

4190.308: Computer Architecture (Fall 2018)

Project #2: TinyFP (8-bit floating point) Representation

Due: October 28th (Sunday), 11:59PM

1. Introduction

The purpose of this project is to get familiar with the floating-point representation by implementing a simplified 8-bit floating-point representation.

2. Problem specification

2.1 Overview

tinyfp is a simplified 8-bit floating point representation which follows the IEEE 754 standard for floating-point arithmetic. The overall structure of the **tinyfp** representation is shown below. The MSB (Most Significant Bit) is used as a sign bit (*s*). The next four bits are used for exponents (*exp*) with a bias value of 7. The last three bits are used for the fractional part (*frac*).



In C, the new type **tinyfp** is defined as follows.

typedef unsigned char tinyfp;

Your task is to implement the following four C functions that convert **int** or **float** type values to the **tinyfp** format and vice versa.

```
tinyfp int2tinyfp(int x);
int tinyfp2int(tinyfp x);
tinyfp float2tinyfp(float x);
float tinyfp2float(tinyfp x);
```



2.2 Implementation details

2.2.1. int2tinyfp()

- Integer zero (0) should be converted to plus zero (+0.0) in **tinyfp**.
- An integer value that exceeds the range of the **tinyfp** representation should be converted to the infinity in **tinyfp** ($+\infty$ or $-\infty$ depending on the sign).
- If necessary, use the **round-to-even** mode.

2.2.2. tinyfp2int()

- Drop the fractional part when you convert values in the tinyfp format to integers.
 (e.g., the value 1.5 in tinyfp is converted to 1)
- Convert $+\infty$ and $-\infty$ in **tinyfp** to **TMin** in integer. (**TMin** represents the smallest integer that can be represented in the 32-bit signed integer format.)
- +NaN and -NaN in **tinyfp** are also converted to **TMin** in integer.

2.2.3. float2tinyfp()

- A floating-point value that exceeds the range of the **tinyfp** representation should be converted to the infinity in **tinyfp** ($+\infty$ or $-\infty$ depending on the sign).
- +NaN and -NaN in float should be converted to the corresponding +NaN and -NaN in tinyfp, respectively.
- $+\infty$ and $-\infty$ in **float** should be converted to the corresponding $+\infty$ and $-\infty$ in **tinyfp**, respectively.
- If necessary, use the **round-to-even** mode.

2.2.4. tinyfp2float()

- The **tinyfp** type is a subset of the **float** type. Hence, all the values in **tinyfp** can be represented in the **float** format without any error.
- +NaN and -NaN in tinyfp should be converted to the corresponding +NaN and
 -NaN in float, respectively.
- + ∞ and - ∞ in **tinyfp** should be converted to the corresponding + ∞ and - ∞ in



float, respectively.

+0 and -0 in tinyfp should be converted to the corresponding +0 and -0 in float, respectively.

3. Example

The skeleton code will be available in the course homepage at http://csl.snu.ac.kr. A simple test code for this project is available in the "pa2-test.c" file. Some sample runs look like this:

```
🗢 @ sys
                                                                         Х
                                                                    $ ls
                                                                           ~
Makefile pa2.c pa2.h pa2-test.c
$ make
gcc -g -O2 -Wall -c pa2-test.c -o pa2-test.o
gcc -g -O2 -Wall -c pa2.c -o pa2.o
gcc -g -O2 -Wall -o pa2-test pa2-test.o pa2.o
$ ./pa2-test
Test 1: casting from int to tinyfp
int(00000000 0000000 0000000 0000001) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
int(11111111 11111111 11111111 11101100) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
int(00000000 0000000 0000000 01000011) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
int(00000000 0000000 0000000 10010101) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
int(00000000 0000000 00000000 11110001) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
int(11111111 1111111 11111111 00000100) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
Test 2: casting from tinyfp to int
tinyfp(10000000) => int(00000000 00000000 00000000 00000010), WRONG
tinyfp(01010101) => int(00000000 00000000 00000000 00000010), WRONG
tinyfp(01111000) => int(0000000 0000000 0000000 0000000 0000010), WRONG
tinyfp(01111111) => int(00000000 0000000 00000000 00000010), WRONG
Test 3: casting from float to tinyfp
float(00111011 00000000 00000000 00000000) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
float(00111010 01000000 0000000 00000000) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
float(11000001 01000101 10000101 00011111) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
float(00111111 11011000 0000000 00000000) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
float(11111111 11000000 0000000 00000000) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
float(01000011 10011101 00000000 00000000) => tinyfp(00000010), WRONG
Test 4: casting from tinyfp to float
tinyfp(00000010) => float(01000000 0000000 00000000 00000000), WRONG
tinyfp(00010000) => float(01000000 0000000 00000000 00000000), WRONG
tinyfp(11101010) => float(01000000 0000000 00000000 00000000), WRONG
tinyfp(10000000) => float(01000000 0000000 00000000 00000000), WRONG
tinyfp(01111000) => float(01000000 0000000 00000000 00000000), WRONG
tinyfp(11111100) => float(01000000 0000000 00000000 00000000), WRONG
$
```



4. Restrictions

- You should use only the following type variables: tinyfp, float, and (singed or unsigned) char / short / int.
- Do not use any array inside int2tinyfp(), tinyfp2int(), float2tinyfp(), and tinyfp2float() functions.

5. Hand in instructions

- Submit only the **pa2.c** file to the submission server.
- The total number of submissions will be limited to 20 times. Please debug your code fully before you upload your solution to the server.
- In addition to normal test cases for checking the correctness, we will also measure the time to perform a number of float2tinyfp() calls. Among the correct implementations, top 5 fastest solutions will get the 10% bonus.

6. Logistics

- You will work on this project alone.
- Only the upload submitted before the deadline will receive the full credit. 25% of the credit will be deducted for every single day delay.
 - You can use up to 5 *slip days* during this semester. Please let us know the number of slip days you want to use after each submission.
- Any attempt to copy others' work will result in heavy penalty (for both the copier and the originator). Don't take a risk.



Systems Software & Architecture Laboratory Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering

Good luck!

Jin-Soo Kim Systems Software Laboratory Dept. of Computer Science and Engineering Seoul National University