

SUBJECT =COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE

Binary number

[UNIT-I]

A **binary number** is a [number](#) expressed in the [base-2 numeral system](#) or **binary numeral system**, a method for representing [numbers](#) that uses only two symbols for the [natural numbers](#): typically "0" ([zero](#)) and "1" ([one](#)). A *binary number* may also refer to a [rational number](#) that has a finite representation in the binary numeral system, that is, the quotient of an [integer](#) by a power of two.

The base-2 numeral system is a [positional notation](#) with a [radix](#) of [2](#). Each digit is referred to as [bit](#), or binary digit. Because of its straightforward implementation in [digital electronic circuitry](#) using [logic gates](#), the binary system is used by almost all modern [computers and computer-based devices](#), as a preferred system of use, over various other human techniques of communication, because of the simplicity of the language and the noise immunity in physical implementation.^[1]

History

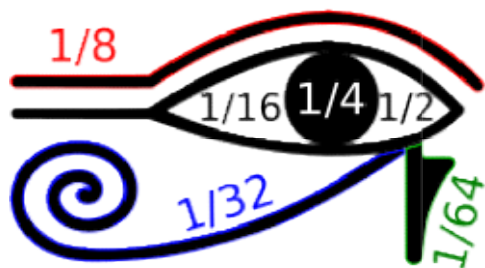
[\[edit\]](#)

The modern binary number system was studied in Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries by [Thomas Harriot](#), [Juan Caramuel y Lobkowitz](#), and [Gottfried Leibniz](#). However, systems related to binary numbers have appeared earlier in multiple cultures including ancient Egypt, China, and India.

Egypt

[\[edit\]](#)

See also: [Ancient Egyptian mathematics](#)



Arithmetic values thought to have been represented by parts of the [Eye of Horus](#)

The scribes of ancient Egypt used two different systems for their fractions, [Egyptian fractions](#) (not related to the binary number system) and [Horus-Eye](#) fractions (so called because many historians of mathematics believe that the symbols used for this system could be arranged to form the eye of [Horus](#), although this has been disputed).^[2] Horus-Eye fractions are a binary numbering system for fractional quantities of grain, liquids, or other measures, in which a fraction of a [hekat](#) is expressed as a sum of the binary fractions $1/2$, $1/4$, $1/8$, $1/16$, $1/32$, and $1/64$. Early forms of this system can be found in

documents from the [Fifth Dynasty of Egypt](#), approximately 2400 BC, and its fully developed hieroglyphic form dates to the [Nineteenth Dynasty of Egypt](#), approximately 1200 BC.^[3]

The method used for [ancient Egyptian multiplication](#) is also closely related to binary numbers. In this method, multiplying one number by a second is performed by a sequence of steps in which a value (initially the first of the two numbers) is either doubled or has the first number added back into it; the order in which these steps are to be performed is given by the binary representation of the second number. This method can be seen in use, for instance, in the [Rhind Mathematical Papyrus](#), which dates to around 1650 BC.^[4]

China

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Daoist Bagua

The *I Ching* dates from the 9th century BC in China.^[5] The binary notation in the *I Ching* is used to interpret its [quaternary divination](#) technique.^[6]

It is based on taoistic duality of [yin and yang](#).^[7] [Eight trigrams \(Bagua\)](#) and a set of [64 hexagrams \("sixty-four" gua\)](#), analogous to the three-bit and six-bit binary numerals, were in use at least as early as the [Zhou dynasty](#) of ancient China.^[5]

The [Song dynasty](#) scholar [Shao Yong](#) (1011–1077) rearranged the hexagrams in a format that resembles modern binary numbers, although he did not intend his arrangement to be used mathematically.^[6] Viewing the [least significant bit](#) on top of single hexagrams in Shao Yong's square^[8] and reading along rows either from bottom right to top left with solid lines as 0 and broken lines as 1 or from top left to bottom right with solid lines as 1 and broken lines as 0 hexagrams can be interpreted as sequence from 0 to 63.^[9]

Classical antiquity

[\[edit\]](#)

[Etruscans](#) divided the outer edge of [divination livers](#) into sixteen parts, each inscribed with the name of a divinity and its region of the sky. Each liver region produced a binary reading which was combined into a final binary for divination.^[10]

Divination at Ancient Greek [Dodona](#) oracle worked by drawing from separate jars, questions tablets and "yes" and "no" pellets. The result was then combined to make a final prophecy.^[11]

India

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The Indian scholar [Pingala](#) (c. 2nd century BC) developed a binary system for describing [prosody](#).^{[12][13]} He described meters in the form of short and long syllables (the latter equal in length to two short syllables).^[14] They were known as *laghu* (light) and *guru* (heavy) syllables.

