# Using Fixed-Point Numbers 

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#### Abstract

This tutorial is intended to detail the use of integer and fixed point numbers when processing data samples with micro controllers or FPGAs.


## 1 Introduction

Using integers as fixed point numbers is an essential skill for micro controller and FPGA programming, particularly when digital signal processing (DSP) and A/D - D/A conversion are taken into account.

## The organization of this document is as follows:

Chapter 1 introduction,
Chapter 2 introduces different number representations and conversion algorithms between them,
Chapter 3 discusses rounding techniques,
Chapter 4 offers an exercise,
Chapter 5 summarizes the tutorial,
Chapter 6 gives some references and
Chapter 7 the solutions to the exercises.

## 2 Number Representations (See chapter 6.2 for solutions.)

### 2.1 Integral Numbers

There are two ways to interpret a bit vector as integral number: unsigned and signed, corresponding to the IEEE VHDL libraries std_logic_unsigned and std_logic_signed, resp.

- Unsigned interpretation: A bit vector of $w$ bits represents the integer range $0 \ldots 2^{\mathrm{w}}-\mathbf{1}$.
$\bullet$ Signed interpretation: A bit vector of $w$ bits represents the int. range $-\mathbf{2}^{\mathrm{w}-1} \ldots+\mathbf{2}^{\mathrm{w}-1}-1$.


### 2.2 Fixed Point Numerical Representation: The Q Number Format

Unsigned: UQg.f with $g$ integral (deutsch: ganze) and $f$ fractional bits. Width $w=g+f$.
Signed: Qg.f with 1 sign bit plus $g$ integral and $f$ fraction bits. Width $w=1+g+f$.
Example: 101.1001 can be interpreted as UQ3.4 format representing $1011001 * 2^{-4}=89 / 16=$ 5.5625 or as Q2.4 delivering $-(0100110+1) * 2^{-4}=-(0100111) * 2^{-4}=-39 / 16=-2.4375$.

Exercise: The bit string $\mathbf{1 1 0 . 1 0 1 1}$ can be interpreted...
... as UQ3.4 format representing
... as Q2.4 delivering

Unsigned: $\quad$ Range: $0 \leq A_{U} \leq \frac{2^{g+f}-1}{2^{f}}, \quad \quad$ Resolution: $\mathrm{r}=2^{-\mathrm{f}}=\frac{1}{2^{f}}$.

Singed

$$
\text { Range: }-\frac{2^{g+f}}{2^{f}} \leq A_{S} \leq \frac{2^{g+f}-1}{2^{f}}, \quad \text { Resolution: } \mathrm{r}=2^{-\mathrm{f}}=\frac{1}{2^{f}} .
$$

$>$ You can append an arbitrary number of zeros after the point.
$>$ You can precede an arbitrary number of zeros before an unsigned number.
$>\quad$ You can precede an arbitrary multiple of the sign bit before a signed number.
Summation an subtraction of fixed-point numbers is easy as they can be treated like integer numbers when they are written such that the points are over each other. Example:

| Given numbers | Unsigned treatment | Signed treatment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 11011011.11011 | 11011011.11011000 | 11011011.11011000 |
| $\pm$ | 101.11101101 | $\pm 00000101.11101101$ |

Table 2.2: Q-formats (as typical for micro controllers), $w$ : total number of bits, $r$ : resolution

| Format | $\boldsymbol{w}$ | $\boldsymbol{g}$ | $\boldsymbol{f}$ | $\boldsymbol{m i n}$ | $\boldsymbol{m a x}$ | $\boldsymbol{r}$ (resolution) |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| UQ16 | 16 | 16 | 0 | 0 | $2^{\wedge} 16-\mathrm{r}$ | 1 |
| UQ.16 | 16 | 0 | 16 | 0 | $1-\mathrm{r}$ | $2^{\wedge}-16$ |
| Q15 | 16 | 15 | 0 | $-2^{\wedge} 15$ | $2^{\wedge} 15-\mathrm{r}$ | 1 |
| Q.15 | 16 | 0 | 15 | -1 | $1-\mathrm{r}$ | $2^{\wedge}-15$ |
| UQ16.16 | 32 | 16 | 16 | 0 | $2^{\wedge} 16-\mathrm{r}$ | $2^{\wedge}-16$ |
| Q15.16 | 32 | 15 | 16 | $-2^{\wedge} 15$ | $2^{\wedge} 15-\mathrm{r}$ | $2^{\wedge}-16$ |

