

# Numerical Representations On The Computer: Negative And Rational Numbers

- How are negative and rational numbers represented on the computer?
- How are subtractions performed by the computer?

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## Subtraction

- In the real world  
A - B
- In the computer  
A - B

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## Subtraction

- In the real world

$$A - B$$

- In the computer

$$A - B$$

$$A + (-B)$$

**Not done this way!**

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## Binary Subtraction

- Requires the complementing of a binary number
  - i.e.,  $A - B$  becomes  $A + (-B)$
- The complementing can be performed by representing the negative number as a ones or twos complement value.

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## Complementing Binary Using The Ones Complement Representation

- For positive values there is no difference (no change is needed)
  - e.g., positive seven (The 'A' in the expression  $A - B$ )  
0111 (regular binary)  
**0111 (Ones complement equivalent)**
- For negative values complement the number by negating the binary values: reversing (flipping) the bits (i.e., a 0 becomes 1 and 1 becomes 0).
  - e.g., minus six (The 'B' in the expression  $A - B$  becomes  $A + (-B)$ )  
-0110 (regular binary)  
**1001 (Ones complement equivalent)**

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## Complementing Binary Using The Twos Complement Representation

- For positive values there is no difference (no change is needed)
  - e.g., positive seven (The 'A' in the expression  $A - B$ )  
0111 (regular binary)  
**0111 (Twos complement equivalent)**
- For negative values complement the number by negating the number: reversing (flipping) the bits (i.e., a 0 becomes 1 and 1 becomes 0) *and adding one to the result*.
  - e.g., minus six (The 'B' in the expression  $A - B$  becomes  $A + (-B)$ )  
-0110 (regular binary)  
**1010 (Twos complement equivalent)**

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## Interpreting The Bit Pattern: Complements

- Recall:
  - Positive values remain unchanged:
    - 0110 is the same value with all three representations.
  - Negative values are converted through complementing:
    - Ones complement: negate the bits  
-0110 becomes 1001
    - Twos complement: negate the bits and add one  
-0110 becomes 1010
- Problem: the sign must be retained (complements don't use a minus sign).
- Approach:
  - One bit (most significant bit/MSB or the signed bit) is used to indicate the sign of the number.
  - This bit cannot be used to represent the magnitude of the number
  - If the MSB equals 0, then the number is positive  
e.g. 0 bbb is a positive number (bbb stands for a binary number)
  - If the MSB equals 1, then the number is negative  
e.g. 1 bbb is a negative number (bbb stands for a binary number)

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## Summary Of The Three Binary Representations

|                 | Positive values are represented with:                                       | Negative values are represented with: |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Regular binary  | No explicit symbol is needed (rarely is a plus '+' used) e.g., 100 vs. +100 | A minus '-' sign e.g., -100           |
| Ones complement | The sign bit (MSB) is zero e.g., 011  | The sign bit (MSB) is one e.g., 100   |
| Twos complement | The sign bit (MSB) is zero e.g., 011  | The sign bit (MSB) is one e.g., 100   |

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## Interpreting The Bits: All Representations

| Bit pattern | Regular binary | Ones complement | Twos complement |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 0000        | 0              | 0               | 0               |
| 0001        | 1              | 1               | 1               |
| 0010        | 2              | 2               | 2               |
| 0011        | 3              | 3               | 3               |
| 0100        | 4              | 4               | 4               |
| 0101        | 5              | 5               | 5               |
| 0110        | 6              | 6               | 6               |
| 0111        | 7              | 7               | 7               |
| 1000        | 8              | -7              | -8              |
| 1001        | 9              | -6              | -7              |
| 1010        | 10             | -5              | -6              |
| 1011        | 11             | -4              | -5              |
| 1100        | 12             | -3              | -4              |
| 1101        | 13             | -2              | -3              |
| 1110        | 14             | -1              | -2              |
| 1111        | 15             | -0              | -1              |

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## What You Already Should Know

- How to convert from decimal to binary.
- How to convert from binary to decimal.

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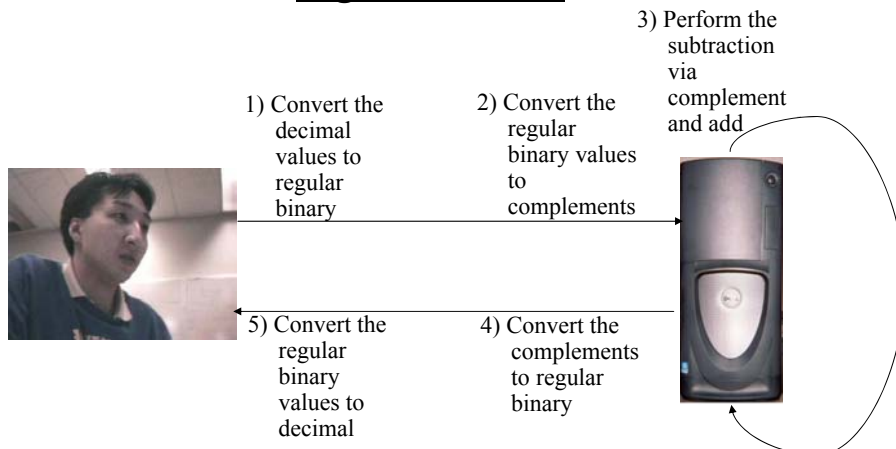
## What You Will Learn

- How to subtract numbers with the complement and add technique:

The operation  $A - B$  is performed as  $A + (-B)$

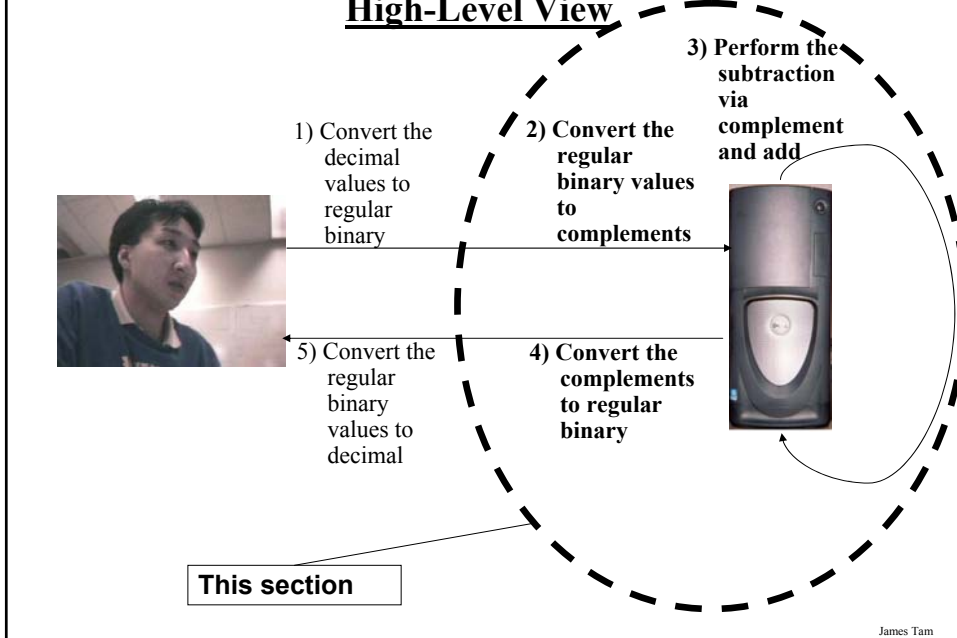
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## Binary Subtraction Via Complement And Add: A High-Level View

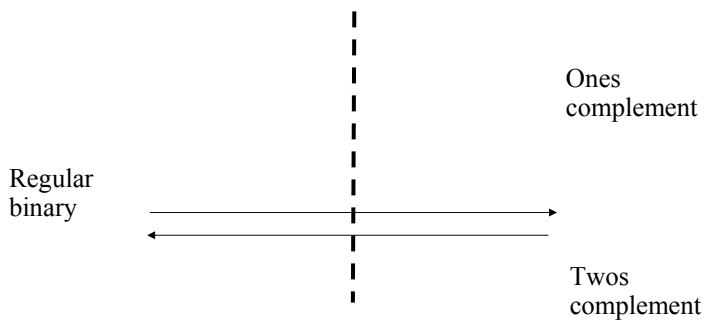


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## Binary Subtraction Via Complement And Add: A High-Level View



