

§4.2

Status Flags

Homework



- ▶ **Quiz 1** on 9/22 – one week from today
- ▶ **Exam 1** on 9/26 – the Friday after the quiz
- ▶ **Makeup exams must be scheduled in advance and will **not** be given after the exam is given in class.**
- ▶ **Homework 2** is due this Friday, Sept 19, 11 a.m. (in Canvas)
- ▶ For Wednesday: Read **Section 4.2** (covered today) and be prepared to verbally answer:
 - ▶ 1. Do the following sequences of instructions leave the same value in AX? in EFLAGS?

<code>mov ax, 0FFFFh</code>	<code>mov ax, 0FFFFh</code>
<code>add ax, 1</code>	<code>inc ax</code>
 - ▶ 2. Does the following sequence of instructions set or clear the parity flag? Why?
`mov ax, 0804h`
`add ax, 1`

Assembly Language Is Untyped



- ▶ Binary 10010011 can represent either 147 or -109 (8-bit two's complement)
- ▶ **Q.** When the following instructions are translated into machine language, which of their encodings are the same? different?
 - ▶ `mov al, 147`
 - ▶ `mov al, -109`
 - ▶ `mov al, 10010011b`
- ▶ **A.** They are all the same! B0h 93h
- ▶ **Q.** If AL contains 10010011b, how can you tell if that represents 147 or -109 ?
- ▶ **A.** You can't. It's up to you to remember whether the bits in AL represent an unsigned integer, a signed integer, an ASCII code, etc.

Assembly Language Is Untyped



- ▶ So all three of these instructions store the *same* 8 bits in the AL register

- ▶ `mov al, 147`
 - ▶ `mov al, -109`
 - ▶ `mov al, 10010011b`

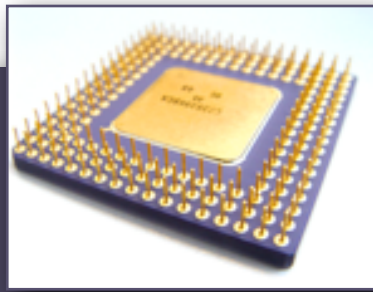
- ▶ Similarly, all three of these instructions store the *same* 32 bits in EAX

- ▶ `mov eax, 0FFFFFFFFh`
 - ▶ `mov eax, 4294967295`
 - ▶ `mov eax, -1`

- ▶ **Q.** What does this display?

```
mov eax, -1  
call WriteDec
```

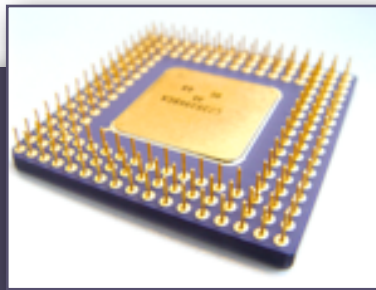
Reading & Writing: Signed vs. Unsigned



- ▶ You've used `ReadDec` and `WriteDec` from Kip Irvine's library
 - ▶ Read and write 32-bit *unsigned* integers
- ▶ There are also routines called `ReadInt` and `WriteInt`
 - ▶ Read and write 32-bit *signed* integers
- ▶ And also `WriteHex`
- ▶ Each `Write*` routine may display the same 32-bit differently

```
mov eax, 0FFFFFFFFh
call WriteDec    ; Prints 4294967295
call WriteInt    ; Prints -1
call WriteHex    ; Prints FFFFFFFF
```

Reading & Writing – Reference



Irvine's library contains three different procedures for displaying integers that should be aware of:

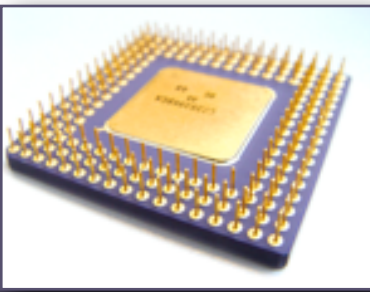
- **call WriteDec** – Interprets the bits in EAX as an unsigned 32-bit integer and prints that value.
- **call WriteInt** – Interprets the bits in EAX as a signed 32-bit integer and prints that value.
- **call WriteHex** – Prints the hexadecimal representation of the bits in EAX.

```
mov eax, 0FFFFFFFFh  
call WriteDec    ; Prints 4294967295  
call WriteInt    ; Prints -1  
call WriteHex    ; Prints FFFFFFFF
```

Likewise, there are three different procedures for reading values:

- **call ReadDec** – Reads an unsigned 32-bit integer and stores its value in EAX.
- **call ReadInt** – Reads a signed 32-bit integer and stores its value in EAX.
- **call ReadHex** – Reads a 32-bit hexadecimal integer and stores its value in EAX.
- **call DumpRegs** – Displays register values (in hex) as well as status flags.

