CS352H: Computer Systems Architecture

Lecture 6: MIPS Floating Point

September 17, 2009

Floating Point

- Representation for dynamically rescalable numbers
  - Including very small and very large numbers, non-integers
- Like scientific notation
  - -2.34×10^{56}
  - $+0.002 \times 10^{-4}$
  - $+987.02 \times 10^{9}$
- In binary
  - $\pm 1.xxxxxxx_2 \times 2^{yyyy}$
- Types **float** and **double** in C

normalized

not normalized

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

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

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

- S: sign bit (0 ⇒ non-negative, 1 ⇒ negative)
- Normalize significand: $1.0 \leq |\text{significand}| < 2.0$
  - 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

Single-Precision Range

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

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
  - $\pm 2.0 \times 2^{+1023} \approx \pm 1.8 \times 10^{+308}$

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

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

Floating-Point Example

- What number is represented by the single-precision float
  11000000101000…00
  - S = 1
  - Fraction = $01000\ldots00_2$
  - Fxponent = $10000001_2 = 129$
- $x = (-1)^1 \times (1 + 01_2) \times 2^{(129 - 127)}$

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

  $= -5.0$

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!

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

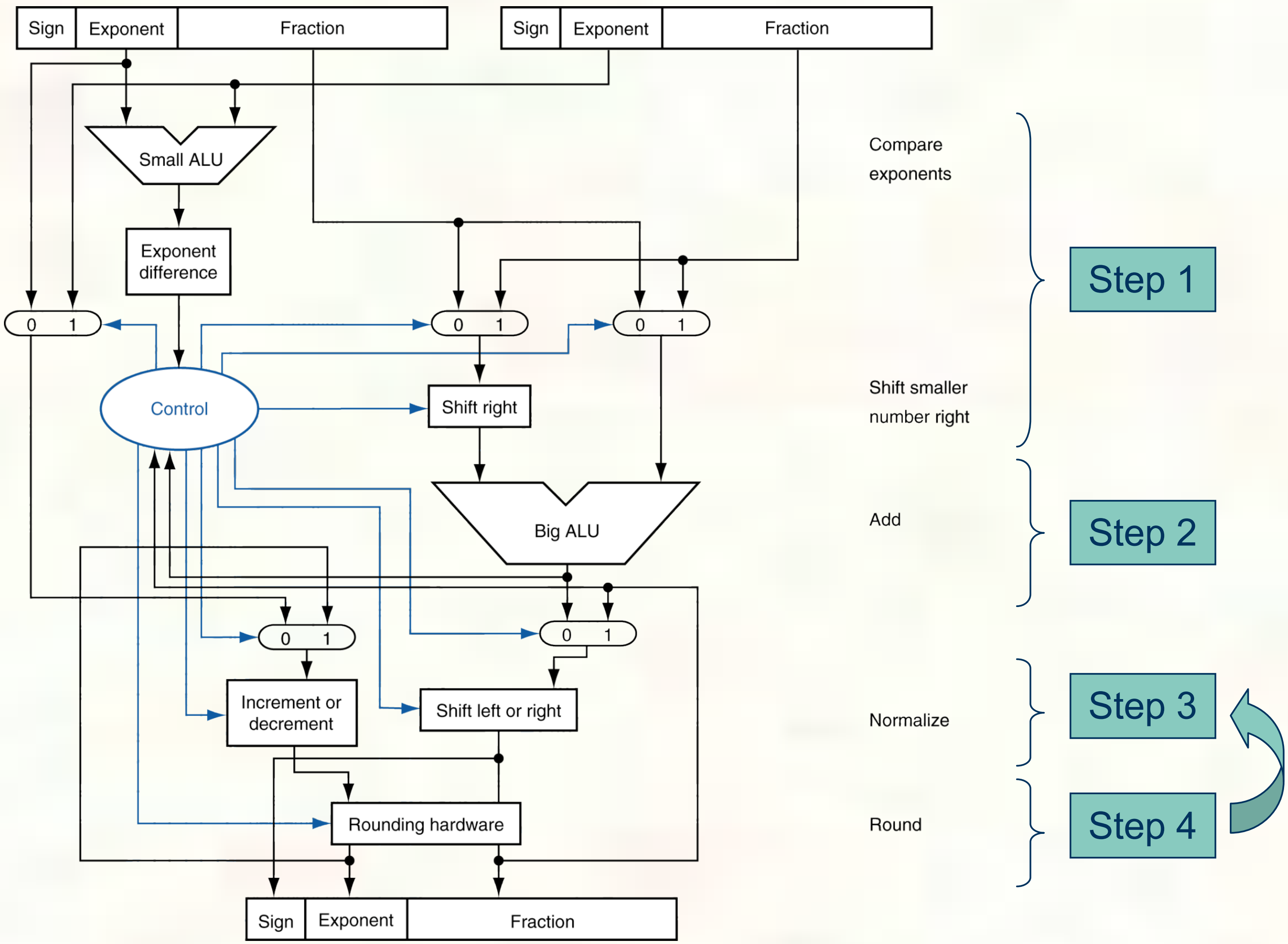
Floating-Point Addition

- 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

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

FP Adder Hardware



Floating-Point Multiplication

- Consider a 4-digit decimal example
  - $1.110 \times 10^{10} \times 9.200 \times 10^{-5}$
- 1. Add exponents
  - For biased exponents, subtract bias from sum
  - New exponent = $10 + -5 = 5$
- 2. Multiply significands
  - $1.110 \times 9.200 = 10.212 \ \Rightarrow\ 10.212 \times 10^{5}$
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - 1.0212×10^{6}
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - 1.021×10^{6}
- 5. Determine sign of result from signs of operands
  - $+1.021 \times 10^{6}$

