

Denormal Numbers

★
$$x = (-1)^S \times (1 + \text{Fraction}) \times 2^{(\text{Exponent} - \text{Bias})}$$

- Exponent = 000...0 \Rightarrow hidden bit is 0

$$x = (-1)^S \times (0 + \text{Fraction}) \times 2^{-\text{Bias}}$$

- Smaller than normal numbers
 - allow for gradual underflow, with diminishing precision

- Denormal with fraction = 000...0

$$x = (-1)^S \times (0 + 0) \times 2^{-\text{Bias}} = \pm 0.0$$

Two representations of 0.0!

Infinities and NaNs

- Exponent = 111...1, Fraction = 000...0
 - \pm Infinity
 - Can be used in subsequent calculations, avoiding need for overflow check
- Exponent = 111...1, Fraction \neq 000...0
 - Not-a-Number (NaN)
 - Indicates illegal or undefined result
 - e.g., 0.0 / 0.0
 - Can be used in subsequent calculations



Single precision		Double precision		Object represented
Exponent	Fraction	Exponent	Fraction	
0	0	0	0	0
0	Nonzero	0	Nonzero	\pm denormalized number
1–254	Anything	1–2046	Anything	\pm floating-point number
255	0	2047	0	\pm infinity
255	Nonzero	2047	Nonzero	NaN (Not a Number)