The sum of two binary numbers is calculated by the same rules as in decimal, except that the digits of the sum in any significant position can be only 0 or 1. Any carry obtained in a given significant position is used by the pair of digits one significant position higher. Subtraction is slightly more complicated. The rules are still the same as in decimal, except that the borrow in a given significant position adds 2 to a minuend digit. (A borrow in the decimal system adds 10 to a minuend digit.) Multiplication is simple: The multiplier digits are always 1 or 0; therefore, the partial products are equal either to a shifted (left) copy of the multiplicand or to 0.

1.3 NUMBER-BASE CONVERSIONS

Representations of a number in a different radix are said to be equivalent if they have the same decimal representation. For example, $(0011)_8$ and $(1001)_2$ are equivalent—both have decimal value 9. The conversion of a number in base r to decimal is done by expanding the number in a power series and adding all the terms as shown previously. We now present a general procedure for the reverse operation of converting a decimal number to a number in base r. If the number includes a radix point, it is necessary to separate the number into an integer part and a fraction part, since each part must be converted differently. The conversion of a decimal integer to a number in base r is done by dividing the number and all successive quotients by r and accumulating the remainders. This procedure is best illustrated by example.

EXAMPLE 1.1

Convert decimal 41 to binary. First, 41 is divided by 2 to give an integer quotient of 20 and a remainder of $\frac{1}{2}$. Then the quotient is again divided by 2 to give a new quotient and remainder. The process is continued until the integer quotient becomes 0. The *coefficients* of the desired binary number are obtained from the *remainders* as follows:

	Integer Quotient		Remainder	Coefficient
$41/2 =$	20	+	$\frac{1}{2}$	$a_0 = 1$
$20/2 =$	10	+	0	$a_1 = 0$
$10/2 =$	5	+	0	$a_2 = 0$
$5/2 =$	2	+	$\frac{1}{2}$	$a_3 = 1$
$2/2 =$	1	+	0	$a_4 = 0$
$1/2 =$	0	+	$\frac{1}{2}$	$a_5 = 1$

Therefore, the answer is $(41)_{10} = (a_5a_4a_3a_2a_1a_0)_2 = (101001)_2$.

The arithmetic process can be manipulated more conveniently as follows:

Integer	Remainder	
41		
20	1	
10	0	
5	0	
2	1	
1	0	
0	1	101001 = answer

Conversion from decimal integers to any base-*r* system is similar to this example, except that division is done by *r* instead of 2.

EXAMPLE 1.2

Convert decimal 153 to octal. The required base *r* is 8. First, 153 is divided by 8 to give an integer quotient of 19 and a remainder of 1. Then 19 is divided by 8 to give an integer quotient of 2 and a remainder of 3. Finally, 2 is divided by 8 to give a quotient of 0 and a remainder of 2. This process can be conveniently manipulated as follows:

153	
19	1
2	3
0	2 = $(231)_8$

The conversion of a decimal *fraction* to binary is accomplished by a method similar to that used for integers. However, multiplication is used instead of division, and integers instead of remainders are accumulated. Again, the method is best explained by example.

EXAMPLE 1.3

Convert $(0.6875)_{10}$ to binary. First, 0.6875 is multiplied by 2 to give an integer and a fraction. Then the new fraction is multiplied by 2 to give a new integer and a new fraction. The process is continued until the fraction becomes 0 or until the number of digits has sufficient accuracy. The coefficients of the binary number are obtained from the integers as follows:

	Integer		Fraction	Coefficient
$0.6875 \times 2 =$	1	+	0.3750	$a_{-1} = 1$
$0.3750 \times 2 =$	0	+	0.7500	$a_{-2} = 0$
$0.7500 \times 2 =$	1	+	0.5000	$a_{-3} = 1$
$0.5000 \times 2 =$	1	+	0.0000	$a_{-4} = 1$

Therefore, the answer is $(0.6875)_{10} = (0.\ a_{-1}\ a_{-2}\ a_{-3}\ a_{-4})_2 = (0.1011)_2$.

To convert a decimal fraction to a number expressed in base *r*, a similar procedure is used. However, multiplication is by *r* instead of 2, and the coefficients found from the integers may range in value from 0 to $r - 1$ instead of 0 and 1.

■

EXAMPLE 1.4

Convert $(0.513)_{10}$ to octal.

$$0.513 \times 8 = 4.104$$
$$0.104 \times 8 = 0.832$$
$$0.832 \times 8 = 6.656$$
$$0.656 \times 8 = 5.248$$
$$0.248 \times 8 = 1.984$$
$$0.984 \times 8 = 7.872$$

The answer, to seven significant figures, is obtained from the integer part of the products:

$$(0.513)_{10} = (0.406517\ldots)_8$$

The conversion of decimal numbers with both integer and fraction parts is done by converting the integer and the fraction separately and then combining the two answers. Using the results of Examples 1.1 and 1.3, we obtain

$$(41.6875)_{10} = (101001.1011)_2$$

From Examples 1.2 and 1.4, we have

$$(153.513)_{10} = (231.406517)_8$$

■

1.4 OCTAL AND HEXADECIMAL NUMBERS

The conversion from and to binary, octal, and hexadecimal plays an important role in digital computers, because shorter patterns of hex characters are easier to recognize than long patterns of 1's and 0's. Since $2^3 = 8$ and $2^4 = 16$, each octal digit corresponds to three binary digits and each hexadecimal digit corresponds to four binary digits. The first 16 numbers in the decimal, binary, octal, and hexadecimal number systems are listed in Table 1.2.

The conversion from binary to octal is easily accomplished by partitioning the binary number into groups of three digits each, starting from the binary point and proceeding to the left and to the right. The corresponding octal digit is then assigned to each group. The following example illustrates the procedure:

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccc} (10 & 110 & 001 & 101 & 011 & \cdot & 111 & 100 & 000 & 110)_2 = (26153.7406)_8 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 & 5 & 3 & & 7 & 4 & 0 & 6 \end{array}$$