Floating-Point Multiplication

- Now consider a 4-digit binary example
  - $1.000_2 \times 2^{-1} \times -1.110_2 \times 2^{-2}$ (0.5×-0.4375)
- 1. Add exponents
  - Unbiased: $-1 + -2 = -3$
  - Biased: $(-1 + 127) + (-2 + 127) = -3 + 254 - 127 = -3 + 127$
- 2. Multiply significands
  - $1.000_2 \times 1.110_2 = 1.1102 \Rightarrow 1.110_2 \times 2^{-3}$
- 3. Normalize result & check for over/underflow
  - $1.110_2 \times 2^{-3}$ (no change) with no over/underflow
- 4. Round and renormalize if necessary
  - $1.110_2 \times 2^{-3}$ (no change)
- 5. Determine sign: +ve × –ve ⇒ –ve
  - $-1.110_2 \times 2^{-3} = -0.21875$

FP Arithmetic Hardware

- FP multiplier is of similar complexity to FP adder
  - But uses a multiplier for significands instead of an adder
- FP arithmetic hardware usually does
  - Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, reciprocal, square-root
  - FP ↔ integer conversion
- Operations usually takes several cycles
  - Can be pipelined

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
```

Accurate Arithmetic

- IEEE Std 754 specifies additional rounding control
  - Extra bits of precision (guard, round, sticky)
  - Choice of rounding modes
  - Allows programmer to fine-tune numerical behavior of a computation
- Not all FP units implement all options
  - Most programming languages and FP libraries just use defaults
- Trade-off between hardware complexity, performance, and market requirements

Interpretation of Data

- Bits have no inherent meaning
  - Interpretation depends on the instructions applied
- Computer representations of numbers
  - Finite range and precision
  - Need to account for this in programs

Associativity

- Parallel programs may interleave operations in unexpected orders
  - Assumptions of associativity may fail

		(x+y)+z	x+(y+z)
x	-1.50E+38		-1.50E+38
y	1.50E+38	0.00E+00	
z	1.0	1.0	1.50E+38
		1.00E+00	0.00E+00

- Need to validate parallel programs under varying degrees of parallelism

x86 FP Architecture

- Originally based on 8087 FP coprocessor
  - 8 × 80-bit extended-precision registers
  - Used as a push-down stack
  - Registers indexed from TOS: ST(0), ST(1), …
- FP values are 32-bit or 64 in memory
  - Converted on load/store of memory operand
  - Integer operands can also be converted on load/store
- Very difficult to generate and optimize code
  - Result: poor FP performance

x86 FP Instructions

Data transfer	Arithmetic	Compare	Transcendental
FILD mem/ST(i) FISTP mem/ST(i) FLDPI FLD1 FLDZ	FIADDP mem/ST(i) FISUBRP mem/ST(i) FIMULP mem/ST(i) FIDIVRP mem/ST(i) FSQRT FABS FRNDINT	FICOMP FIUCOMP FSTSW AX/mem	FPATAN F2XMI FCOS FPTAN FPREM FPSIN FYL2X

- Optional variations
  - I: integer operand
  - P: pop operand from stack
  - R: reverse operand order
  - But not all combinations allowed

Streaming SIMD Extension 2 (SSE2)

- Adds 4 × 128-bit registers
  - Extended to 8 registers in AMD64/EM64T
- Can be used for multiple FP operands
  - 2 × 64-bit double precision
  - 4 × 32-bit double precision
  - Instructions operate on them simultaneously
    - Single-Instruction Multiple-Data

Right Shift and Division

- Left shift by *i* places multiplies an integer by 2^i
- Right shift divides by 2^i?
  - Only for unsigned integers
- For signed integers
  - Arithmetic right shift: replicate the sign bit
  - e.g., –5 / 4
    - 11111011_2 >> 2 = 11111110_2 = –2
    - Rounds toward –∞
  - c.f. 11111011_2 >>> 2 = 00111110_2 = +62

Who Cares About FP Accuracy?

- Important for scientific code
  - But for everyday consumer use?
    - “My bank balance is out by 0.0002¢!” ☹
- The Intel Pentium FDIV bug
  - The market expects accuracy
  - See Colwell, *The Pentium Chronicles*

Concluding Remarks

- ISAs support arithmetic
  - Signed and unsigned integers
  - Floating-point approximation to reals
- Bounded range and precision
  - Operations can overflow and underflow
- MIPS ISA
  - Core instructions: 54 most frequently used
    - 100% of SPECINT, 97% of SPECFP
  - Other instructions: less frequent

Next Lecture

- Performance evaluation
- Micro-architecture introduction
  - Chapter 4.1 – 4.4