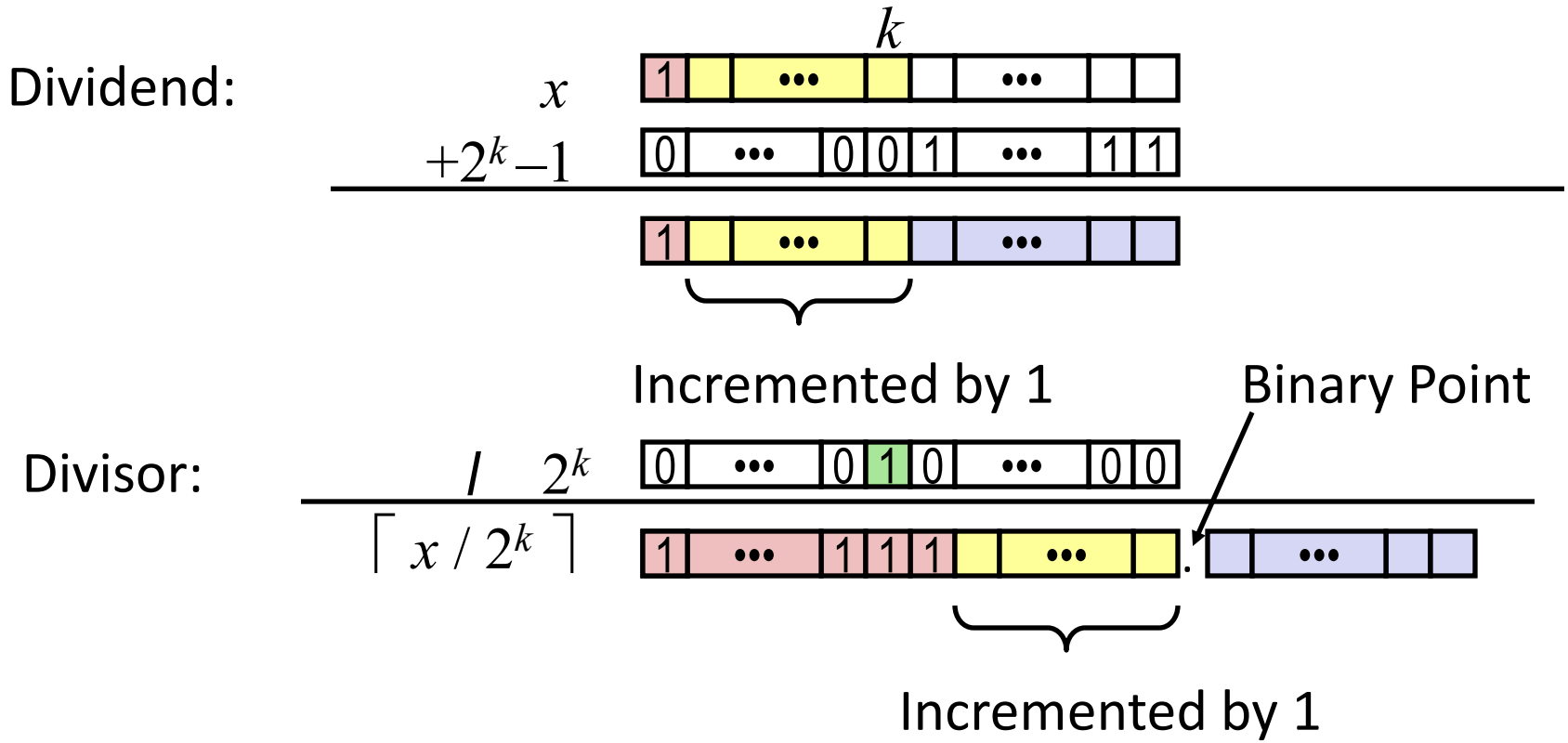
Case 1: No rounding



Biasing has no effect

Correct Power-of-2 Divide (Cont.)

