

Chapter - 19

Floating Point

Floating Point Format

\pm Is the sign (plus or minus).

$f . fff$ Is the 4 digit fraction.

$\pm e$ Is the single-digit exponent.

Zero is 0.0

We represent these numbers in “E” format: $\pm f.fffE\pm e$.

Examples:

Notation	Number
+1.000E+ 0	1.0
+3.300E+ 5	330000
-8.223E-3	-0.01
+0.000E+ 0	0.0

Floating Point Add/Sub

1. Start with the numbers:

+2.000E+0 The number is 2.0

+3.000E-1 The number is 0.3

2. Add guard digits to both numbers

+2.0000E+0 The number is 2.0

+3.0000E-1 The number is 0.3

3. Shift the number with the smallest exponent to the right one digit and numbers match.

+2.0000E+0 The number is 2.0

+0.3000E-0 The number is 0.3

4. Add the two fractions. The result has the same exponent as the two numbers.

+2.0000E+0 The number is 2.0

+0.3000E-0 The number is 0.3

+2.3000E+0 Result 2.3

Floating Point Add/Sub

5. Normalize the number by shifting it left or right until there is just one non-zero digit to the left of the decimal point. Adjust the exponent accordingly. A number like $+0.1234E+0$ would be normalized to $+1.2340E-1$. Because the number $+2.3000E+0$ is already normalized we, do nothing.
6. Finally, if the guard digit is greater than or equal to 5, round the next digit up; otherwise truncate the number.

$+2.3000E+0$	Round last digit
$+2.300E+0$	Result 2.3
7. For floating-point subtraction, change the sign of the second operand and add.

Multiplication

1. Add the guard digit:

+1.2000E-1 The number is 0.12

+1.1000E+1 The number is 11.0

2. Multiply the two fractions and add the exponents.

(1.2 *

+1.2000E-1 The number is 0.12

+1.1000E+1 The number is 11.0

+1.3200E+0 The result is 1.32

3. Normalize the result. If the guard digit is less than or equal to 5, round the next digit up. Otherwise, truncate the number.

+1.3200E+0 The number is 1.32

Division

1. Add the guard digit:

+1.0000E+2 The number is 100.0

+3.0000E+1 The number is 30.0

2. Divide the fractions, subtract the exponents:

+1.0000E+2 The number is 100.0

+3.0000E+1 The number is 30.0

+0.3333E+1 The result is 3.333

3. Normalize the result:

+3.3330E+0 The result is 3.333

4. If the guard digit is less than or equal to 5, round the next

+3.333E+0 The result is 3.333

Overflow and Underflow

$$9.000\text{E}+9 \times 9.000\text{E}+9$$

is:

$$8.1 \times 10^{19}$$

That too big for our representation (overflow).

$$1.000\text{E}-9 \times 1.000\text{E}-9$$

is

$$1.0 \times 10^{-18}$$

That's too small (underflow).

Roundoff Error

$$1/3 + 1/3 \neq 2/3$$

$2/3$ as floating-point is $6.667\text{E-}1$

$1/3$ as floating-point is $3.3333\text{-}1$

+ $3.333\text{E-}1$

+ $3.333\text{E-}1$

+ $6.666\text{E-}1$ or 0.6666

which is not:

+ $6.667\text{E-}1$

Accuracy

1 - 1/3 - 1/3 - 1/3

1.000E+0

- 3.333E-1

- 3.333E-1

- 3.333E-1

or:

1.000E+0

- 3.333E-1

- 3.333E-1

- 3.333E-1

0.0010E+0 or 1.000E-3

Minimizing error:

- Use double instead of float
- Other techniques are beyond the scope of this course.

Determining Accuracy

```
int main(){
```

```
    ++counter;
```

```
}
```

```
    break;  
    ++counter;
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

Precision and Speed

Some older compilers do everything in double.

```
float answer, number1, number2;
```

```
answer = number1 + number2;
```

C++ must perform the following steps:

- 1) Convert number1 from single to double precision.
- 2) Convert number2 from single to double precision.
- 3) Double precision add.
- 4) Convert result into single precision and store in answer.

If the variables were of type **double**, C++ would only have to perform the steps:

- 1) Double precision add.
- 2) Store result in answer.

Power Series

$$\sin(x) = 1 + x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots$$

$\sin(\pi/2)$

	Term	Value	Total
1	x	1.5 71E + 0	
2	x ³ / 3!	6.4 62E - 1	9.2 48E - 1
3	x ⁵ / 5!	7.9 74E - 2	1.0 05E + 0
4	x ⁷ / 7!	4.6 86E - 3	9.9 98E - 1
5	x ⁹ / 9!	1.6 06E - 4	1.0 00E + 0
6	x ¹¹ /	3.6 04E - 6	1.0 00E +

Sin(pi)

	Term	Value	Total
1	x	3.142E+ 0	
2	x ³ /3!	5.170E+ 0	-2.028E+0
3	x ⁵ /5!	2.552E-0	5.241E-1
4	x ⁷ /7!	5.998E-1	-7.570E-2
5	x ⁹ /9!	8.224E-2	6.542E-3
6	x ¹¹ /11!	7.381E-3	-8.388E-4
7	x ¹³ /13!	4.671E-4	-3.717E-4
8	x ¹⁵ /15!	2.196E-5	-3.937E-4
9	x ¹⁷ /17!	7.970E-7	-3.929E-4
10	x ¹⁹ /19!	2.300E-8	-3.929E-4