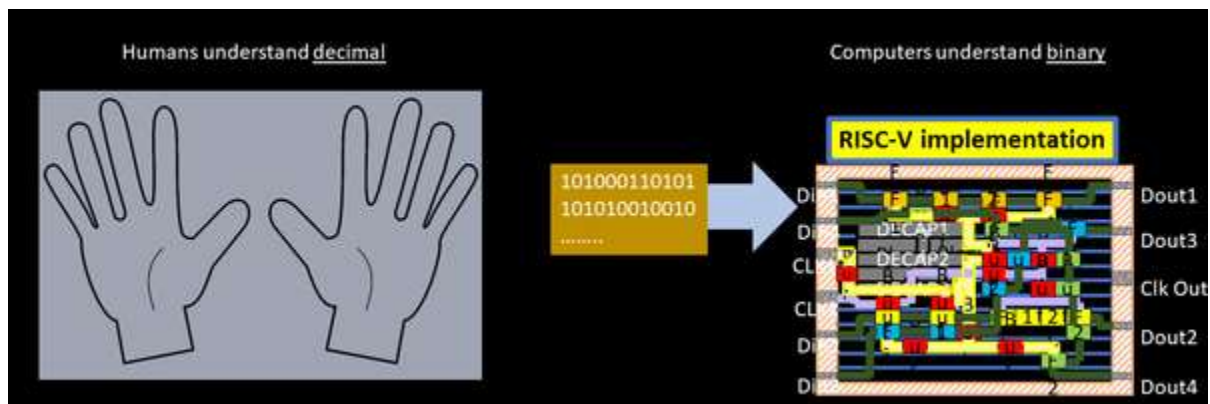




RISC-V doubleword

Let's analyze numbers

Kunal Ghosh



“Statistics and numbers are no good unless you have good people to analyze and then interpret their meaning and importance” – Brendan Rodgers

Hi

While you all are eagerly waiting for my online course on RISC-V ISA, let’s get some basic facts about numbers here – Details will be covered in the course. Stay tuned in below link:

<https://www.udemy.com/user/anagha/>

- **8-bytes form doubleword**

If we break it to a decent level, as shown in below image, it would be a crystal-clear fact for us. I have seen people getting very confused with this one, and so a breakup of the entire doubleword and reconstructing it again, will be very helpful.

Simple and easy – 8-bits form a byte, 4-bytes form a word, 8-bytes form a doubleword. If it’s difficult to remember the text, download the below image as reference, and I promise you will never forget it

Let's start with basics

Integer addition

Floating-point addition

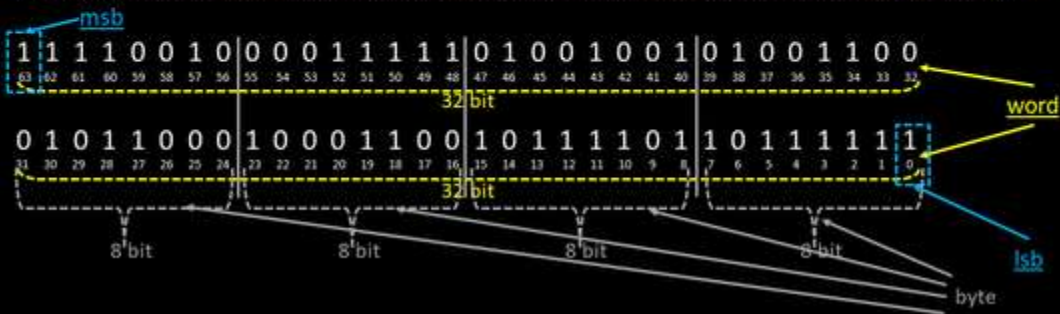
Integer mul/div

Floating-point mul/div

8-bits → byte, 4-bytes → word, 2-words or 8-bytes → doubleword

$(17,446,744,073,708,551,615)_{dec}$

$(1111001000011111010010010011000101100010001100101111011011111)_{bin} \rightarrow 64 \text{ bit}$



- RV64 architecture can represent 18,446,744,073,709,551,615 patterns...

