



FALMOUTH
UNIVERSITY



COMP110: Principles of Computing

Basic Principles for Computation

Binary notation



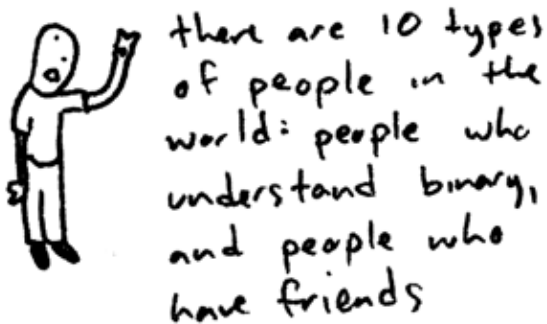


Image credit: <http://www.toothpastefordinner.com>

How we write numbers

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| Thousands | Hundreds | Tens | Units |
|-----------|----------|------|-------|
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 7 |

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- ▶ Hence it is natural to store and operate on numbers in base 2
- ▶ The binary digits 0 and 1 correspond to **off** and **on** respectively

Converting to binary

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OezK_zTyvAQ

Bits, bytes and words

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Addition with carry

In base 10:

$$\begin{array}{rcccc} & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ + & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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In base 10:

$$\begin{array}{r} \\ + \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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$$1 + 1 = 10 \quad 1 + 1 + 1 = 11$$

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| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|---|
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| Hex | Dec | Hex | Dec | Hex | Dec |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 00 | 0 | 10 | 16 | F0 | 240 |
| 01 | 1 | 11 | 17 | F1 | 241 |
| ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ | ⋮ |
| 09 | 9 | 19 | 25 | F9 | 249 |
| 0A | 10 | 1A | 26 | FA | 250 |
| 0B | 11 | 1B | 27 | FB | 251 |
| 0C | 12 | 1C | 28 | FC | 252 |
| 0D | 13 | 1D | 29 | FD | 253 |
| 0E | 14 | 1E | 30 | FE | 254 |
| 0F | 15 | 1F | 31 | FF | 255 |

2's Complement



Modular arithmetic



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- ▶ Numbers “wrap around” between 0 and $N - 1$

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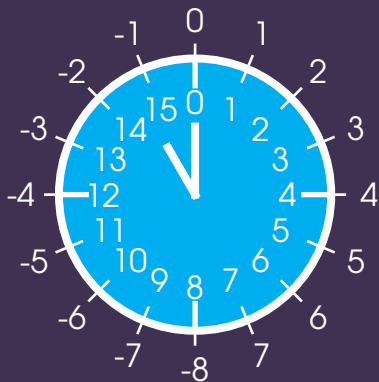
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- ▶ `a % b` gives the **remainder** of `a` divided by `b`
- ▶ E.g. `21 % 16` gives 5
- ▶ Useful for wrapping around e.g. loop indexes or screen coordinates

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- ▶ Instead of an n -bit number ranging from 0 to $2^n - 1$, it ranges from -2^{n-1} to $+2^{n-1} - 1$
- ▶ E.g. 16-bit number ranges from -32768 to $+32767$
- ▶ Note that the left-most bit can be interpreted as a **sign** bit: 1 if negative, 0 if positive or zero

Converting to 2's complement

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- ▶ Invert all the bits (i.e. change $0 \leftrightarrow 1$)
- ▶ Add 1
- ▶ (This is equivalent to subtracting the number from $2^n \dots$ why?)
- ▶ This is also the process for converting back from 2's complement, i.e. doing it twice should give the original number

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- ▶ In fact, subtraction can just be done as addition
- ▶ I.e. $a - b$ is the same as $a + (-b)$, where a and $-b$ are just n -bit numbers

Worksheet 2



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Due next Friday!
Online quiz on LearningSpace

Turing machines



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- ▶ Has an infinite **tape**
- ▶ Each space on the tape holds a **symbol** from a finite **alphabet**
- ▶ Has a **tape head** pointing at one space on the tape
- ▶ Has a transition table which, given:
 - ▶ The current state
 - ▶ The symbol under the tape head

specifies:

- ▶ A new state
- ▶ A new symbol to write to the tape, overwriting the current symbol
- ▶ Where to move the tape head: one space to the left, or one space to the right

Activity

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- ▶ What computation does this machine perform?

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- ▶ Point your **Drumstick** lolly at the **leftmost** chocolate
 - ▶ The lolly is your **tape head**, and the type of lolly is your **state**
- ▶ Repeatedly apply the rules on the next slide
- ▶ What computation does this machine perform?
 - ▶ Hint: Milk = 0, White = 1...

| Current lolly | Current chocolate | New lolly | New chocolate | Move direction |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| Drumstick | Blank | Fruit | Blank | ← |
| Drumstick | Milk | Drumstick | White | → |
| Drumstick | White | Drumstick | Milk | → |
| Fruit | Blank | Swizzels | White | → |
| Fruit | Milk | Swizzels | White | ← |
| Fruit | White | Fruit | Milk | ← |
| Swizzels | Blank | Stop | Blank | → |
| Swizzels | Milk | Swizzels | Milk | ← |
| Swizzels | White | Swizzels | White | ← |

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- ▶ I.e. a Turing machine is the most “powerful” computer possible, in terms of what is possible or impossible to compute
- ▶ A machine, language or system is **Turing complete** if it can simulate a Turing machine