- This gives rise to the *normalised fraction* $0.5 \leq f \leq 1.0$

  e.g.
      $.10000000_2$ 1/512 absolute error (.0019) : 0.4%
      $.11111111_2$ 1/512 absolute error: 0.2%

2.10.3   Exponent

The convention is to use the Excess-K notation.

- To explain this further it is appropriate to use one of the VAX formats.

2.11   The VAX formats

The Alpha supports amongst its various data representations, the vax floating point formats. These are designated;

- F (Floating, Single precision, 32 bits, 2 words, 4 bytes)

- D (Double precision, 64 bits, 4 words)

- G (Grand 64 bits)

- H (Huge 128 bits 8 words, quadruple precision)

(The sign appears on the 16-bit word boundary which is an historic artifact reflecting the days of the PDP-11).