

Negative numbers

At the level of the 80x86 architecture, the numbers are represented in base 2. Being a binary number starting with 1, in the signed interpretation, this number is negative. Its value is given by applying 2's complement of the initial binary configuration.

We have 4 variants in order to obtain 2's complement.

I. Subtracting the binary contents of the location from 100...00, where the number of zero's is the same as the number of the location to be complemented).

$$\text{Ex: } \begin{array}{r} 10000 \ 0000 - \\ 1001 \ 0011 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$0110 \ 1101 = 6D = 96 + 13 = 109 \Rightarrow \text{2's complement of 147 is 109}$$

- in signed interpretation, the value is -109

II. Reversing the values of bits of the initial binary number after which we add 1.

$$1001 \ 0011 \rightarrow 0110 \ 1100 + 1 = 0110 \ 1101 = 109. \Rightarrow$$

\Rightarrow the value of 1001 0011 in signed interpretation is -109.

III. We left unchanged the bits starting from right until the 1st bit of 1 inclusive and we reverse the value of the remaining bits.

$$1001 \ 0011 \rightarrow 0110 \ 1101 = 109.$$

IV. The sum of the absolute values of the 2 complementary values is the cardinal of the set of values representable on that size.

- on 8 bits = 256 values. unsigned: $[0, 255]$, signed: $[-128, 127]$

- on 16 bits = 65536 values. U: $[0, 65535]$, S: $[-32768, 32767]$

on 8 bits, the complement of 1001 0011 = 147 is $256 - 147 = 109. \Rightarrow$
 $\Rightarrow S = -109.$

- mathematically, the two's complement representation of a negative number is the value $2^n - V$, where V - the absolute value of the represented number.
- there is a range of values: $[0, 255] \cap [-128, 127] = [0, 127]$ that have the same value both in signed and unsigned representations; ^{and then 20G} that cannot be represented as negative numbers on the same size as the initial number representation
- 109 is the complement of +147, but *147 is not the complement of 109, instead
- the involvement of 1's complement is unidirectional, making sense only from the S. interpretation. and the representation of negative numbers.

Example:

• Addition:

mov al, -1

mov bl, -2

add al, bl

$$-1 + (-2) = -3 \in [-128, 127]$$

- the representable domain on a byte

$$|-1| = 1 = 0000\ 0001$$

$$C_2(1) = 1111\ 1111 = FF$$

$$|-2| = 2 = 0000\ 0010$$

$$C_2(2) = 1111\ 1110 = FE$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1111\ 1111 \\ + 1111\ 1110 \\ \hline 1111\ 1101 = FD = -3 \end{array}$$

• Subtraction:

mov al, 8

mov bl, 16

sub al, bl

$$8 - 16 = -8 \in [-128, 127]$$

$$0000\ 1000 -$$

$$0001\ 0000$$

$$\hline 1111\ 1000 \Rightarrow F8 = -8$$

• multiplication

mov al, -1

mov bl, 100

imul bl

; $AX = 100 \times -1 = -100$.

bl = byte, al = byte. $\Rightarrow bl \times al = AX$.

imul = signed multiplication.

• division

mov ax, 8

mov bx, -2

idiv bx

; $AX = AX / BL$. ; ~~word~~^{byte} = word / byte.

signed division.

Ex:

mov al, -1

cmp al, 0

jl pos

sub al, -1

pos:

sub al, -1

0 is not considered negative in signed integer representation
thus SF is not set to 1, only ~~AX~~.

OR.

"JS" - jump if $SF = 1$ - is negative

"JNS" - jump if $SF = 0$ - is positive