## Reminder: Crossing The Boundary Between Regular And Signed Binary



Each time that this boundary is crossed (steps 2 & 4 from the previous slide) apply the rule:

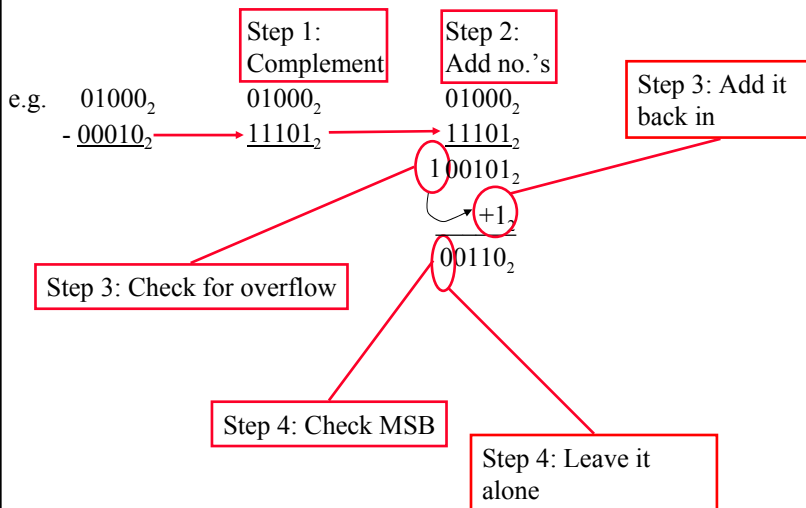
- 1) Positive numbers pass unchanged
- 2) Negative numbers must be converted (complemented)
  - a. One's complement: negate the negative number
  - b. Two's complement: negate and add one to the result

## Binary Subtraction Through Ones Complements

- 1) *Convert from regular binary to a 1's complement representation (check if it is preceded by a minus sign).*
  - a. If the number is not preceded by a minus sign, it's positive (leave it alone).
  - b. If the number is preceded by a minus sign, the number is negative (complement it by flipping the bits) and remove the minus sign.
- 2) Add the two binary numbers.
- 3) Check if there is overflow (a bit is carried out) and if so add it back.
- 4) *Convert the 1's complement value back to regular binary (check the value of the MSB).*
  - a. If the MSB = 0, the number is positive (leave it alone)
  - b. If the MSB = 1, the number is negative (complement it by flipping the bits) and precede the number with a minus sign

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## Binary Subtraction Through Ones Complements



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## Overflow: Regular Binary

- Occurs when you don't have enough bits to represent a value (wraps –around to zero)

| Binary (1 bit) | Value |
|----------------|-------|
| 0              | 0     |
| 1              | 1     |

0     0  
:     :

| Binary (2 bits) | Value |
|-----------------|-------|
| 00              | 0     |
| 01              | 1     |
| 10              | 2     |
| 11              | 3     |

00     0  
:     :

| Binary (3 bits) | Value |
|-----------------|-------|
| 000             | 0     |
| 001             | 1     |
| 010             | 2     |
| 011             | 3     |
| 100             | 4     |
| 101             | 5     |
| 110             | 6     |
| 111             | 7     |

000     0  
:     :

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## Overflow: Signed

- In all cases it occurs do to a “shortage of bits”
- Subtraction – subtracting two negative numbers results in a positive number.