Caution: Sometimes you will find the so-called Qf-Format with Q15 meaning Qg.15, g=?. Then we know about 1 sign bit and 15 fractional bits but an unknown number of integral bits. This causes uncertainty! Avoid it, even in a C program with all integers having 32 bits (because there also exist short int ( 16 bits) and char ( 8 bits) types in C ).
$>$ You cannot mark the Q -format within the bit string. It's a predefined arrangement of your design.

### 2.3 Multiplication of Fixed-Point Numbers

Fig. 2.3:
Reducing the product length to the length of its factors with indices $\boldsymbol{i}_{\mathrm{ph}}$ and $\boldsymbol{i}_{\mathrm{pl}}$.


We compute prod $=$ coef $*$ data with coef and data having $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{c}}$ and $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{d}}$ binary places, respectively, $\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{c}}$ and $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{d}}$ of them fractional. Then prod has $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{p}}=\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{c}}+\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{d}}$ binary places, $\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{p}}=\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{c}}+\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{d}}$ of them fractional.

Mathematical proof: We can write coef $=$ icoef $\cdot 2^{-\mathrm{fc}}$ and data $=$ idata $\cdot 2^{-\mathrm{fd}}$ with ixxx integral. Consequently, the product can be written as
prod $=$ coef $\cdot$ data $=$ icoef $\cdot 2^{-f c} \cdot$ idata $\cdot 2^{-f d}=$ icoef $\cdot$ idata $\cdot 2^{-(f c+f d)}$.

## Reducing the length of products:

Proof: We want to reduce the width of prod by taking result vector $\mathbf{y}$ out of it. Result $\mathbf{y}$ has $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{y}}$ bits in formatted as [U]Qgy. $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}}$.

Considering fractional bits only:
The fractional part of product prod consists of bits $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{p}}-1 \ldots 0$.
The fractional part of result $\mathbf{y}$ will consist of bits $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}}-1 \ldots 0$.

Preserving the point we get $\mathbf{y}\left(\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}}-1: 0\right)=\mathbf{p}\left(\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{p}}-1: \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{p}}-\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}}\right)$ with lowest index $\mathbf{i}_{\mathbf{p l}}=\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{p}}-\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}}$.
Considering integral bits also:
As $\mathbf{y}=\mathbf{y}\left(\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{y}}-1: 0\right)$ its max. index is $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{y}}-1$ larger than its min. index: $\mathbf{i}_{\mathbf{p h}}=\mathbf{i}_{\mathbf{p l}}+\left(\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{- 1}\right)$.
Consequently (formula to be used in exercise chapter 4):

$$
y=\operatorname{prod}\left(i_{p h}: i_{p l}\right) \quad \text { with } \quad i_{p l}=f_{p}-f_{\mathrm{y}}, \quad i_{\mathrm{ph}}=i_{\mathrm{pl}}+\mathbf{w}_{\mathrm{y}}-\mathbf{1}
$$

Exercises (for solutions see $\rightarrow$ chapter 6) :
Let coef have $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{c}}$ binary places, $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{c}}$ of them fractional. Signal data has $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{d}}$ binary places, $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{d}}$ of them fractional. The product has


Fig. 2.3 illustrates the multiplication of the coefficient coef with $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{c}}=\ldots . . ., \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{c}}=$ $\qquad$ and the data sample data with $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{d}}=\ldots \ldots, \quad \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{d}}=\ldots \ldots$. . . . The product prod has

$$
\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{p}}=
$$

binary places,
$\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{p}}=$ of them fractional.

We want to take result vector y out of prod preserving the point. For all bit vectors the LSB has index 0 .

In Fig. $2.3 \mathbf{y}$ has $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{y}}=\ldots \ldots$, . . binary places $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}}=\ldots \ldots$ of them fractional.