...which is from 0 to 2^{64} . That's because RISC-V doubleword is 64 bits long, as shown in above image. In other words, just as a 2-bit can be used to represent numbers 0 – 3 (i.e. from 0 to $[2^2 - 1]$), similarly as 64-bit doubleword can be used to represent numbers from 0 to $[2^{64} - 1]$. Try evaluating it for 4-bit or 5-bit system

Let's start with basics

Integer addition

Floating-point addition

Integer mul/div

Floating-point mul/div

8-bits → byte, 4-bytes → word, 2-words or 8-bytes → doubleword

$(17,446,744,073,708,551,615)_{dec}$

$(111100100001111101001001010011000101100010001100101111011011111)_{bin} \rightarrow 64 \text{ bit}$

2 bit

$(00)_{bin}$

$(01)_{bin}$

$(10)_{bin}$

$(11)_{bin}$

3 bit

$(000)_{bin}$

$(001)_{bin}$

$(010)_{bin}$

$(011)_{bin}$

$(100)_{bin}$

$(101)_{bin}$

$(110)_{bin}$

$(111)_{bin}$

4 bit

$(0000)_{bin}$

$(0001)_{bin}$

$(0010)_{bin}$

$(0011)_{bin}$

$(1000)_{bin}$

$(1001)_{bin}$

$(1010)_{bin}$

$(1011)_{bin}$

$(1000)_{bin}$

$(1001)_{bin}$

$(1010)_{bin}$

$(1011)_{bin}$

$(1100)_{bin}$

$(1101)_{bin}$

$(1110)_{bin}$

$(1111)_{bin}$

Total number of patterns represented by RV64: 2^{64}
i.e. from '0' to ' $(2^{64} - 1)$ '

Total number of Patterns: 2^2 : 4
'0' to ' $(2^2 - 1)$ ' i.e. 0 to 3

Total number of Patterns: 2^3 : 8
'0' to ' $(2^3 - 1)$ ' i.e. 0 to 7

Total number of Patterns: 2^4 : 16
'0' to ' $(2^4 - 1)$ ' i.e. 0 to 15

- Positive – MSB is '0', negative – MSB is '1'

This one's easy, as represented in below image, and needed to have an extremely simple hardware. This bit i.e. MSB, is called as sign bit. The method to represent the negative numbers, way to convert negative numbers to its equivalent decimal number, range of positive and negative numbers being represented by RISC-V doubleword, and many such queries will be very well covered in the course.

Let's start with basics

Integer addition

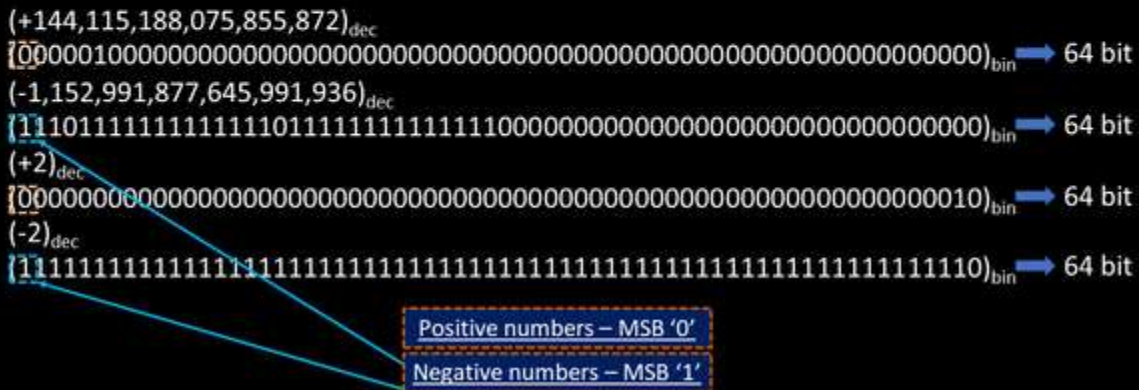
Integer mul/div

Floating-point addition

Floating-point mul/div

8-bits → byte, 4-bytes → word, 2-words or 8-bytes → doubleword

RISC-V doubleword can represent '0' to ' $2^{64} - 1$ ' unsigned numbers or positive numbers



- Range of signed numbers represented by RV64 architecture**

This one's tricky, and needs you understand 1's complement and 2's complement concept (which, by the way, will also be covered). To give you some numbers here, RV64 can represent positive numbers from 0 to $[2^{63} - 1]$ and negative numbers from -1 to -2^{63} as shown in below image:

