

# Bits, Bytes, and Integers

Computer Systems  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lecture, Sep 4 2018

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**Based on slides by:**

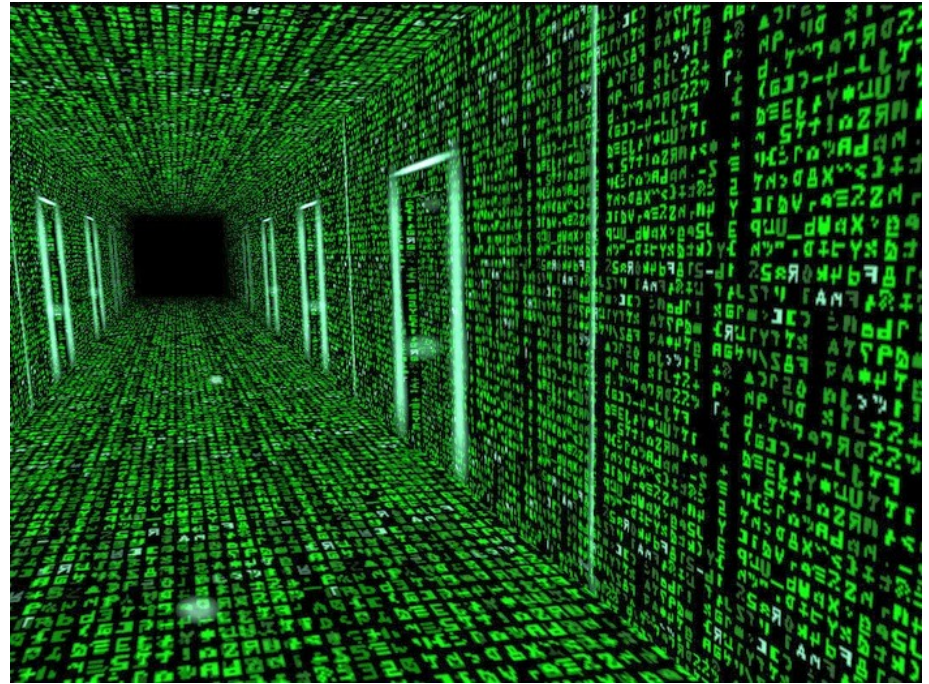
Randal E. Bryant and David R. O'Hallaron

# Today: Bits, Bytes, and Integers

- **Representing information as bits**
- Bit-level manipulations
- **Integers**
  - Representation: unsigned and signed
  - Conversion, casting
  - Expanding, truncating

# Everything is bits

- Each bit is 0 or 1
- By encoding/interpreting sets of bits in various ways
  - Computers determine what to do (instructions)
  - ... and represent and manipulate numbers, sets, strings, etc...
- Why bits? Why no decimals? Does there exist another possibility?