Case 2: Rounding



Biasing adds 1 to final result

Today: Bits, Bytes, and Integers

- Representing information as bits
- Bit-level manipulations
- **Integers**
  - Representation: unsigned and signed
  - Conversion, casting
  - Expanding, truncating
  - Addition, negation, multiplication, shifting
  - **Summary**
- Representations in memory, pointers, strings

Arithmetic: Basic Rules

- **Addition:**
  - Unsigned/signed: Normal addition followed by truncate, same operation on bit level
  - Unsigned: addition mod 2^w
    - Mathematical addition + possible subtraction of 2^w
  - Signed: modified addition mod 2^w (result in proper range)
    - Mathematical addition + possible addition or subtraction of 2^w

- **Multiplication:**
  - Unsigned/signed: Normal multiplication followed by truncate, same operation on bit level
  - Unsigned: multiplication mod 2^w
  - Signed: modified multiplication mod 2^w (result in proper range)

Why Should I Use Unsigned?

- ***Don't* Use Just Because Number Nonnegative**
  - Easy to make mistakes

```
unsigned i;
for (i = cnt-2; i >= 0; i--)
  a[i] += a[i+1];
```

  - Can be very subtle

```
#define DELTA sizeof(int)
int i;
for (i = CNT; i-DELTA >= 0; i-= DELTA)
  . . .
```

- ***Do* Use When Performing Modular Arithmetic**
  - Multiprecision arithmetic
- ***Do* Use When Using Bits to Represent Sets**
  - Logical right shift, no sign extension

Integer C Puzzles

- Assume 32-bit word size, two's complement integers
- For each of the following C expressions: true or false? Why?

Initialization

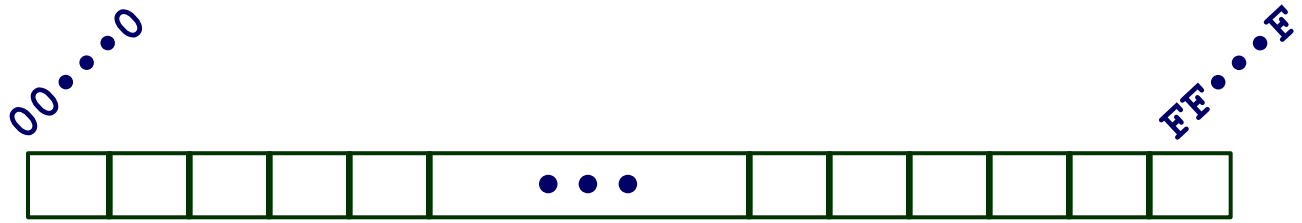
```
int x = foo();
int y = bar();
unsigned ux = x;
unsigned uy = y;
```

- x < 0 ⇒ ((x*2) < 0)
- ux >= 0
- x & 7 == 7 ⇒ (x<<30) < 0
- ux > -1
- x > y ⇒ -x < -y
- x * x >= 0
- x > 0 && y > 0 ⇒ x + y > 0
- x >= 0 ⇒ -x <= 0
- x <= 0 ⇒ -x >= 0
- (x|-x)>>31 == -1
- ux >> 3 == ux/8
- x >> 3 == x/8
- x & (x-1) != 0

Today: Bits, Bytes, and Integers

- Representing information as bits
- Bit-level manipulations
- Integers
  - Representation: unsigned and signed
  - Conversion, casting
  - Expanding, truncating
  - Addition, negation, multiplication, shifting
  - Summary
- **Representations in memory, pointers, strings**

Byte-Oriented Memory Organization



- **Programs refer to data by address**
  - Conceptually, envision it as a very large array of bytes
    - In reality, it's not, but can think of it that way
  - An address is like an index into that array
    - and, a pointer variable stores an address

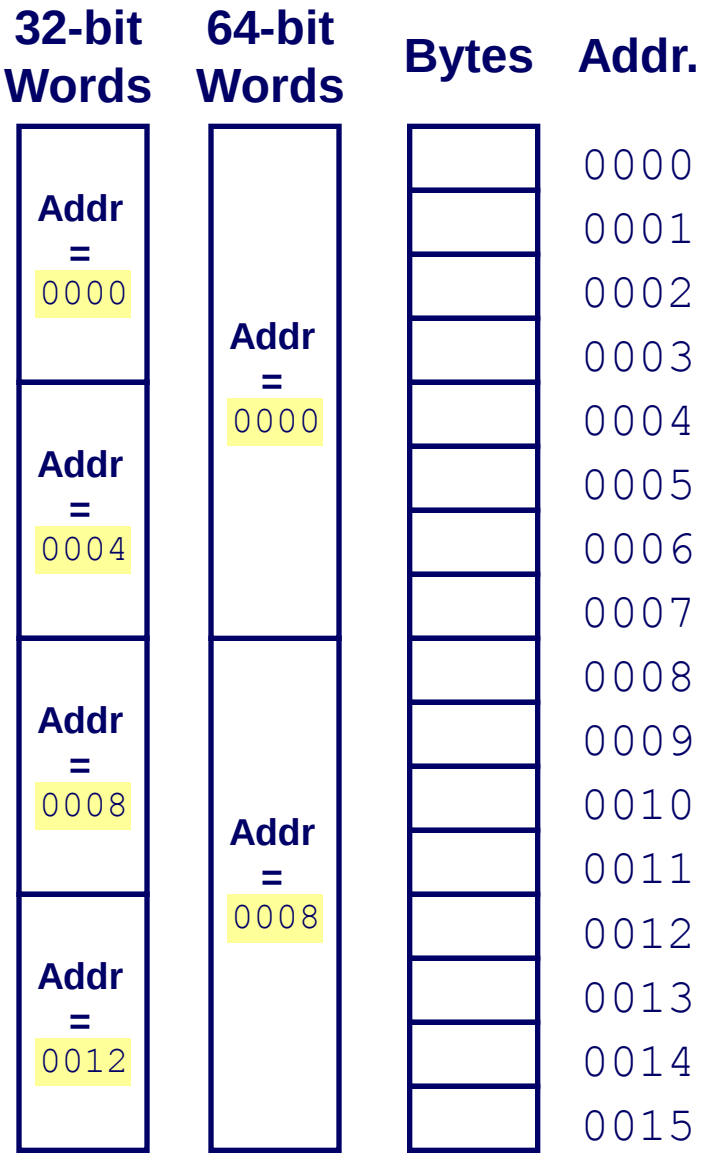
- **Note: system provides private address spaces to each "process"**
  - Think of a process as a program being executed
  - So, a program can clobber its own data, but not that of others

Machine Words

- **Any given computer has a "Word Size"**
  - Nominal size of integer-valued data
    - and of addresses
  - Most current machines use 32 bits (4 bytes) as word size
    - Limits addresses to 4GB (2^{32} bytes)
    - Becoming too small for memory-intensive applications
      - leading to emergence of computers with 64-bit word size
  - Machines still support multiple data formats
    - Fractions or multiples of word size
    - Always integral number of bytes

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)



For other data representations too …

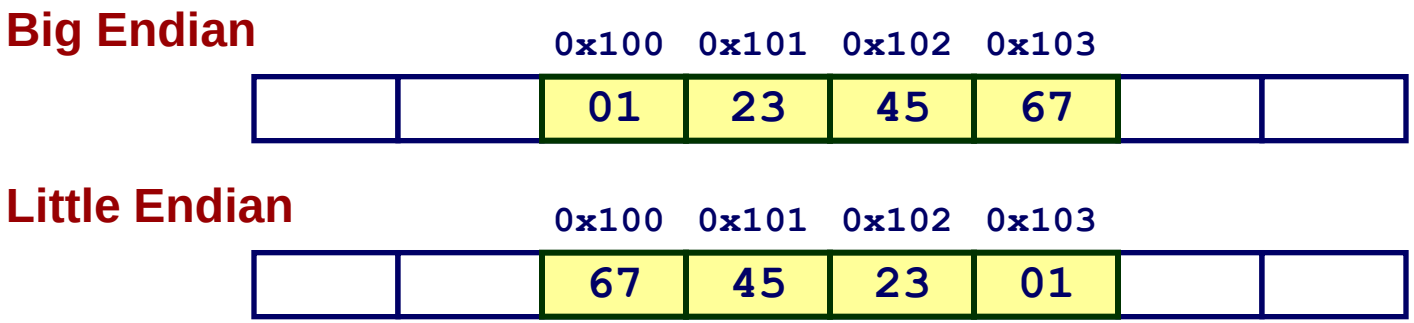
C Data Type	Typical 32-bit	Intel IA32	x86-64
char	1	1	1
short	2	2	2
int	4	4	4
long	4	4	8
long long	8	8	8
float	4	4	4
double	8	8	8
long double	8	10/12	10/16
pointer	4	4	8