To apply the VHDL command $\mathbf{y}<=$ prod (iph DOWNTO ipl) we have to compute
$\mathbf{i}_{\mathrm{pl}}=$
$\mathbf{i}_{\mathrm{ph}}=$

### 2.4 Binary $\rightarrow$ Hexadecimal $\rightarrow$ Binary Conversion

Table 2.4: Mapping decimal, hexadecimal and binary numbers

| Decimal <br> number | Hexadecimal <br> Digit | Bit vector | Decimal <br> number | Hexadecimal <br> Digit | Bit <br> vector |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0000 |  | 8 | 8 | 1000 |
| 1 | 1 | 0001 |  | 9 | 9 | 1001 |
| 2 | 2 | 0010 |  | 10 | A | 1010 |
| 3 | 3 | 0011 |  | 11 | B | 1011 |
| 4 | 4 | 0100 |  | 12 | C | 1100 |
| 5 | 5 | 0101 |  | 13 | D | 1101 |
| 6 | 6 | 0110 |  | 14 | E | 1110 |
| 7 | 7 | 0111 |  | 15 | F | 1111 |

Hexadecimal numbers are easier to read and remember than bit vectors. Starting from the point bits are subdivided into packages of 4 bits and replaced by equivalent hex-digits.

Example: $10100101101.011010110101_{2}=10100101101.011010110101_{2}=52 \mathrm{D} \cdot 6 \mathrm{~B} 5{ }_{16}$.
Convert the hex-number back to a bit vector translating every hex-digit to a 4-bit string.
Example: = 52D.6B516 $=>10100101101.0110101101012$.

## Exercise: convert to binary:

ABC.DEF ${ }_{16}=$.

## Exercise: convert to hex:

$111111101101.110010111010_{2}=$

### 2.5 Decimal $\rightarrow$ Hexadecimal $\rightarrow$ Decimal Conversion

Decide for the number of fractional hex-digits, $\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{h}}$, and multiply the decimal number with $16^{\text {fh }}$. If desired the decimal number can then be rounded or truncated. The resulting integral number is then converted to a hex-number.

Example: We want to have $\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{h}}=3$ hexadecimal fractional digits.

$$
\begin{aligned}
1234.567_{10} & =1234.567_{10} *\left(16^{3} * 16^{-3}\right)=1234.567_{10} * 16^{3} * 16^{-3}=5056786.432_{10} * 16^{-3} \\
& \approx 5056786_{10} * 16^{-3}=4 \mathrm{D} 2912_{16} * 16^{-3}=4 \mathrm{D} 2.912_{16}
\end{aligned}
$$

Easier to compute might be the form separating integral and fractional parts:

$$
\begin{aligned}
1234.567_{10} & =1234_{10}+0.567_{10}=4 \mathrm{D} 2_{16}+0.567_{10} * 16^{3} * 16^{-3}=4 \mathrm{D} 2_{16}+2322.432_{10} * 16^{-3} \\
& \approx 4 \mathrm{D} 2_{16}+2322_{10} * 16^{-3}=4 \mathrm{D} 2_{16}+912_{16} * 16^{-3}=4 \mathrm{D} 2.912_{16}
\end{aligned}
$$

Remember: $1234_{10}=\left(77^{*} 16\right)+2=((4 * 16)+13) * 16+4=4 * 16^{2}+13^{*} 16^{1}+2^{*} 16^{0}=4 \mathrm{D} 2_{16}$.
Back translation to decimal is performed by multiplying hex-digit on position $m$ with $16^{\mathrm{m}}$.
Example: 4D2.912 ${ }_{16}=\mathbf{4}^{*} 16^{2}+\mathbf{1 3}^{*} 16^{1}+\mathbf{2}^{*} 16^{0}+\mathbf{9}^{*} 16^{-1}+\mathbf{1}^{*} 16^{-2}+\mathbf{2}^{*} 16^{-3} \approx 1234.56689$.
Exercise: convert to decimal $(\mathrm{f}=3):$ ABC. $\mathrm{DEF}_{16}=$
Exercise: convert to hex (f=3): $2748.871_{16}=$

