

# Integers I

## CS 105: Computer Systems Lecture 02

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## Lecture 02 Learning Goals

- Understand the difference between the encodings of unsigned and signed integers
- Compute the minimum and maximum values for unsigned and signed `ints` for a given # of bits (word size)
- Explain unsigned and signed (two's complement) encoding of `ints`
- Reason about the impact of casting between signed and unsigned `ints`

## Nonnegative (unsigned) Integer Addition (teaser)

- Example: adding two integers, word size = 4 bits

```
  1011
+ 0011
-----
```

- Important: must constrain result to 4 bits!
  - More on the potential *overflow* later...

## Representing Negative Integers

- We know with  $w$  bits, we can create  $2^w$  distinct bit vectors
  - Encoding integers that can only be nonnegative  $\rightarrow$  yields range  $0 - 2^w - 1$
  - What might be some good properties for how we encode integers using  $w$  bits that can have *both* negative and nonnegative values?

## Negative Integers – Attempt

- Idea: use one bit to indicate the *sign* of the number
  - Other bits are the *magnitude* of the number
- Example: 4 bits, sign bit=1 for negative, 0 for nonnegative

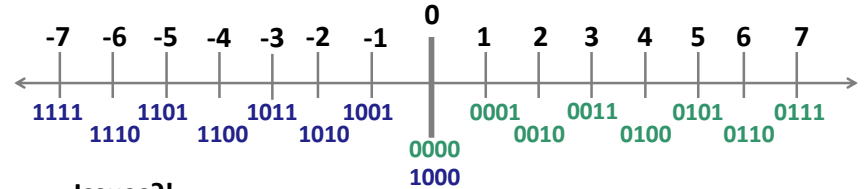
6 = 0 1 1 0  
 -3 = 1 0 1 1

Sign bit      Magnitude bits

Can tell if a number is negative or not just using sign bit!

## Negative Integers – Attempt (contd)

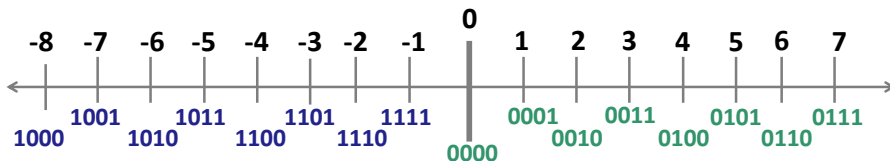
- Example: 4 bits, sign bit=1 for negative, 0 for nonnegative
  - Numeric range: -7 to 7



- Issues?!

## Two's complement encoding

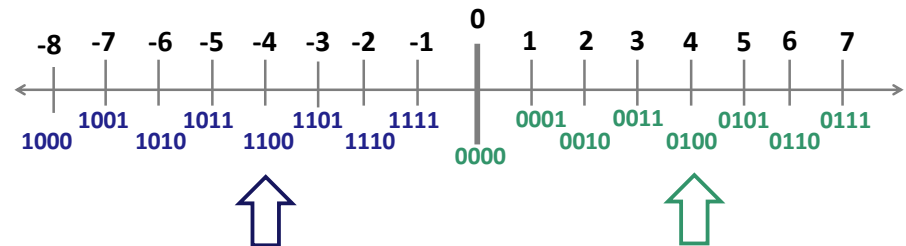
- Two's complement
  - Used by systems to represent signed integers
  - Most significant bit still represents sign bit



- Idea: have bit patterns for 0 and 1, what makes sense for -1?
  - \_\_\_\_\_ + 0001 = 0000
- Etc.,
  - \_\_\_\_\_ + 0010 = 0000

## Two's complement: negating numbers

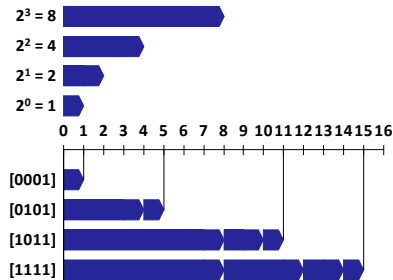
- Subtract: Just subtraction from zero with wrap-around
  - $-x == 0 - x$
- Alternatively:



## Encoding Integers: Unsigned

$$B2U(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{w-1} x_i \cdot 2^i$$

- Each bit contributes its own “weight” to the sum
  - E.g., with  $w=4$



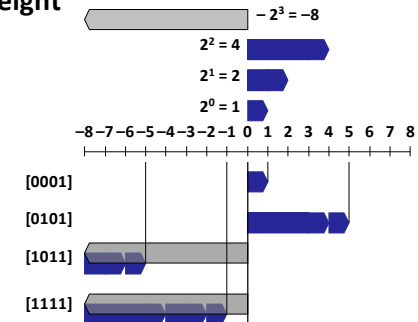
Adapted from Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

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## Encoding Integers: Signed

$$B2T(X) = -x_{w-1} \cdot 2^{w-1} + \sum_{i=0}^{w-2} x_i \cdot 2^i$$

- Sign Bit**
  - For 2's complement, most significant bit indicates sign
  - 0 for nonnegative, 1 for negative
- MSB has *negative* weight**
  - E.g.,  $w=4$



Adapted from Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

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## Exercise:

Compute the decimal value when the binary sequence is interpreted as an integer as unsigned vs. signed (using 3 bits)

Binary	Decimal value <i>unsigned</i>	Decimal value <i>signed</i>
000		
001		
010		
011		
100		
101		
110		
111		

Adapted from Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

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## Numeric Ranges for word size $w$

- Unsigned Values**
  - $UMax = 2^w - 1$
  - $UMin = 0$
- Two's Complement Values**
  - $TMax = 2^{w-1} - 1$
  - $TMin = -2^{w-1}$
- Observations**
  - $|TMin| = TMax + 1$ 
    - Asymmetric range
  - $UMax = 2 * TMax + 1$

### Examples for varying $w$

	W			
	8	16	32	64
UMax	255	65,535	4,294,967,295	18,446,744,073,709,551,615
TMax	127	32,767	2,147,483,647	9,223,372,036,854,775,807
TMin	-128	-32,768	-2,147,483,648	-9,223,372,036,854,775,808

Adapted from Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

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## Exercise

- What is the two's complement encoding for the following decimal numbers? Your answer should be in binary using 8 bits.
  - $42_{10}$
  - $-105_{10}$
- What is the decimal equivalent for the following two's complement integers? Your answer should be in decimal.
  - $1001\ 0101_2$
  - $0101\ 0010_2$
- Which of the following decimal numbers *cannot* be encoded in two's complement if the number of bits  $w$  is limited to 8?
  - 250
  - 128
  - 128

Adapted from Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

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## Mapping Signed $\leftrightarrow$ Unsigned

Example:  
 $w=4$  bits

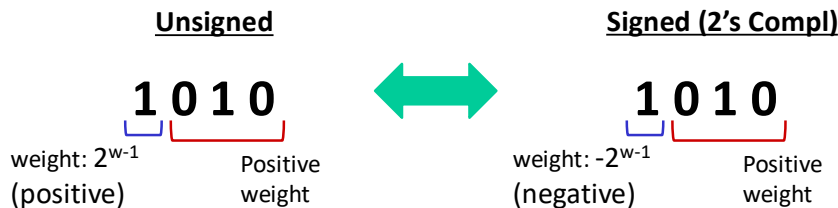
X	Signed: B2T(X)	Unsigned: B2U(X)	
0000	0	0	$UMin$
0001	1	1	
0010	2	2	
0011	3	3	
0100	4	4	
0101	5	5	
0110	6	6	
0111	7	7	$TMax$
1000	-8	8	$TMin$
1001	-7	9	
1010	-6	10	
1011	-5	11	
1100	-4	12	
1101	-3	13	
1110	-2	14	
1111	-1	15	$UMax$

Adapted from Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

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## Relation between Signed & Unsigned (Intuition)

- Intuition: suppose  $w=4$  bits, MSB is a 1



$$\text{Difference} = 2(2^{w-1}) = 2^w$$

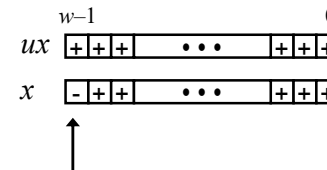
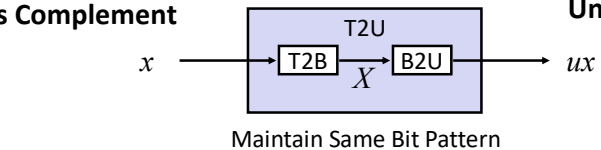
$$\text{For } w=4, \text{ difference} = 16$$

Adapted from Bryant and O'Hallaron, Computer Systems: A Programmer's Perspective, Third Edition

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## Relation between Signed & Unsigned

Two's Complement      Unsigned



Large negative weight  
becomes  
Large positive weight

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