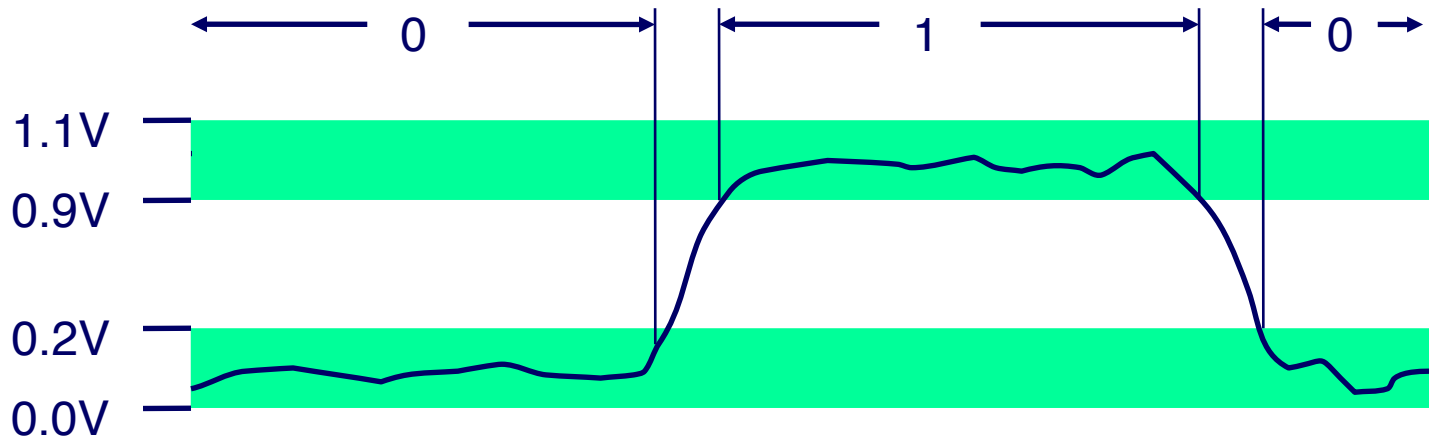


**5 minutes discussions!**

# Everything is bits

## ■ Why bits? Electronic Implementation

- Easy to store with bistable elements
- Reliably transmitted on noisy and inaccurate wires



## ... But there exist many models that are not

- E.g. Ternary (3-state) logic, analog computers, quantum computers

# For example, can count in binary

## ■ Base 2 Number Representation

- Represent  $15213_{10}$  as  $11101101101101_2$
- Represent  $1.20_{10}$  as  $1.0011001100110011[0011]..._2$
- Represent  $1.5213 \times 10^4$  as  $1.1101101101101_2 \times 2^{13}$

Integer

Bit	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
Weight	128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1

$$64+16+8+2+1=91$$

Rational

Bit	0	1	0	1	.	1	0	1	1
Weight	8	4	2	1		1/2	1/4	1/8	1/16

$$4+1+1/2+1/8+1/16=5.6875$$

# Encoding Byte Values

## ■ Byte = 8 bits

- Binary  $00000000_2$  to  $11111111_2$
- Decimal:  $0_{10}$  to  $255_{10}$
- Hexadecimal  $00_{16}$  to  $FF_{16}$ 
  - Base 16 number representation
  - Use characters '0' to '9' and 'A' to 'F'
  - Write  $FA1D37B_{16}$  in C as
    - `0xFA1D37B`
    - `0xfa1d37b`
  - *Hexadecimal* is odd as it's a mix of Latin and Greek terms – Knuth said the right term is *senidenary*.

Hex	Decimal	Binary
0	0	0000
1	1	0001
2	2	0010
3	3	0011
4	4	0100
5	5	0101
6	6	0110
7	7	0111
8	8	1000
9	9	1001
A	10	1010
B	11	1011
C	12	1100
D	13	1101
E	14	1110
F	15	1111

# Let's play a game

- <http://bit.ly/integer-representation>

# Example Data Representations

C Data Type	Typical 32-bit	Typical 64-bit	x86-64
<code>char</code>	"1"	"1"	"1"
<code>short</code>	"2"	"2"	"2"
<code>int</code>	"4"	"4"	"4"
<code>long</code>	"4"	"8"	"8"
<code>int32_t</code>	4	4	4
<code>int64_t</code>	8	8	8
<code>float</code>	4	4	4
<code>double</code>	8	8	8
<code>long double</code>	–	–	10/12/16
<code>pointer</code>	4	8	8



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# Boolean Algebra

## ■ Developed by George Boole in 19th Century

- Algebraic representation of logic
  - Encode “True” as 1 and “False” as 0

And

- $A \& B = 1$  when both  $A=1$  and  $B=1$

$\&$	0	1
0	0	0
1	0	1

Or

- $A | B = 1$  when either  $A=1$  or  $B=1$

$ $	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1

Not

- $\sim A = 1$  when  $A=0$

$\sim$	
0	1
1	0

Exclusive-Or (Xor)