### 2.6 Real $\rightarrow$ Binary Conversion

Factors - like filter coefficients - are computed as real numbers and have to be converted to bit vectors. Let's assume the number $\mathrm{rVal}=1.234$ has to be converted to a bit string with 8 binary places, 6 of them fractional. The example below shows a possible way to accomplish this.
$\mathrm{rVal}=\mathrm{rVal} \cdot(1)=\mathrm{rVal} \cdot\left(2^{6} \cdot 2^{-6}\right)=\left(\mathrm{rVal} \cdot 2^{6}\right) \cdot 2^{-6}=(1.234 \cdot 64) \cdot 2^{-6}=78.976 \cdot 2^{-6}$
$\mathrm{iVal}=\operatorname{round}\left(\mathrm{rVal} \cdot 2^{6}\right) \cdot 2^{-6}=\operatorname{round}(78.976) \cdot 2^{-6}=79 \cdot 2^{-6}=01001111_{2} \cdot 2^{-6}=01.001111_{2}$.
For the negative $\mathrm{rVal2}=-\mathrm{rVal}=-1.234$ we obtain in the same way $\mathrm{rVal2}=-78.976 \cdot 2-6$ and $\mathrm{iVal2}=\operatorname{round}\left(\mathrm{rVal2} 22^{6}\right) \cdot 2^{-6}=\operatorname{round}(-78.976) \cdot 2^{-6}=-79 \cdot 2^{-6}=101100012 \cdot 2^{-6}=$ $10.110001_{2}$.

Positive an negative numbers are distinguished by the first bit. Be careful to not set this bit accidentally by a too large positive number. The largest positive number for a signed 8 -Bit representation is $\mathrm{iVal}_{\max }=2^{7}-1=127$ and the largest negative number is $\mathrm{iVal}_{\min }=-2^{7}=-128$.

Exercises (for solutions see $\rightarrow$ chapter 8) :
Convert $\pi=3.14159$ into a signed bit vector with 8 binary places, 4 of them fractional.

Convert $-\pi=-3.14159$ into a signed bit vector with 8 binary places, 4 of them fractional.

### 2.7 Floating-Point Numbers

Fig. 2.7: Floating-point data structure

| $s$ | exponent | mantissa |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |

Table 2.7: IEEE 754 binary formats [1]

| Format | Sign | Exponent | Mantissa | Total number of bits | Exponent bias |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Half | 1 | 5 | 10 | 16 | 15 |
| Single | 1 | 8 | 23 | 32 | 127 |
| Double | 1 | 11 | 52 | 64 | 1023 |
| Quad | 1 | 15 | 112 | 128 | 16383 |

The floating point data structure has 1 sign bit $s, e$ exponent bits and $m$ mantissa bits. The number is computed from
real value $=(-1)^{s}$ x $2^{\text {exponent - exponent_bias }} \mathbf{x}$ mantissa
The exponent is biased by $\left(2^{\mathrm{e}-1}\right)$-1 to obtain both positive and negative exponents.
If possible, the mantissa is stored normalized i.e. with one bit before the point. Example: the number 101.1101 is stored as $1.011101 \times 2^{+2}$.

The number is said to be de-normalized if the MSB of the mantissa is 0 and its fraction $\neq 0$.
Particular situations

- $\pm 0$ (depending on the sign bit) : exponent $=0$ and mantissa $=0$.
- $\pm \infty$ (depending on the sign bit) : exponent $=2^{\mathrm{e}}-1$ ( $=$ all ones) and mantissa fraction $=0$
- NaN (Not a Number) :

Floating point numbers are well suited for multiplication and division, as $2^{A} \times 2^{B}=2^{A+B}$, but not for addition and subtraction, as for this operations it has be brought into a fixed-point like format. Typically, working with floating-point numbers is significantly more time consuming than working with fixed-point numbers. However, the range of floating-point numbers is significantly larger than that of fixed-point numbers.

## 3 Rounding and Truncation

## Truncation

Truncating a number with integral part $g$ and fractional part $f$ (i.e. $f<1$ ):
$g . f$ truncates to $g$ (, regardless whether $g$ is positive or negative):
Example:5.8 truncates to 5, -5.8 truncates to -5 .