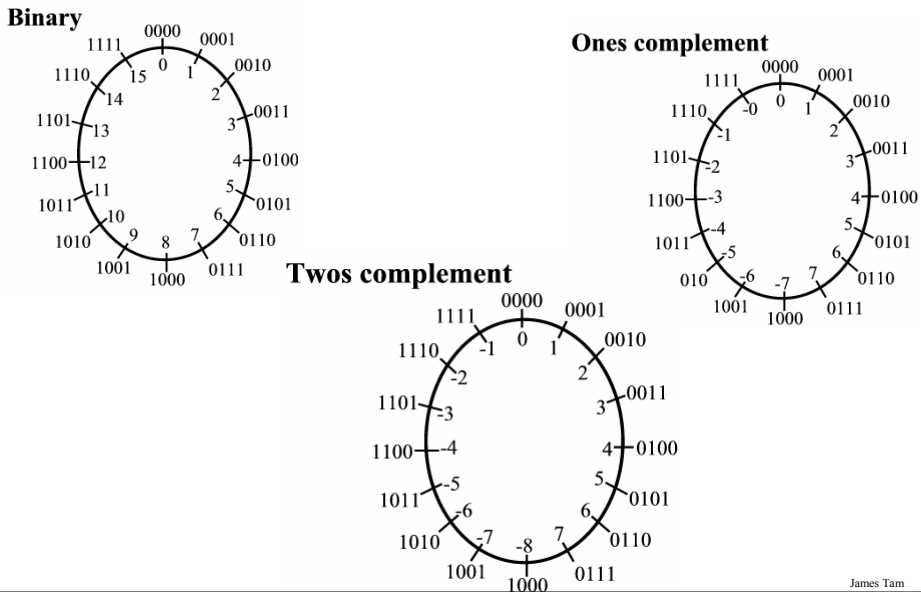
e.g. - 7  
- 1  
+ 7

- Addition – adding two positive numbers results in a negative number.

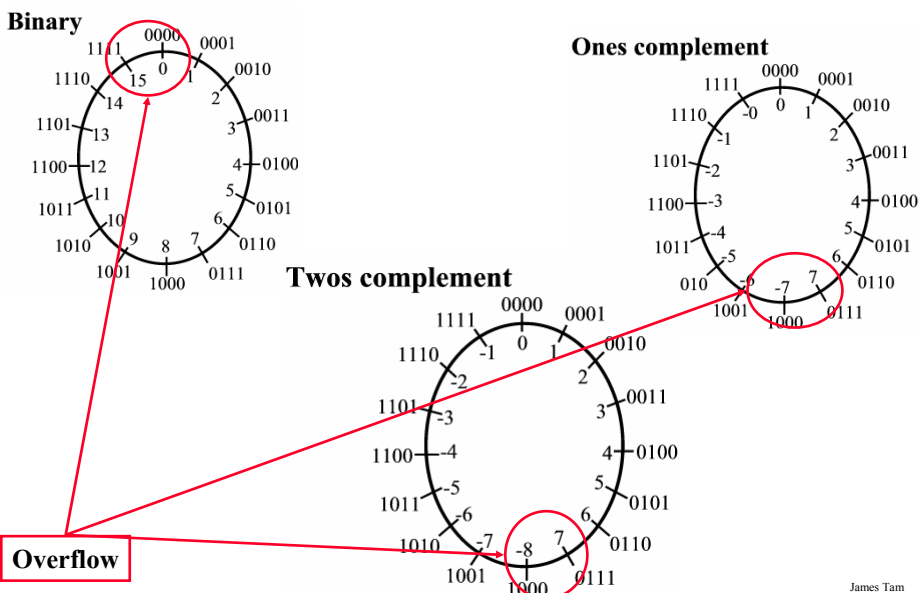
e.g. 7  
+ 1  
- 8

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## Summary Diagram Of The 3 Binary Representations