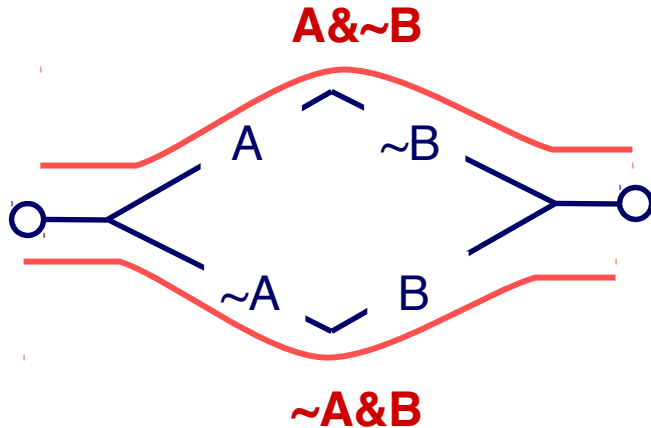
- $A \wedge B = 1$  when either  $A=1$  or  $B=1$ , but not both

$\wedge$	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	0

# Application of Boolean Algebra

## ■ Applied to Digital Systems by Claude Shannon

- 1937 MIT Master's Thesis
- Reason about networks of relay switches
  - Encode closed switch as 1, open switch as 0



Connection when

$$A \& \sim B \vee \sim A \& B$$

$$= A \wedge B$$

# General Boolean Algebras

- Operate on Bit Vectors

- Operations applied bitwise

01101001	01101001	01101001	
& 01010101	01010101	^ 01010101	~ 01010101
01000001	01111101	00111100	10101010

- All of the Properties of Boolean Algebra Apply

# Example: Representing & Manipulating Sets

## ■ Representation

- Width  $w$  bit vector represents subsets of  $\{0, \dots, w-1\}$
- $a_j = 1$  if  $j \in A$ 
  - 01101001     $\{0, 3, 5, 6\}$ 
    - 76543210
  - 01010101     $\{0, 2, 4, 6\}$ 
    - 76543210

## ■ Operations

- &    Intersection    01000001     $\{0, 6\}$
- |    Union    01111101     $\{0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
- ^    Symmetric difference    00111100     $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$
- ~    Complement    10101010     $\{1, 3, 5, 7\}$

# Bit-Level Operations in C

## ■ Operations $\&$ , $|$ , $\sim$ , $\wedge$ Available in C

- Apply to any “integral” data type
  - long, int, short, char, etc
- View arguments as bit vectors
- Arguments applied bit-wise

## ■ Examples (char data type)

- $\sim 0x41 \rightarrow 0xBE$ 
  - $\sim 01000001_2 \rightarrow 10111110_2$
- $\sim 0x00 \rightarrow 0xFF$ 
  - $\sim 00000000_2 \rightarrow 11111111_2$
- $0x69 \& 0x55 \rightarrow 0x41$ 
  - $01101001_2 \& 01010101_2 \rightarrow 01000001_2$
- $0x69 | 0x55 \rightarrow 0x7D$ 
  - $01101001_2 | 01010101_2 \rightarrow 01111101_2$

# Contrast: Logic Operations in C

## ■ Contrast to Logical Operators

- `&&`, `||`, `!`
  - View 0 as “False”
  - Anything nonzero as “True”
  - Always return 0 or 1
  - **Early termination**

## ■ Examples (char data type)

- `!0x41 → 0x00`
- `!0x00 → 0x01`
- `!!0x41 → 0x01`
  
- `0x69 && 0x55 → 0x01`
- `0x69 || 0x55 → 0x01`
- `i < n && a[i]` (avoids out of bounds)

# Contrast: Logic Operations in C

## ■ Contrast to Logical Operators

- `&&`, `||`, `!`
  - View 0 as “False”
  - Anything non-zero is “True”
  - Always returns 0 or 1
  - **Early evaluation**

## ■ Example

- `!0x41`
- `!0x00`
- `!!0x41`

- `0x69 && 0x55 → 0x01`
- `0x69 || 0x55 → 0x01`
- `p && *p` (avoids null pointer access)