Pingala's Hindu classic titled [Chandaḥśāstra](#) (8.23) describes the formation of a matrix in order to give a unique value to each meter. "Chandaḥśāstra" literally translates to *science of meters* in Sanskrit. The binary representations in Pingala's system increases towards the right, and not to the left like in the binary numbers of the modern [positional notation](#).^[15] In Pingala's system, the numbers start from number one, and not zero. Four short syllables "0000" is the first pattern and corresponds to the value one. The numerical value is obtained by adding one to the sum of [place values](#).^[16]

Africa

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The [Ifá](#) is an African divination system. Similar to the *I Ching*, but has up to 256 binary signs,^[17] unlike the *I Ching* which has 64. The Ifá originated in 15th century West Africa among [Yoruba people](#). In 2008, [UNESCO](#) added Ifá to its list of the "[Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity](#)".^{[18][19]}

Other cultures

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The residents of the island of [Mangareva](#) in [French Polynesia](#) were using a hybrid binary-[decimal](#) system before 1450.^[20] [Slit drums](#) with binary tones are used to encode messages across Africa and Asia.^[7] Sets of binary combinations similar to the *I Ching* have also been used in traditional African divination systems, such as [Ifá](#) among others, as well as in [medieval](#) Western [geomancy](#). The majority of [Indigenous Australian languages](#) use a base-2 system.^[21]

Western predecessors to Leibniz

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In the late 13th century [Ramon Llull](#) had the ambition to account for all wisdom in every branch of human knowledge of the time. For that purpose he developed a general method or "Ars generalis" based on binary combinations of a number of simple basic principles or categories, for which he has been considered a predecessor of computing science and artificial intelligence.^[22]

In 1605, [Francis Bacon](#) discussed a system whereby letters of the alphabet could be reduced to sequences of binary digits, which could then be encoded as scarcely visible variations in the font in any random text.^[23] Importantly for the general theory of binary encoding, he added that this method could be used with any objects at all: "provided those objects be capable of a twofold difference only; as by Bells, by Trumpets, by Lights and Torches, by the report of Muskets, and any instruments of like nature".^[23] (See [Bacon's cipher](#).)

In 1617, [John Napier](#) described a system he called [location arithmetic](#) for doing binary calculations using a non-positional representation by letters. [Thomas Harriot](#) investigated several positional numbering systems, including binary, but did not publish his results; they were found later among his papers.^[24] Possibly the first publication of the system in Europe was by [Juan Caramuel y Lobkowitz](#), in 1700.^[25]

Leibniz

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Gottfried Leibniz

Leibniz wrote in excess of a hundred manuscripts on binary, most of them remaining unpublished.^[26] Before his first dedicated work in 1679, numerous manuscripts feature early attempts to explore binary concepts, including tables of numbers and basic calculations, often scribbled in the margins of works unrelated to mathematics.^[26]

His first known work on binary, "*On the Binary Progression*", in 1679, Leibniz introduced conversion between decimal and binary, along with algorithms for performing basic arithmetic operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division using binary numbers. He also developed a form of binary algebra to calculate the square of a six-digit number and to extract square roots..^[26]

His most well known work appears in his article *Explication de l'Arithmétique Binaire* (published in 1703). The full title of Leibniz's article is translated into English as the "*Explanation of Binary Arithmetic, which uses only the characters 1 and 0, with some remarks on its usefulness, and on the light it throws on the ancient Chinese figures of [Fu Xi](#)*".^[27] Leibniz's system uses 0 and 1, like the modern binary numeral system. An example of Leibniz's binary numeral system is as follows:^[27]

0 0 0 1 numerical value 2^0

0 0 1 0 numerical value 2^1
0 1 0 0 numerical value 2^2
1 0 0 0 numerical value 2^3

While corresponding with the Jesuit priest [Joachim Bouvet](#) in 1700, who had made himself an expert on the *I Ching* while a missionary in China, Leibniz explained his binary notation, and Bouvet demonstrated in his 1701 letters that the *I Ching* was an independent, parallel invention of binary notation. Leibniz & Bouvet concluded that this mapping was evidence of major Chinese accomplishments in the sort of philosophical [mathematics](#) he admired.^[28] Of this parallel invention, Leibniz wrote in his "Explanation Of Binary Arithmetic" that "this restitution of their meaning, after such a great interval of time, will seem all the more curious."^[29]