## Summary Diagram Of The 3 Binary Representations

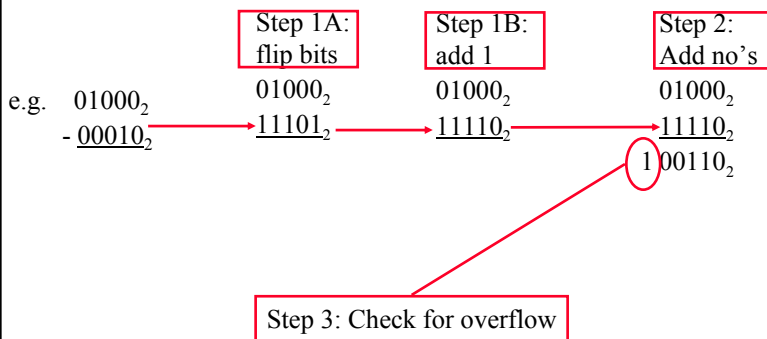


## Binary Subtraction Through Twos Complements

- 1) *Convert from regular binary to a 2's complement representation (check if it's preceded by a minus sign).*
  - a. If the number is not preceded by a minus sign, it's positive (leave it alone).
  - b. If the number is preceded by a minus sign, the number is negative (complement it and discard the minus sign).
    - i. Flip the bits.
    - ii. Add one to the result.
- 2) Add the two binary numbers.
- 3) Check if there is overflow (a bit is carried out) and if so discard it.
- 4) *Convert the 2's complement value back to regular binary (check the value of the MSB).*
  - a. If the MSB = 0, the number is positive (leave it alone).
  - b. If the MSB = 1, the number is negative (complement it and precede the number with a negative sign).
    - i. Flip the bits.
    - ii. Add one to the result.

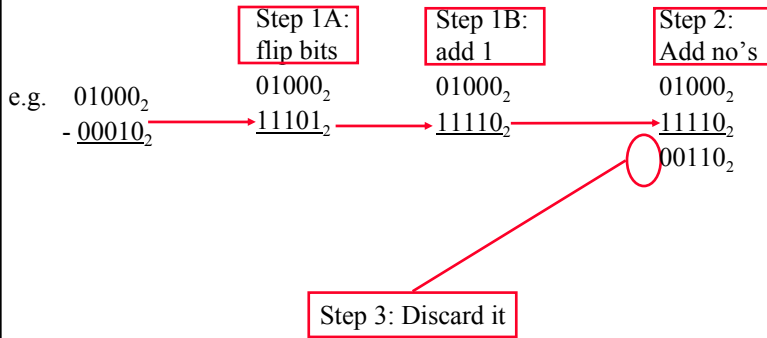
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## Binary Subtraction Through Twos Complements



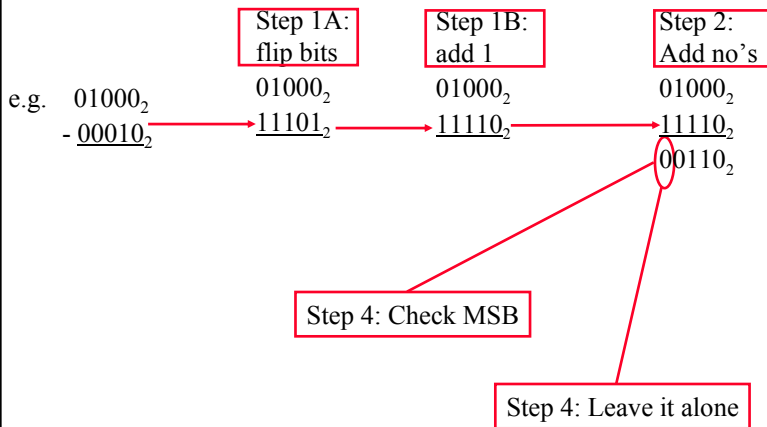
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## Binary Subtraction Through Twos Complements



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## Binary Subtraction Through Twos Complements



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## Representing Real Numbers Via Floating Point

- Numbers are represented through a sign bit, a mantissa and an exponent

Sign

Mantissa

Exponent

Examples with 5 digits used to represent the mantissa:

- e.g. One: 123.45 is represented as  $12345 * 10^{-2}$
  - e.g. Two: 0.12 is represented as  $12000 * 10^{-5}$
  - e.g. Three: 123456 is represented as  $12345 * 10^1$
- Using floating point numbers may result in a loss of accuracy!

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## You Should Now Know

- How negative numbers are represented using ones and twos complement representations.
- How to convert regular binary to values into their ones or twos complement equivalent.
- What is signed overflow and why does it occur.
- How to perform binary subtractions via the negate and add technique.
- How are real numbers represented through floating point representations

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