## Rounding Threshold

The threshold for rounding is $1 / 2 \cdot$ LSB with LSB being the least significant bit. For integral numbers $\mathrm{LSB}=1$. With Base (or radix) $\mathrm{B}=10,2$, 16 we get $1 / 2 \mathrm{~B}=5,1,8$, respectively. Consequently the numerical thresholds are $5 \cdot 10^{-1}=0.510=1 \cdot 2^{-1}=0.1_{2}=8 \cdot 16^{-1}=0.8_{16}$.

## Rounding:

This method corresponds to the C or Matlab expression $\operatorname{round}(g . f)$ for decimal numbers.
Positive numbers: $g . f$ rounds to $g$ when $f<0.5$ and to $g+l$ when $f \geq 0.5$.
Negative numbers: g.f rounds to $g$ when $f<0.5$ and to $g-l$ when $f \geq 0.5$.

Possible realization:

+ For numbers $\geq 0:$ rounded_number $=g+f_{1}$, with $f_{1}$ being the first fractional bit.
- For numbers $<0$ : rounded_number $=-\left(g^{\prime}+f_{i^{\prime}}\right)$ with $g^{\prime} \cdot f^{\prime}=-(g . f)$.


## Bit-Vector Easy Rounding Scheme:

This method corresponds to the C or Matlab expression floor $(g . f+0.5)$ for decimal numbers.
Easy realization: bver_rounded_number $=g+f_{l}$ with $f_{l}$ being the first fractional bit.

## Exercise:

Fill the empty fields in Table 3-1 to understand the differences between truncation, mathematical rounding and the bit-vector easy rounding presented above. The bit-strings are assumed ot be 5-bit signed numbers.

Table 3-1: Truncation, rounding and bit-vector easy rounding: (complete empty fields):

| binary | binary | decimal | decimal | truncated |  | rounded |  | $+\mathbf{0 . 1} \mathbf{1}_{2}$ truncated |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | rational | rational |  | bin | $=$ dec | bin | $=$ dec | bin | $=\mathrm{dec}$ |
| 01.001 | $01001 / 2^{3}$ | $09 / 8$ | +1.125 | 01 | +1 | 01 | +1 | 01 | +1 |
| 01.011 | $01011 / 2^{3}$ | $11 / 8$ | +1.375 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01.100 | $01100 / 2^{3}$ | $12 / 8$ | +1.500 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01.101 | $01101 / 2^{3}$ | $13 / 8$ | +1.625 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01.111 | $01111 / 2^{3}$ | $15 / 8$ | +1.875 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.111 | $10111 / 2^{3}$ | $-09 / 8$ | -1.125 | 10 | +2 | 11 | -1 | 11 | -1 |
| 10.101 | $10101 / 2^{3}$ | $-11 / 8$ | -1.375 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.100 | $10100 / 2^{3}$ | $-12 / 8$ | -1.500 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.011 | $10011 / 2^{3}$ | $-13 / 8$ | -1.6250 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.001 | $10001 / 2^{3}$ | $-15 / 8$ | -1.8750 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Check with table 3-2 when rounding and bit-vector easy rounding obtains same or different results:

Table 3-2: Truncation, rounding and bit-vector easy rounding: (complete empty fields):

| binary | decimal | decimal | rounded |  | $+\mathbf{0 . 1 _ { 2 }}$ truncated |  | iden- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | rational | fixed point | bin | $=\mathrm{dec}$ | bin | $=$ dec | tical |
| 001.01111111 | $+383 / 2^{8}$ | 1.49609375 | 001 | +1 | 001 | +1 | yes |
| 001.10000000 | $+384 / 2^{8}$ | 1.5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 001.10000001 | $+385 / 2^{8}$ | 1.50390625 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 110.10000001 | $-384 / 2^{8}$ | -1.49609375 | 111 | -1 | 111 | -1 | yes |
| 110.10000000 | $-384 / 2^{8}$ | -1.5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 110.01111111 | $+385 / 2^{8}$ | -1.50390625 |  |  |  |  |  |

What is correct?: The difference between rounding and bit-vector easy rounding increases / decreases with the number of fractional bits.