**Watch out for `&&` vs. `&` (and `||` vs. `|`)...  
one of the more common oopsies in  
C programming**



# Shift Operations

- **Left Shift:  $x \ll y$** 
  - Shift bit-vector  $x$  left  $y$  positions
    - Throw away extra bits on left
    - Fill with 0's on right
- **Right Shift:  $x \gg y$** 
  - Shift bit-vector  $x$  right  $y$  positions
    - Throw away extra bits on right
  - Logical shift
    - Fill with 0's on left
  - Arithmetic shift
    - Replicate most significant bit on left
- **Undefined Behavior**
  - Shift amount  $< 0$  or  $\geq$  word size

<b>Argument</b> $x$	01100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
<b>Log.</b> $\gg 2$	00011000
<b>Arith.</b> $\gg 2$	00011000

<b>Argument</b> $x$	10100010
$\ll 3$	00010000
<b>Log.</b> $\gg 2$	00101000
<b>Arith.</b> $\gg 2$	11101000

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# Encoding Integers

## Unsigned

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

## Two's Complement

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

```
short int x = 15213;  
short int y = -15213;
```

Sign  
Bit



### ■ C `int16_t` 2 bytes long

	Decimal	Hex	Binary
<b>x</b>	15213	3B 6D	00111011 01101101
<b>y</b>	-15213	C4 93	11000100 10010011

### ■ Sign Bit

- For 2's complement, most significant bit indicates sign
  - 0 for nonnegative
  - 1 for negative

# Two-complement Encoding Example (Cont.)

**x =**            15213: 00111011 01101101  
**y =**            -15213: 11000100 10010011

Weight	15213		-15213	
1	1	1	1	1
2	0	0	1	2
4	1	4	0	0
8	1	8	0	0
16	0	0	1	16
32	1	32	0	0
64	1	64	0	0
128	0	0	1	128
256	1	256	0	0
512	1	512	0	0
1024	0	0	1	1024
2048	1	2048	0	0
4096	1	4096	0	0
8192	1	8192	0	0
16384	0	0	1	16384
-32768	0	0	1	-32768
<b>Sum</b>	<b>15213</b>		<b>-15213</b>	

# Numeric Ranges

## ■ Unsigned Values

- $UMin$  = 0  
000...0
- $UMax$  =  $2^w - 1$   
111...1

## ■ Two's Complement Values

- $TMin$  =  $-2^{w-1}$   
100...0
- $TMax$  =  $2^{w-1} - 1$   
011...1

## ■ Other Values

- Minus 1  
111...1

Values for  $W = 16$  (`int16_t` and `uint16_t`)

	Decimal	Hex	Binary
<b>UMax</b>	<b>65535</b>	<b>FF FF</b>	<b>11111111 11111111</b>
<b>TMax</b>	<b>32767</b>	<b>7F FF</b>	<b>01111111 11111111</b>
<b>TMin</b>	<b>-32768</b>	<b>80 00</b>	<b>10000000 00000000</b>
<b>-1</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>FF FF</b>	<b>11111111 11111111</b>
<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>00 00</b>	<b>00000000 00000000</b>

# Values for Different Word Sizes

	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

## ■ Observations

- $|TMin| = TMax + 1$ 
  - Asymmetric range
- $UMax = 2 * TMax + 1$

## ■ C Programming

- `#include <limits.h>`
- Declares constants, e.g.,
  - `ULONG_MAX`
  - `LONG_MAX`
  - `LONG_MIN`
- Values platform specific

# Unsigned & Signed Numeric Values

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

## ■ Equivalence

- Same encodings for nonnegative values

## ■ Uniqueness

- Every bit pattern represents unique integer value
- Each representable integer has unique bit encoding