Byte Ordering

- **So, how are the bytes within a multi-byte word ordered in memory?**
- **Conventions**
  - Big Endian: Sun, PPC Mac, Internet
    - Least significant byte has highest address
  - Little Endian: x86
    - Least significant byte has lowest address

Byte Ordering Example

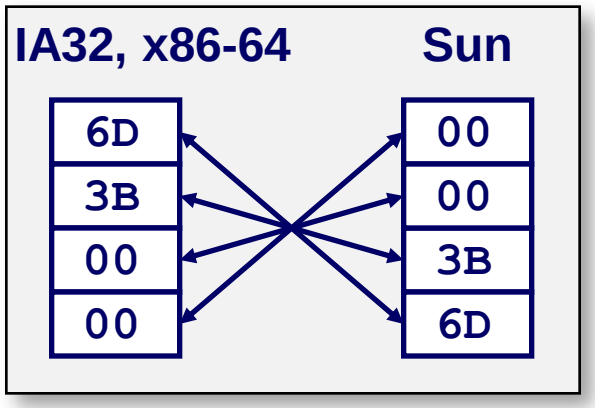
- **Example**
  - Variable x has 4-byte value of 0x01234567
  - Address given by &x is 0x100



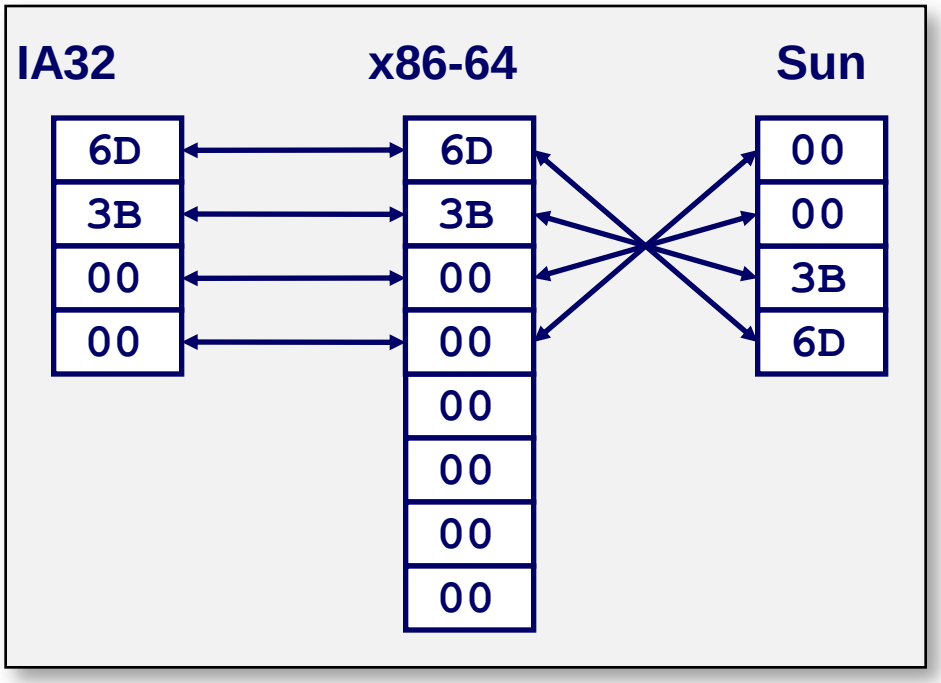
Representing Integers

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

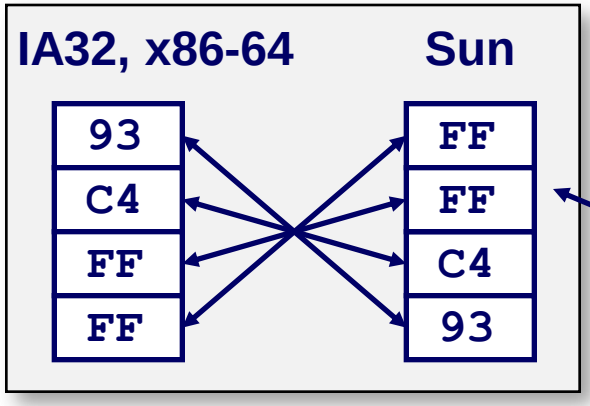
int A = 15213;



long int C = 15213;



int B = -15213;



Two's complement representation

Examining Data Representations

- **Code to Print Byte Representation of Data**