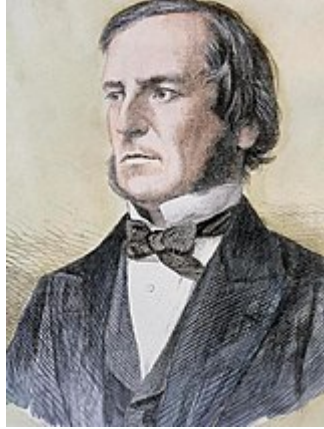
The relation was a central idea to his universal concept of a language or [characteristica universalis](#), a popular idea that would be followed closely by his successors such as [Gottlob Frege](#) and [George Boole](#) in forming [modern symbolic logic](#).^[30] Leibniz was first introduced to the *I Ching* through his contact with the French Jesuit [Joachim Bouvet](#), who visited China in 1685 as a missionary. Leibniz saw the *I Ching* hexagrams as an affirmation of the [universality](#) of his own religious beliefs as a Christian.^[31] Binary numerals were central to Leibniz's theology. He believed that binary numbers were symbolic of the Christian idea of [creatio ex nihilo](#) or creation out of nothing.^[32]

[A concept that] is not easy to impart to the pagans, is the creation *ex nihilo* through God's almighty power. Now one can say that nothing in the world can better present and demonstrate this power than the origin of numbers, as it is presented here through the simple and unadorned presentation of One and Zero or Nothing.

—Leibniz's letter to the [Duke of Brunswick](#) attached with the *I Ching* hexagrams^[31]

Later developments

[\[edit\]](#)



George Boole

In 1854, British mathematician [George Boole](#) published a landmark paper detailing an [algebraic](#) system of [logic](#) that would become known as [Boolean algebra](#). His logical calculus was to become instrumental in the design of digital electronic circuitry.^[33]

In 1937, [Claude Shannon](#) produced his master's thesis at [MIT](#) that implemented Boolean algebra and binary arithmetic using electronic relays and switches for the first time in history. Entitled [A Symbolic Analysis of Relay and Switching Circuits](#), Shannon's thesis essentially founded practical [digital circuit](#) design.^[34]

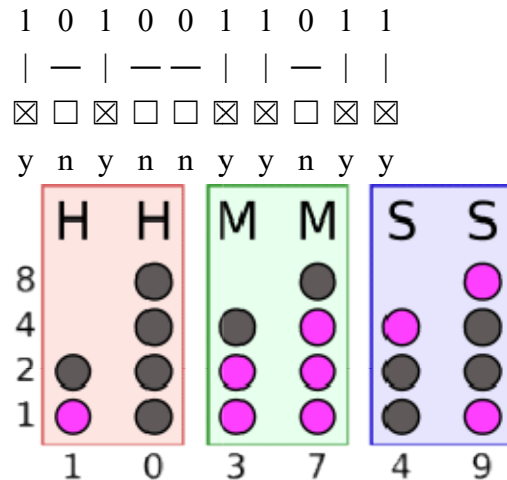
In November 1937, [George Stibitz](#), then working at [Bell Labs](#), completed a relay-based computer he dubbed the "Model K" (for "Kitchen", where he had assembled it), which calculated using binary addition.^[35] Bell Labs authorized a full research program in late 1938 with Stibitz at the helm. Their Complex Number Computer, completed 8 January 1940, was able to calculate [complex numbers](#). In a demonstration to the [American Mathematical Society](#) conference at [Dartmouth College](#) on 11 September 1940, Stibitz was able to send the Complex Number Calculator remote commands over telephone lines by a [teletype](#). It was the first computing machine ever used remotely over a phone line. Some participants of the conference who witnessed the demonstration were [John von Neumann](#), [John Mauchly](#) and [Norbert Wiener](#), who wrote about it in his memoirs.^{[36][37][38]}

The [Z1 computer](#), which was designed and built by [Konrad Zuse](#) between 1935 and 1938, used [Boolean logic](#) and binary [floating-point numbers](#).^[39]

Representation

[\[edit\]](#)

Any number can be represented by a sequence of [bits](#) (binary digits), which in turn may be represented by any mechanism capable of being in two mutually exclusive states. Any of the following rows of symbols can be interpreted as the binary numeric value of 667:



10:37:49

A [binary clock](#) might use [LEDs](#) to express binary values. In this clock, each column of LEDs shows a [binary-coded decimal](#) numeral of the traditional [sexagesimal](#) time.