## ■ ⇒ Can Invert Mappings

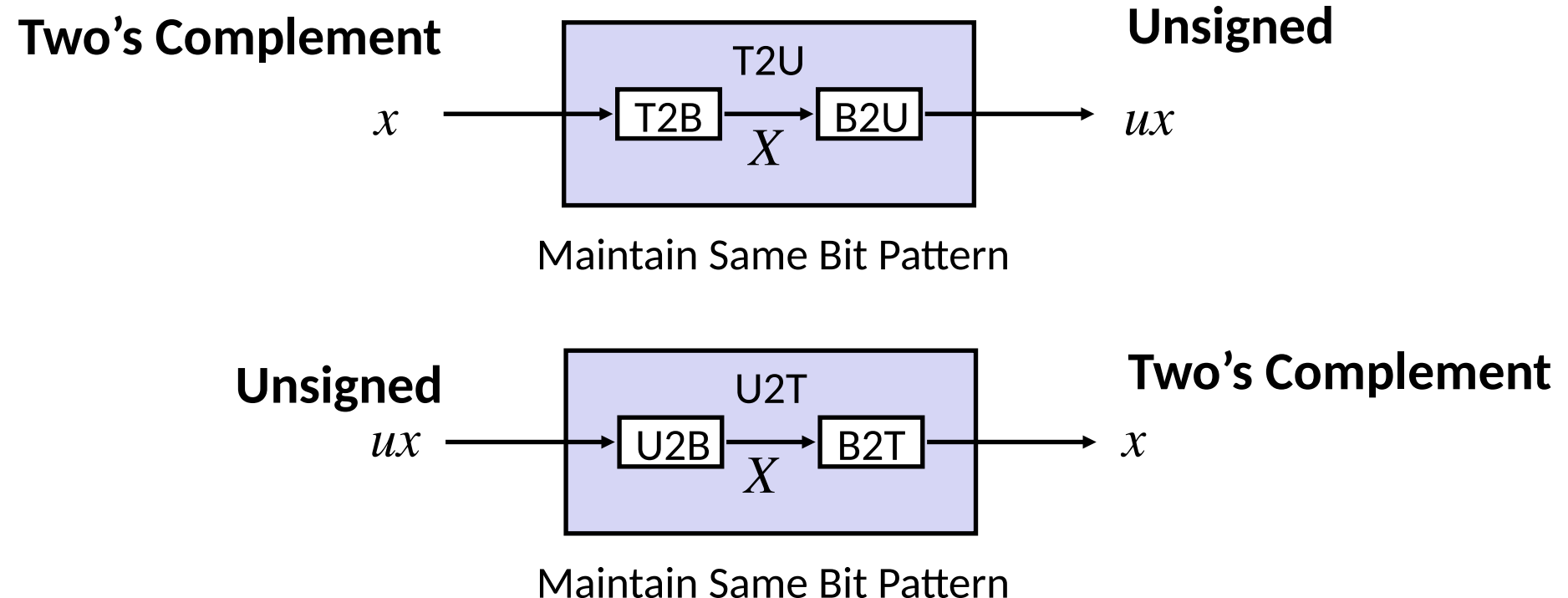
- $U2B(x) = B2U^{-1}(x)$ 
  - Bit pattern for unsigned integer
- $T2B(x) = B2T^{-1}(x)$ 
  - Bit pattern for two's comp integer

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- **Integers**
  - Representation: unsigned and signed
  - **Conversion, casting**
  - Expanding, truncating
  - Addition, negation, multiplication, shifting
  - Summary

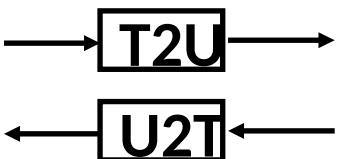


# Mapping Between Signed & Unsigned



- Mappings between unsigned and two's complement numbers:  
**Keep bit representations and reinterpret**

# Mapping Signed $\leftrightarrow$ Unsigned

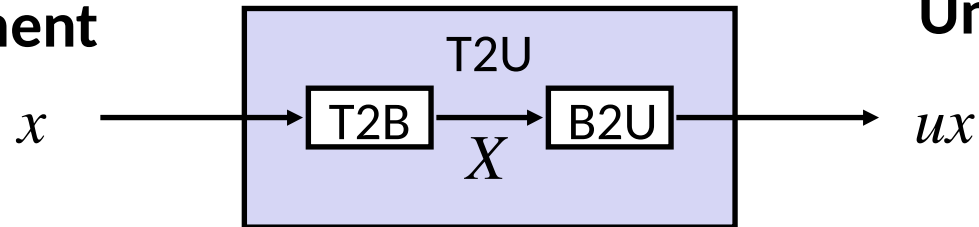
Bits	Signed		Unsigned
0000	0		0
0001	1		1
0010	2		2
0011	3		3
0100	4		4
0101	5		5
0110	6		6
0111	7		7
1000	-8		8
1001	-7		9
1010	-6		10
1011	-5		11
1100	-4		12
1101	-3		13
1110	-2		14
1111	-1		15