  - Casting pointer to unsigned char * allows treatment as a byte array

```
typedef unsigned char *pointer;

void show_bytes(pointer start, int len){
  int i;
  for (i = 0; i < len; i++)
    printf("%p\t0x%.2x\n",start+i, start[i]);
  printf("\n");
}
```

Printf directives:

%p: Print pointer

%x: Print Hexadecimal

show_bytes Execution Example

```
int a = 15213;
printf("int a = 15213;\n");
show_bytes((pointer) &a, sizeof(int));
```

Result (Linux):

```
int a = 15213;
0x11ffffcb8 0x6d
0x11ffffcb9 0x3b
0x11ffffcba 0x00
0x11ffffcbb 0x00
```

Reading Byte-Reversed Listings

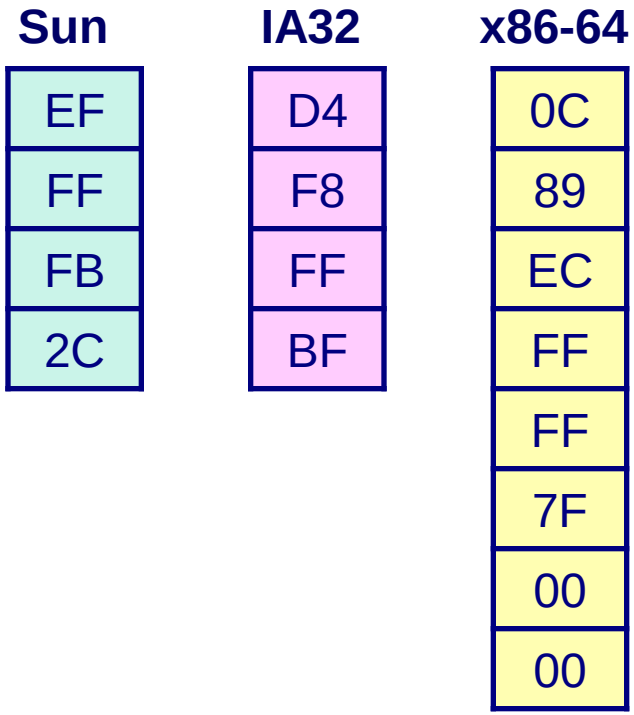
- **Disassembly**
  - Text representation of binary machine code
  - Generated by program that reads the machine code
- **Example Fragment**