The numeric value represented in each case depends on the value assigned to each symbol. In the earlier days of computing, switches, punched holes, and punched paper tapes were used to represent binary values.^[40] In a modern computer, the numeric values may be represented by two different [voltages](#); on a [magnetic disk](#), [magnetic polarities](#) may be used. A "positive", "[yes](#)", or "on" state is not necessarily equivalent to the numerical value of one; it depends on the architecture in use.

In keeping with the customary representation of numerals using [Arabic numerals](#), binary numbers are commonly written using the symbols **0** and **1**. When written, binary numerals are often subscripted, prefixed, or suffixed to indicate their base, or [radix](#). The following notations are equivalent:

- 100101 binary (explicit statement of format)
- 100101b (a suffix indicating binary format; also known as [Intel convention](#)^{[41][42]})
- 100101B (a suffix indicating binary format)
- bin 100101 (a prefix indicating binary format)
- 100101₂ (a subscript indicating base-2 (binary) notation)
- %100101 (a prefix indicating binary format; also known as [Motorola convention](#)^{[41][42]})
- 0b100101 (a prefix indicating binary format, common in programming languages)
- 6b100101 (a prefix indicating number of bits in binary format, common in programming languages)
- #b100101 (a prefix indicating binary format, common in Lisp programming languages)

When spoken, binary numerals are usually read digit-by-digit, to distinguish them from decimal numerals. For example, the binary numeral 100 is pronounced *one zero zero*, rather than *one hundred*, to make its binary nature explicit and for purposes of correctness. Since the binary numeral 100 represents the value four, it would be confusing to refer to the numeral as *one hundred* (a word that represents a completely different value, or amount). Alternatively, the binary numeral 100 can be read out as "four" (the correct *value*), but this does not make its binary nature explicit.

Counting in binary

[\[edit\]](#)

Decimal number	Binary number
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0	0
---	---

1	1
---	---

2	10
---	----

3	11
---	----

4	100
---	-----

5	101
---	-----

6	110
---	-----

7	111
---	-----

8	1000
---	------

9	1001
10	1010
11	1011
12	1100
13	1101
14	1110
15	1111

Counting in binary is similar to counting in any other number system. Beginning with a single digit, counting proceeds through each symbol, in increasing order. Before examining binary counting, it is useful to briefly discuss the more familiar [decimal](#) counting system as a frame of reference.

Decimal counting

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[Decimal](#) counting uses the ten symbols 0 through 9. Counting begins with the incremental substitution of the least significant digit (rightmost digit) which is often called the *first digit*. When the available symbols for this position are exhausted, the least significant digit is reset to 0, and the next digit of higher significance (one position to the left) is incremented (*overflow*), and incremental substitution of the low-order digit resumes. This method of reset and overflow is repeated for each digit of significance. Counting progresses as follows:

000, 001, 002, ... 007, 008, 009, (rightmost digit is reset to zero, and the digit to its left is incremented)
 010, 011, 012, ...
 ...
 090, 091, 092, ... 097, 098, 099, (rightmost two digits are reset to zeroes, and next digit is incremented)
 100, 101, 102, ...

Binary counting

[\[edit\]](#)

2^4	2^3	2^2	2^1	2^0	
16	8	4	2	1	
0	0	0	0	0	00

This counter shows how to count in binary from numbers zero through

1	3	5	7	+1+2+4
9	11	13	15	+8+16=
17	19	21	23	1 10
25	27	29	31	4 17
2	3	6	7	2 18
10	11	14	15	3 19
18	19	22	23	4 20
26	27	30	31	5 21
4	5	6	7	6 22
12	13	14	15	7 23
20	21	22	23	8 24
28	29	30	31	9 25
8	9	10	11	10 26
12	13	14	15	11 27
24	25	26	27	12 28
28	29	30	31	13 29
16	17	18	19	14 30
20	21	22	23	15 31
24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31	

thirty-one. A party trick to guess a number from which cards it is printed on uses the bits of the binary representation of the number. In the SVG file, click a card to toggle it

Binary counting follows the exact same procedure, and again the incremental substitution begins with the least significant binary digit, or *bit* (the rightmost one, also called the *first bit*), except that only the two symbols 0 and 1 are available. Thus, after a bit reaches 1 in binary, an increment resets it to 0 but also causes an increment of the next bit to the left:

0000,

0001, (rightmost bit starts over, and the next bit is incremented)

0010, 0011, (rightmost two bits start over, and the next bit is incremented)

0100, 0101, 0110, 0111, (rightmost three bits start over, and the next bit is incremented)

1000, 1001, 1010, 1011, 1100, 1101, 1110, 1111 ...