# Mapping Signed $\leftrightarrow$ Unsigned

Bits	Signed		Unsigned
0000	0	$\longleftrightarrow$ =	0
0001	1		1
0010	2		2
0011	3		3
0100	4		4
0101	5		5
0110	6		6
0111	7		7
1000	-8	$\longleftrightarrow$ +/- 16	8
1001	-7		9
1010	-6		10
1011	-5		11
1100	-4		12
1101	-3		13
1110	-2		14
1111	-1		15

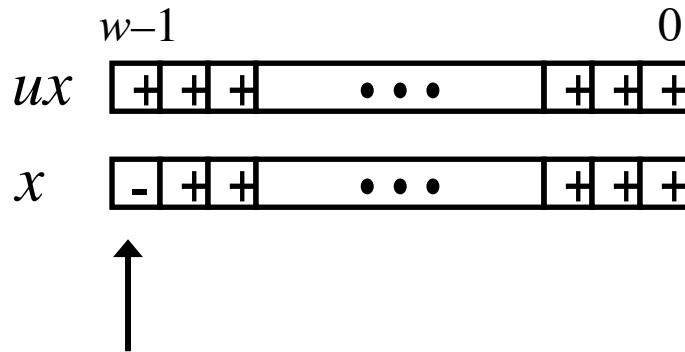
# Relation between Signed & Unsigned

Two's Complement



Unsigned

Maintain Same Bit Pattern



Large negative weight

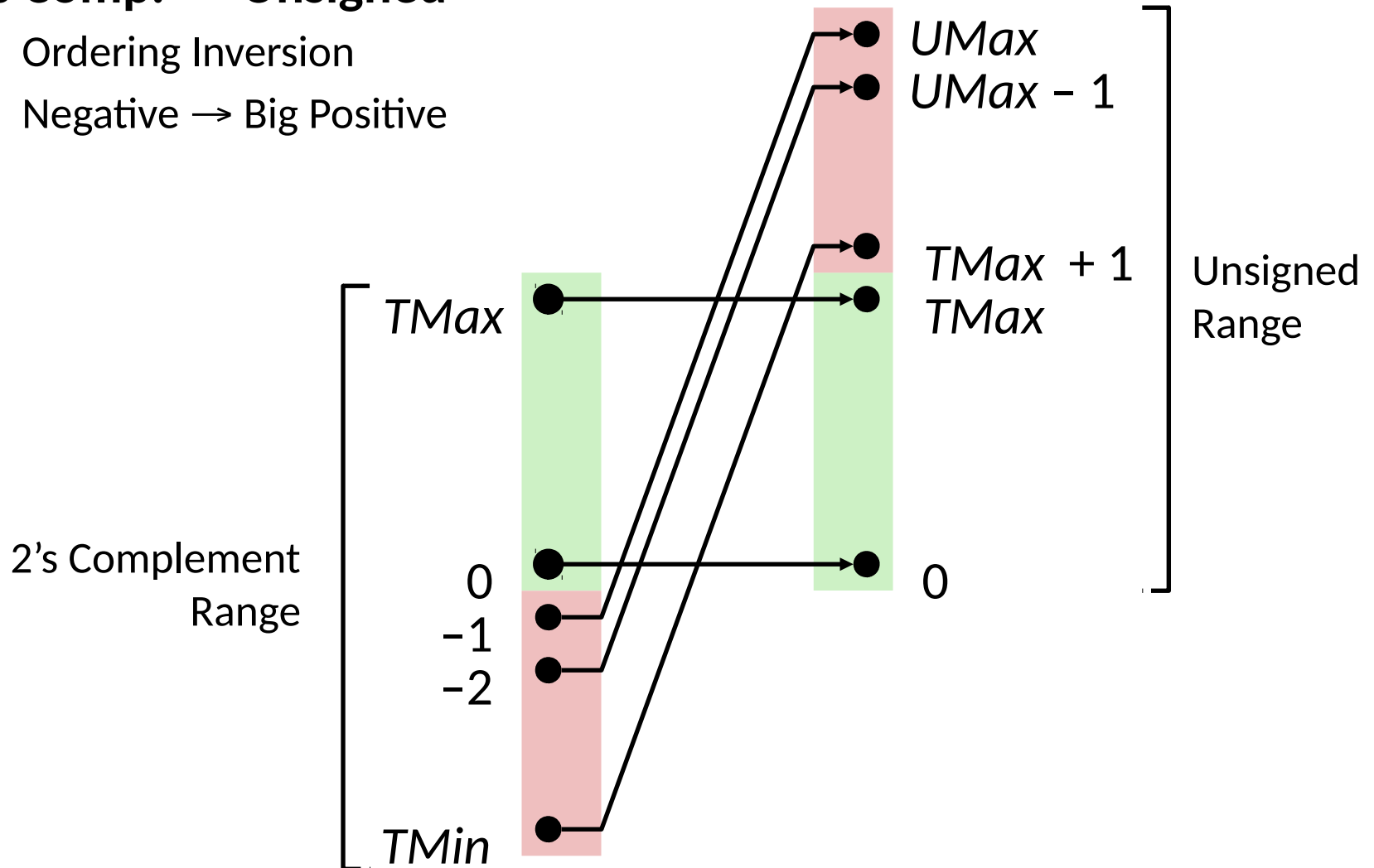
*becomes*

Large positive weight

# Conversion Visualized

## ■ 2's Comp. → Unsigned

- Ordering Inversion
- Negative → Big Positive



# Signed vs. Unsigned in C

## ■ Constants

- By default are considered to be signed integers
- Unsigned if have “U” as suffix

`0U, 4294967259U`

## ■ Casting

- Explicit casting between signed & unsigned same as U2T and T2U

```
int tx, ty;  
unsigned int ux, uy;  
tx = (int) ux;  
uy = (unsigned) ty;
```

- Implicit casting also occurs via assignments and procedure calls

```
tx = ux;  
uy = ty;
```

# Casting Surprises

## ■ Expression Evaluation

- If there is a mix of unsigned and signed in single expression,  
*signed values implicitly cast to unsigned*
- Including comparison operations <, >, ==, <=, >=
- Examples for W = 32: **TMIN = -2,147,483,648** , **TMAX = 2,147,483,647**

■ Constant <sub>1</sub>	Constant <sub>2</sub>	Relation	Evaluation
0	0U	==	unsigned
-1	0	<	signed
-1	0U	>	unsigned
2147483647	-2147483647-1	>	signed
2147483647U	-2147483647-1	<	unsigned
-1	-2	>	signed
(unsigned)-1	2	>	unsigned
2147483647	2147483648U	<	unsigned
2147483647	(int) 2147483648U	>	signed

# Summary

## Casting Signed $\leftrightarrow$ Unsigned: Basic Rules

- Bit pattern is maintained
- But reinterpreted
- Can have unexpected effects: adding or subtracting  $2^w$
- Expression containing signed and unsigned int
  - `int` is cast to `unsigned`!!