Fig. 3: Matlab plot. Top down: truncation, rounding, bit-vector easy rounding, 3-level quantization. Differences between the second and third line are in $-n .5$ only.

## 4 Exercise Based on Executable VHDL

## Listing 4: Code with gaps

```
LIBRARY ieee; USE ieee.std_logic_1164.ALL;
PACKAGE pk filter IS
    CONSTANT cDataInWidth:POSITIVE:=4; -- Input-Data BitWidth
    CONSTANT cDataInFract:POSITIVE:=2; -- No of Input-Data fract. Bits
    CONSTANT cDataOutWidth:POSITIVE:=5; -- Output-Data BitWidth
    CONSTANT cDataOutFract:POSITIVE:=3; -- No of Output-Data fract Bits
    CONSTANT cCoefWidth:POSITIVE:=4; -- Coefficient's BitWidth
    CONSTANT cCoefFract:POSITIVE:=2; -- No of Coef's fractional Bits
    SUBTYPE t_DataIn IS std_logic_vector(cDataInWidth-1 DOWNTO 0);
    SUBTYPE t_DataOut IS std_logic_vector(cDataOutWidth-1 DOWNTO 0);
    SUBTYPE t_coef IS std_log}ic_vec̄tor(cCoefWidth-1 DOWNTO 0)
END PACKAGE pk filter;
LIBRARY ieee; USE ieee.std logic 1164.ALL,
ieee.std_\overline{logic_\overline{signed."+", ieee.std_logic_signed."*";}}\mathbf{|}=\mp@code{l}
USE WORK.pk filter.ALL;
ENTITY Test\overline{Bitslice IS}
END ENTITY TestBitslice;
ARCHITECTURE rtl TestBitslice OF TestBitslice IS
    SIGNAL DataIn :t_DataIn;
    SIGNAL coef :t_coef;
    SIGNAL DataOut:t_DataOut;
```

    SIGNAL product:std_logic_vector (
    . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .
    CONSTANT iPl:NATURAL:=
    . \(-\ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots\)
    CONSTANT iPh:NATURAL:= . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ..........................
    BEGIN
        DataIn <= "0101", "0100" AFTER \(10 \mathrm{~ns} ;-1.25,1.00\) AFTER 10 ns
        coef <= "0101"; -- 1.25
        product <= coef * DataIn; -- \(1.5625,1.25\) AFTER 10 ns
    DataOut <= product(iPh DOWNTO iPl)
    Correspondences with chapter 2.3: $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{c}}=\mathrm{c}$ CoefFract, $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{d}}=\mathrm{c}$ DataInFract, $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{y}}=\mathrm{cDataOutFract}$, $\mathrm{w}_{\mathrm{c}}, \mathrm{w}_{\mathrm{d}}, \mathrm{w}_{\mathrm{p}}, \mathrm{w}_{\mathrm{y}}$ : cCoefWidth, cDataInWidth, cProdWidht, cDataOutWidth, respectively.

## Exercises:

$>$ Complete line (24) to get a product signal that fits to the multiplication of line (30).
$>$ Compute $i P l$ und $i P h$ in lines (25), (26) to fit the bit-slice operation of line (31).
$>$ Extend line (31) to get the bit-slice by bit-vector easy rounding.
$>$ Verify the product, bit-slice and rounding operation of lines (39), (49) by hand.

## 5 Summary

Binary, decimal and hexadecimal coding were presented as well as conversion techniques between them, particularly when these number representations appearing fixed-point formats. After a short glance on floating-point numbers rounding was considered and an easy way to round bit vectors was presented. The tutorial finished with an example based on VHDL.

## 6 References

[1] IEEE standard 754, available: http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/subscriptions/prod/standards_overview.html.
2] Available: http://de.wikipedia.org -> fixed-point

## 7 Appendix: Solutions to the Exercises

### 7.1 Introduction

### 7.2 Number Representations

### 7.2.1 Integral Numbers

### 7.2.2 Fixed Point Numerical Representation: The Q Number Format

Exercise: The bit string $\mathbf{1 1 0 . 1 0 1 1}$ can be interpreted...
... as UQ3.4 format representing
$1101011 * 2^{-4}=107 / 16=6.6875$
... as Q2.4 delivering
$-(0010100+1) * 2^{-4}=-(0010101) * 2^{-4}=-21 / 16=-1.3125$.

