-Background know-how Limits of Floating-Point arithmetic in C

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void) {
    double x=0.7;
    int i = 0;
    while(i < 10) {
        x = 11.0 * x - 7.0;
        printf("%d: %.20lf\n",i,x);
        i=i+1;
    }
}</pre>
```

The result of the C-program is rubbish. In the last round it is y = -1127140547773912.5

Limits of Floating-Point arithmetic in Maple

x, time() - t;

22492822, 91.588

Numbers, their representations and more and less native number representations for a digital computer numbers can be elements from various sets. e.g. $x \in \mathbb{Z}$, $x \in \mathbb{N}$.

each number has various representations. e.g. 17 XVII IIIII IIIII IIIII II

usually, we encode numbers with the help of base-10 digits, i.e. the alphabet $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}.$

A string $s = (a_{n-1}a_{n-1} \dots a_1a_0) \in \Sigma_n$ is then interpreted as

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i \cdot 10^i : \text{ Example: } 17 = 1 \cdot 10^1 + 7 \cdot 10^0$$

What happens, if we use another base, another alphabet?

E.g. with "bits", we have:

 $\Sigma_2 = \{0, 1\} \quad 17_{10} = 1 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 0 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0 = 10001_2$

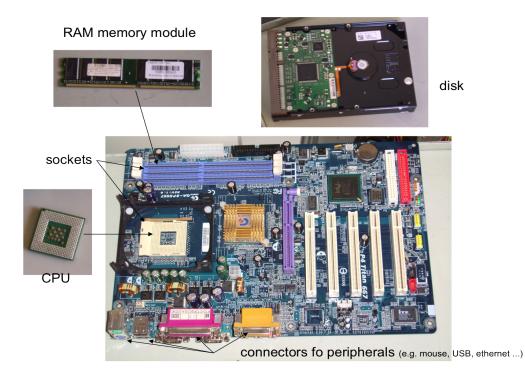
 $\Sigma_{16} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ $17_{10} = 1 \cdot 16^1 + 1 \cdot 16^0 = 0x11$ (so called hex numbers)

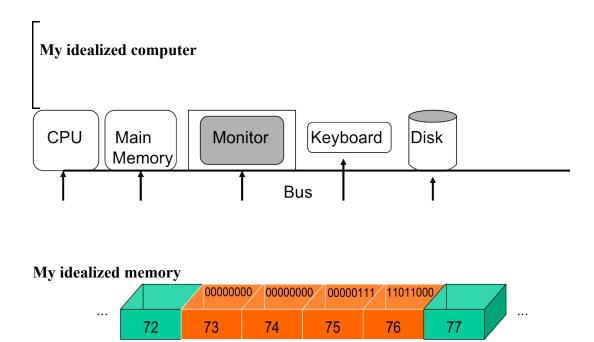
integer variables of fixed length are the most natural and mostly used kind of variables

Bitstrings are interpreted as numbers in the dual number system.

0100011000101010101000010000101 bit 0 bit 30 bit 31 (MSB)

The value then is $bit_{31} \cdot 2^{31} + bit_{30} \cdot 2^{30} + ... + bit_0 \cdot 2^0$.





int a = 2008; a = a + 1;

How to compute with binary numbers?

Generalized binary fixed-point and floating-point numbers

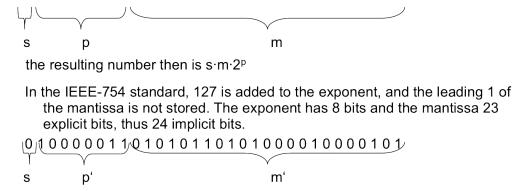
0.75
0.75 =
$$1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = 0.11_2$$

0.7
0.7 = $1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 0 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{8} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{16} + ...$
the first 64 bits

0.7 is a periodic number in the binary system.

floating point variables

0/1 sequences are interpreted as sign (s), mantissa (m) and exponent (p)



-> representation errors in IEEE format is not avoidable -> x = 0.7; $x = 11.0 \cdot x - 7.0$; increases the error by a factor of 10

Wrong results in spite of exact computations

Expand

$$expand\left(\frac{x \cdot (x^{3} + 3)}{x \cdot (x + 1)}\right);$$

$$\frac{11379726889978832996251}{22492823}$$

The case

The fibonacci series is defined as follows: fib(0) = 0, fib(1) = 1 and fib(n+1) = fib(n-1) + fib(n)We would like to know whether f(n) might be expressible as

$$fib(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n \right)$$

We would like to get some information fast and without lots of hand work. How can we start working at the exercise? How can Maple help us?

Solution:

Relativly soon, it is clear that:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^0 - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^0 \right)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^1 - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^1 \right)$$

Additionally, it must be true that

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1} \right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1} \right)$$

0

(6)

(7)

(5)

Some large numbers can quickly be tested, the expression may be simplified via the command similify. An example is 876:

$$simplify \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{876-1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{876-1} \right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{876} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{876} \right) - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{876} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{876+1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{876+1} \right) \right)$$
(8)

The procedure becomes by far more tricky, if we want Maple to show equality for general n. Sometimes, it helps to expand the expression.

$$\begin{aligned} expand \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1}\right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n\right) \\ &- \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1}\right)\right); \\ \frac{1}{5} \frac{\sqrt{5} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n}{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}} - \frac{1}{5} \frac{\sqrt{5} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n}{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}} + \frac{1}{10}\sqrt{5} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n \\ &- \frac{1}{10}\sqrt{5} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n \\ &- \frac{1}{10}\sqrt{5} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)^n \\ &- \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n\right) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1}\right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n\right) \\ &- \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n-1}\right)\right); \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{5} \left(\left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5} \right)^{n} - \sqrt{5} \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5} \right)^{n} - \sqrt{5} \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5} \right)^{n} + \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5} \right)^{n} - \sqrt{5} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \right)^{n} - \sqrt{5} \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5} \right)^{n} + 2 \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5} \right)^{n+1} - 2 \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{5} \right)^{n+1} \right)$$

$$is \left(simplify \left(\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(-\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{n-1} - \left(-\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{n-1} \right) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(-\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{n} \right)^{n} \right) \right)$$

$$-\left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \left(\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1} - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^{n+1}\right)\right)\right) = 0\right);$$
false
(12)
for if constants of the priorit of the

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