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  - **Expanding, truncating**
  - Summary

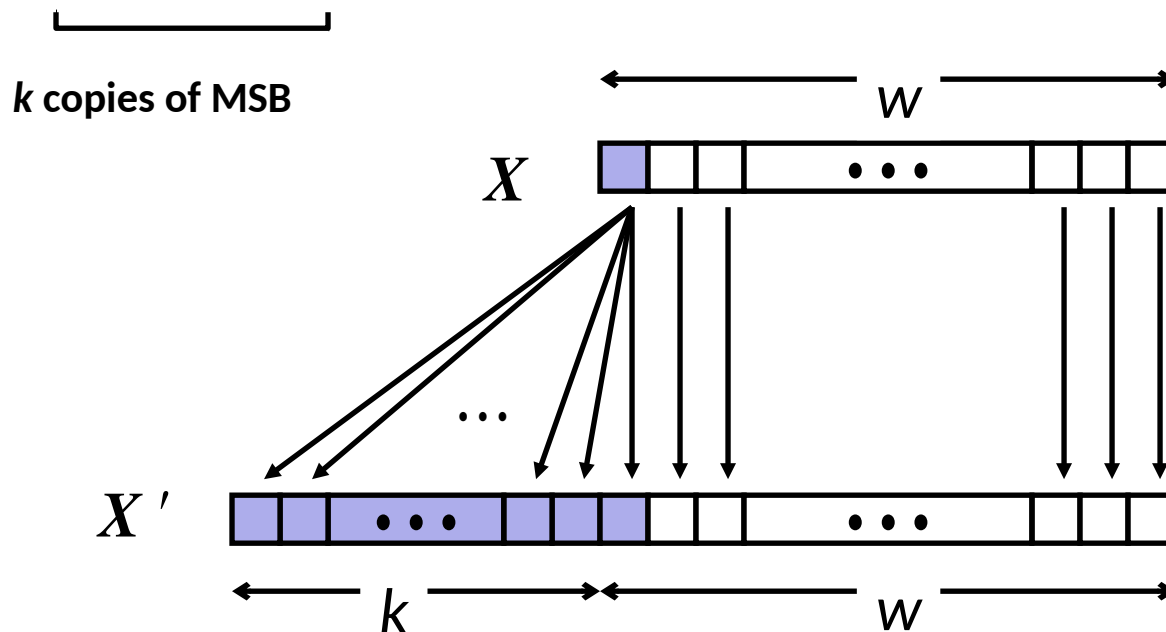
# Sign Extension

## ■ Task:

- Given  $w$ -bit signed integer  $x$
- Convert it to  $w+k$ -bit integer with same value

## ■ Rule:

- Make  $k$  copies of sign bit:
- $X' = \underbrace{x_{w-1}, \dots, x_{w-1}}_{k \text{ copies of MSB}}, x_{w-1}, x_{w-2}, \dots, x_0$



# Sign Extension Example

```
int16_t x = 15213;  
int32_t ix = (int32_t) x;  
int16_t y = -15213;  
int32_t iy = (int32_t) y;
```

	Decimal	Hex	Binary
<b>x</b>	15213	3B 6D	00111011 01101101
<b>ix</b>	15213	00 00 3B 6D	00000000 00000000 00111011 01101101
<b>y</b>	-15213	C4 93	11000100 10010011
<b>iy</b>	-15213	FF FF C4 93	11111111 11111111 11000100 10010011

- Converting from smaller to larger integer data type
- C automatically performs sign extension

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# Summary:

## Expanding, Truncating: Basic Rules

- **Expanding (e.g., short int to int)**
  - Unsigned: zeros added
  - Signed: sign extension
  - Both yield expected result
- **Truncating (e.g., unsigned to unsigned short)**
  - Unsigned/signed: bits are truncated
  - Result reinterpreted
  - Unsigned: mod operation
  - Signed: similar to mod
  - For small numbers yields expected behavior

# Integer C Puzzles

# Initialization

```
int x = foo();
int y = bar();
unsigned ux = x;
unsigned uy = y;
```

- `x < 0` `==? ((x*2) < 0)`
- `ux >= 0`
- `x & 7 == 7` `==? (x<<30) < 0`
- `ux > -1`
- `x > y` `==? -x < -y`
- `x * x >= 0`
- `x > 0 && y > 0` `==? x + y > 0`
- `X >= 0` `==? -x <= 0`
- `X <= 0` `==? -x >= 0`
- `(x|-x)>>31 == -1`
- `ux >> 3 == ux/8`
- `x >> 3 == x/8`
- `x & (x-1) != 0`