### 7.2.3 Multiplication of Fixed-Point Numbers

Exercises (for solutions see $\rightarrow$ chapter 8) :
Let coef have $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{c}}$ binary places, $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{c}}$ of them fractional. Signal data has $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{d}}$ binary places, $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{d}}$ of them fractional. The product has
$\mathbf{w}_{\mathrm{p}}=\ldots . \mathbf{w}_{\mathrm{c}}+\mathbf{w}_{\mathrm{d}} \ldots \ldots$ binary places, $\quad \mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{p}}=\ldots \mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{c}}+\mathbf{f}_{\mathrm{d}} \ldots \ldots$ of them fractional.
Fig. 2.3 illustrates the multiplication of the coefficient coef with $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{c}}=\ldots 7 \ldots, f_{c}=\ldots 4$. .
and the data sample data with $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{d}}=\ldots 5 \ldots, \quad \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{d}}=\ldots 3 \ldots$ The product prod has
$\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{p}}=\ldots \mathbf{w}_{\mathrm{c}}+\mathbf{w}_{\mathrm{d}}=7+5=12 \ldots . . . . . . . . .$.
$f_{p}=\ldots f_{c}+f_{d}=4+3=7 \ldots . . . . . . . . . .$.
We want to take $y$ out of prod preserving the point. For all bit vectors the LSB has index 0 .
In Fig. 2.3 y has $\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{y}}=\ldots 7 \ldots$, binary places $\mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{y}}=\ldots 5 \ldots$ of them fractional.
To apply the VHDL command $\mathbf{y}<=$ prod (iph DOWNTO ipl) we have to compute
$\mathrm{i}_{\mathrm{pl}}=\ldots \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{p}}-\mathrm{w}_{\mathrm{y}}=7-5=2$
$\mathbf{i}_{\mathrm{ph}}=\ldots \mathrm{i}_{\mathrm{p} 1}+\mathrm{w}_{\mathrm{y}}-1=2+7-1=8$

### 7.2.4 Binary to Hexadecimal to Binary Conversion

Exercise: convert to binary:
$A B C . D_{16}=101010111100$. $110111101111_{2}$.
Exercise: convert to hex:
$111111101101.110010111010_{2}=$ FED. CBA ${ }_{16}$

### 7.2.5 Decimal to Hexadecimal to Decimal Conversion

Exercise: convert to decimal (f=3) : ABC. DEF ${ }_{16}=\ldots . .$. . $2748.8708496 \ldots .$. . .
Exercise: convert to hex ( $\mathrm{f}=3$ ): $2748.871_{16}=\ldots . \mathrm{ABC}+0.871 \cdot 16^{-3}=\ldots .$.
$=A B C+3566.79 \approx=A B C+3567 \cdot 16^{-3}=A B C+D E F \cdot 16^{-3}=A B C . D E F$

### 7.2.6 Real-to-Binary Conversion

Exercises (for solutions see $\rightarrow$ chapter 8) :
Convert $\pi=3.14159$ into a signed bit vector with 8 binary places, 4 of them fractional.
$3.14159 \cdot\left(2^{4} \cdot 2^{-4}\right)=(3.14159 .16) \cdot 2^{-4}=50.26 \ldots \cdot 2^{-4}=50 \cdot 2^{-4}$ $50_{10} \cdot 2^{-4}=00110010_{2} \cdot 2^{-4}=0011.0010_{2}$

Convert $-\pi=-3.14159$ into a signed bit vector with 8 binary places, 4 of them fractional.
$-3.14159 \cdot\left(2^{4} \cdot 2^{-4}\right)=(-3.14159 .16) \cdot 2^{-4}=-50.26 \ldots \cdot 2^{-4}=-50 \cdot 2^{-4}$ $\left(-50_{10}\right) \cdot 2^{-4}=\left(\left(\sim 0011.0010_{2}\right)+1\right) \cdot 2^{-4}=11001110_{2} \cdot 2^{-4}=1100.1110_{2}$