In the binary system, each bit represents an increasing power of 2, with the rightmost bit representing 2^0 , the next representing 2^1 , then 2^2 , and so on. The value of a binary number is the sum of the powers of 2 represented by each "1" bit. For example, the binary number 100101 is converted to decimal form as follows:

$$100101_2 = [(1) \times 2^5] + [(0) \times 2^4] + [(0) \times 2^3] + [(1) \times 2^2] + [(0) \times 2^1] + [(1) \times 2^0]$$

$$100101_2 = [1 \times 32] + [0 \times 16] + [0 \times 8] + [1 \times 4] + [0 \times 2] + [1 \times 1]$$

$$100101_2 = 37_{10}$$

Fractions

[\[edit\]](#)

[Fractions](#) in binary arithmetic [terminate](#) only if the [denominator](#) is a [power of 2](#). As a result, $1/10$ does not have a finite binary representation (**10** has prime factors **2** and **5**). This causes $10 \times 1/10$ not to precisely equal 1 in binary [floating-point arithmetic](#). As an example, to interpret the binary expression for $1/3 = .010101\dots$, this means: $1/3 = 0 \times 2^{-1} + 1 \times 2^{-2} + 0 \times 2^{-3} + 1 \times 2^{-4} + \dots = 0.3125 + \dots$. An exact value cannot be found with a sum of a finite number of inverse powers of two, the zeros and ones in the binary representation of $1/3$ alternate forever.

Fr
act [Decima](#) Binar Frac
tiona

io n	l	y	l appr oxim ation
1/1	1 or 0.99...	1 or 0.1	1/2 + 1/4 + 1/8...
1/2	0.5 or 0.4999...	0.1 or 0.01	1/4 + 1/8 + 1/16 ...
1/3	0.333...	0.01	1/4 + 1/16 + 1/64 ...
1/4	0.25 or 0.24999...	0.01 or 0.001	1/8 + 1/16 + 1/32 ...
1/5	0.2 or 0.1999...	0.001 or 0.0001	1/8 + 1/16 + 1/12 8...
1/6	0.1666..	0.00101	1/8 + 1/32 + 1/12 8...
1/7	0.142857142857...	0.001	1/8 + 1/64 + 1/51 2...

			1/16
			+
1/8	0.125 o r 0.124 999...	0.001 or 0.0 001	1/32
			+
			1/64
			...

			1/16
			+
1/9	0.111...	0.000 111	1/32
			+
			1/64
			...

			1/16
			+
1/10	0.1 or 0 .0999...	0.000 11	1/32
			+
			1/25
			6...

			1/16
			+
1/11	0.0909 09...	0.000 10111 01	1/64
			+
			1/12
			8...

			1/16
			+
1/12	0.0833 3...	0.000 101	1/64
			+
			1/25
			6...

			1/16
			+
1/13	0.0769 230769 23...	0.000 10011 1011	1/12
			8+
			1/25
			6...

			1/16
			+
1/14	0.0714 285714	0.000 1	1/12

	285...		8 +
			1/10
			24 ..
			.
			1/16
			+
1/1	0.0666.	0.000	1/25
5	..	1	6 ...
			1/32
			+
1/1	0.0625	0.000	1/64
6	or 0.06	1 or 0.	+
	24999..	00001	1/12
			8 ...

Binary arithmetic

[\[edit\]](#)

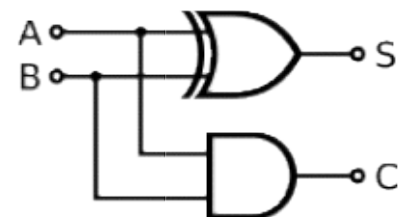
[Arithmetic](#) in binary is much like arithmetic in other [positional notation numeral systems](#).

Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division can be performed on binary numerals.

Addition

[\[edit\]](#)

Main article: [Adder \(electronics\)](#)



The [circuit diagram](#) for a binary [half adder](#), which adds two bits together,

producing sum and carry bits

The simplest arithmetic operation in binary is addition. Adding two single-digit binary numbers is relatively simple, using a form of carrying:

$$0 + 0 \rightarrow 0$$

$$0 + 1 \rightarrow 1$$

$$1 + 0 \rightarrow 1$$

$$1 + 1 \rightarrow 0, \text{ carry } 1 \text{ (since } 1 + 1 = 2 = 0 + (1 \times 2^1) \text{)}$$