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

Representing Pointers

```
int B = -15213;
int *P = &B;
```

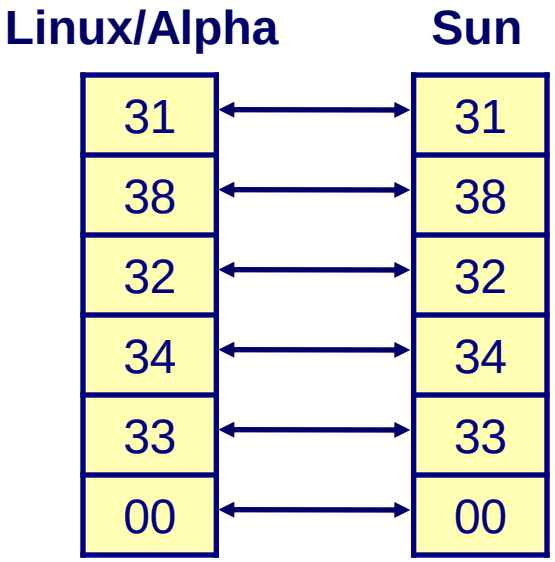


Different compilers & machines assign different locations to objects

Representing Strings

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

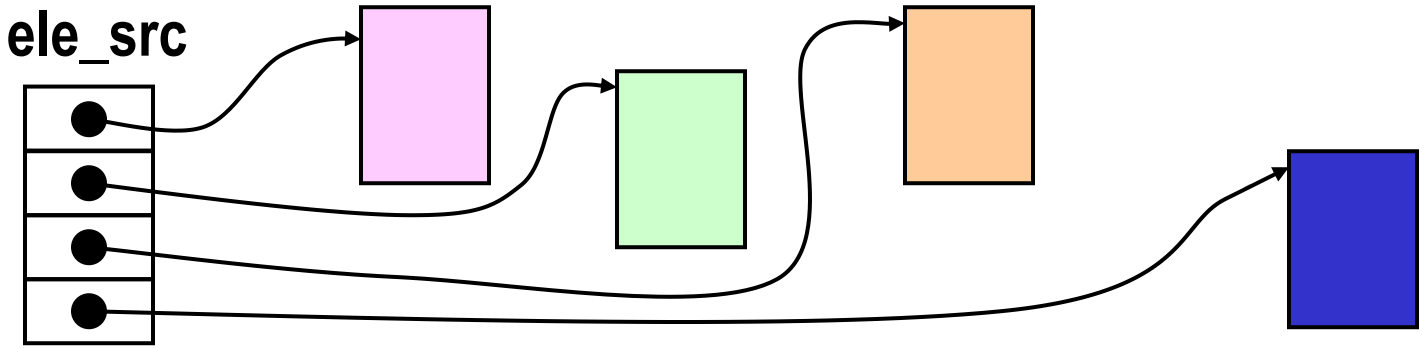
- **Strings in C**
  - Represented by array of characters
  - Each character encoded in ASCII format
    - Standard 7-bit encoding of character set
    - Character “0” has code 0x30
      - Digit *i* has code 0x30+*i*
  - String should be null-terminated
    - Final character = 0
- **Compatibility**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



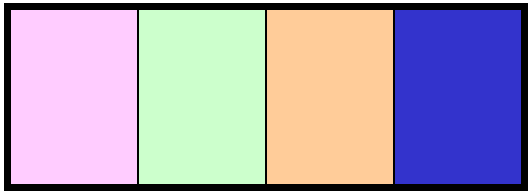
Code Security Example

- **SUN XDR library**
  - Widely used library for transferring data between machines

```
void* copy_elements(void *ele_src[], int ele_cnt, size_t ele_size);
```



malloc(ele_cnt * ele_size)



XDR Code

```
void* copy_elements(void *ele_src[], int ele_cnt, size_t ele_size) {
    /*
     * Allocate buffer for ele_cnt objects, each of ele_size bytes
     * and copy from locations designated by ele_src
     */
    void *result = malloc(ele_cnt * ele_size);
    if (result == NULL)
        /* malloc failed */
        return NULL;
    void *next = result;
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < ele_cnt; i++) {
        /* Copy object i to destination */
        memcpy(next, ele_src[i], ele_size);
        /* Move pointer to next memory region */
        next += ele_size;
    }
    return result;
}
```

XDR Vulnerability

malloc(ele_cnt * ele_size)

- **What if:**
  - `ele_cnt` = $2^{20} + 1$
  - `ele_size` = 4096 = 2^{12}
  - Allocation = ??

- **How can I make this function secure?**