### 7.3 Rounding and Truncation

Table 3-1: Truncation, rounding and bit-vector easy rounding: (complete empty fields):

| binary | bin rat. | dec. rat. | decimal | truncated |  | rounded |  | +0.12 truncated |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | bin | $=\mathrm{dec}$ | bin | $=\mathrm{dec}$ | bin | $=\mathrm{dec}$ |
| 01.001 | $01001 / 2^{3}$ | 09 / 8 | +1.125 | 01 | +1 | 01 | +1 | 01 | +1 |
| 01.011 | $01011 / 2^{3}$ | $11 / 8$ | +1.375 | 01 | +1 | 01 | +1 | 01 | +1 |
| 01.100 | $01100 / 2^{3}$ | 12/8 | +1.500 | 01 | +1 | 10 | +2 | 10 | +2 |
| 01.101 | $01101 / 2^{3}$ | $13 / 8$ | +1.625 | 01 | +1 | 10 | +2 | 10 | +2 |
| 01.111 | $01111 / 2^{3}$ | 15/8 | +1.875 | 01 | +1 | 10 | +2 | 10 | +2 |
| 10.111 | $10111 / 2^{3}$ | -09 / 8 | -1.125 | 10 | +2 | 11 | -1 | 11 | -1 |
| 10.101 | $10101 / 2^{3}$ | -11/8 | -1.375 | 10 | +2 | 01 | -1 | 11 | -1 |
| 10.100 | $10100 / 2^{3}$ | -12/8 | -1.500 | 10 | -2 | 10 | -2 | 11 | -1 |
| 10.011 | $10011 / 2^{3}$ | -13/8 | -1.6250 | 10 | -2 | -2 | -2 | 10 | -2 |
| 10.001 | $10001 / 2^{3}$ | -15/8 | -1.8750 | 10 | -2 | -2 | -2 | 10 | -2 |

Table 3-2: Truncation, rounding and bit-vector easy rounding: (complete empty fields):

| binary | decimal | decimal | rounded |  | $+\mathbf{0 . 1 _ { 2 }}$ truncated |  | iden- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | rational | fixed point | bin | =dec | bin | $=$ dec | tical |
| 001.0111111 | $+383 / 2^{8}$ | 1.49609375 | 001 | +1 | 001 | +1 | yes |
| 001.10000000 | $+384 / 2^{8}$ | 1.5 | 010 | +2 | 010 | +2 | yes |
| 001.10000001 | $+385 / 2^{8}$ | 1.50390625 | 010 | +2 | 010 | +2 | yes |
| 110.10000001 | $-384 / 2^{8}$ | -1.49609375 | 111 | -1 | 111 | -1 | yes |
| 110.10000000 | $-384 / 2^{8}$ | -1.5 | 110 | -2 | 111 | -1 | no |
| 110.01111111 | $+385 / 2^{8}$ | -1.50390625 | 110 | -2 | 110 | -2 | yes |

Correct: The difference between rounding and bit-vector easy rounding decreases with the number of fractional bits.

### 7.4 Exercise Based on Executable VHDL

## Solutions:

(24) SIGNAL product:std_logic_vector (cDataInWidth+cCoefWidth-1 DOWNTO 0);
(25) CONSTANT iPl:NATURAL:=cCoefFract+cDataInFract-cDataOutFract;
(26) CONSTANT iPh:NATURAL:=iPl+cDataOutWidth-1;
(31) DataOut $<=$ product(iPh DOWNTO iPl) + product(iPl-1);

## Verification of product and rounding by hand:

Factors:

```
DataIn = "01.01" , "01.00" AFTER 10 ns; -- = 1.5625 -> 1.25
coef = "01.01"; -- = 1.5
```

No rounding:

```
product = "0001.1001", "0001.0100" AFTER 10 ns; -- = 1.5625 -> 1.25
DataOut = "01.100" , " 01.010" AFTER 10 ns; -- = 1.5 -> 1.25
```

With bit-vector easy rounding:

```
product = "0001.1001", "0001.0100" AFTER 10 ns; -- = 1.5625 -> 1.25
DataOut = "01.101" , " 01.010" AFTER 10 ns; -- = 1.625 -> 1.25
```