Signed/Unsigned Addition/Subtraction



Unsigned Interpretation

$$\begin{array}{r} 105 \\ + 147 \\ \hline 252 \end{array}$$

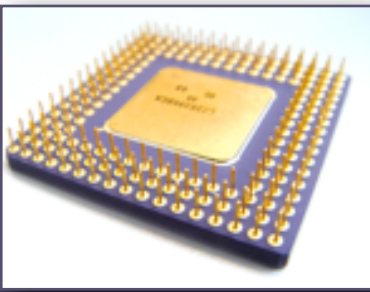
$$\begin{array}{r} 01101001 \\ + 10010011 \\ \hline 11111100 \end{array}$$

Signed Interpretation

$$\begin{array}{r} 105 \\ + -109 \\ \hline -4 \end{array}$$

- ▶ Binary addition is performed the same way regardless of whether the numbers are unsigned or signed (two's complement)
- ▶ The only difference is how you interpret the result
- ▶ Subtraction: $A - B$ is computed as $A + (-B)$

Overflow



- ▶ **Q.** Recall that an 8-bit register can only hold unsigned integers in the range $[0, 255]$.
What is the value in AL after this instruction sequence executes?

```
mov al, 255  
add al, 1
```
- ▶ **A.** AL contains 0, but one of the bits in EFLAGS is set to indicate that *unsigned* overflow occurred.
- ▶ **Q.** Recall that an 8-bit register can only hold signed integers in the range $[-128, 127]$.
What is the value in AL after this instruction sequence executes?

```
mov al, 127  
add al, 1
```
- ▶ **A.** AL contains 10000000b (+128 or -128, depending on whether you interpret it as signed or unsigned), but a different bit in EFLAGS is set to indicate that *signed* overflow occurred.

x86 Registers (Review)



32-bit General-Purpose Registers

EAX
EBX
ECX
EDX

EBP
ESP
ESI
EDI

EFLAGS
EIP

16-bit Segment Registers

CS	ES
SS	FS
DS	GS

x86 Registers (Review)



- ▶ **EFLAGS – Extended Flags**
- ▶ Each bit has a different purpose
- ▶ Some bits are *control flags* (e.g., enter protected mode, break after each instruction)
- ▶ Other bits are *status flags*
 - ▶ Carry flag (CF) – indicates *unsigned* overflow
 - ▶ Sign flag (SF)
 - ▶ Zero flag (ZF)
 - ▶ Overflow flag (OF) – indicates *signed* overflow
 - ▶ Parity flag (PF)
 - ▶ Auxiliary carry flag (AF)

Whiteboard Notes

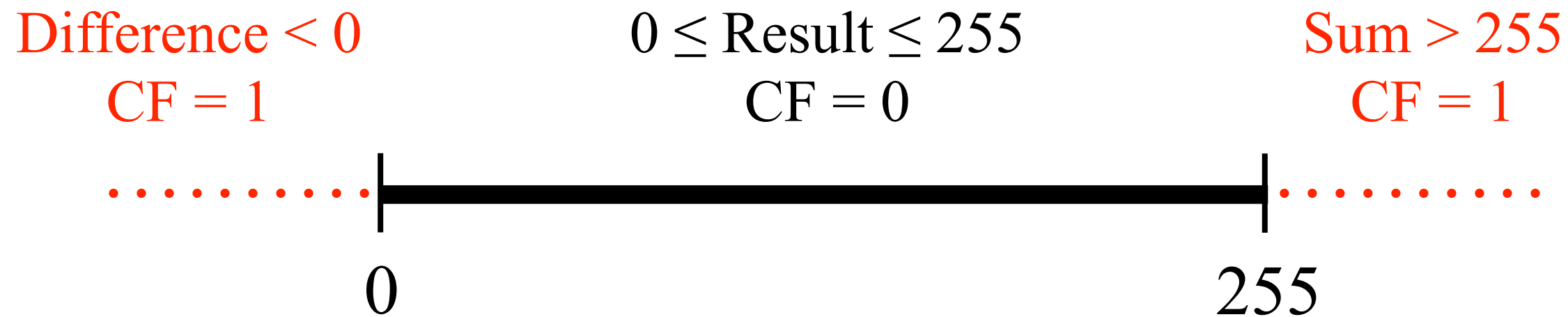


- ▶ *Whiteboard Notes:* x86 Status Flags and Effects of Addition and Subtraction:
 - ▶ Carry
 - ▶ Sign
 - ▶ Zero
 - ▶ Overflow
 - ▶ Parity
 - ▶ Auxiliary Carry

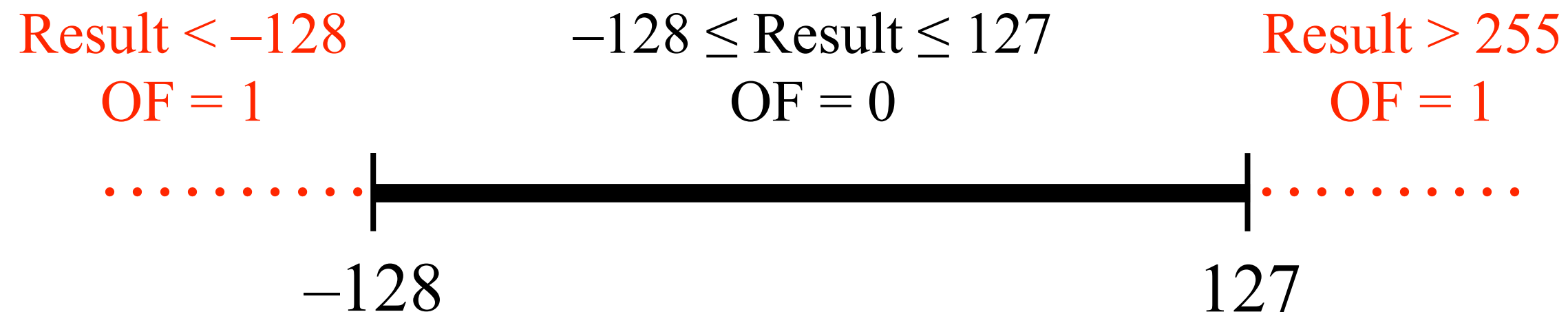
Arithmetic on 8-bit Values



- ▶ Addition/subtraction on *unsigned* byte values:



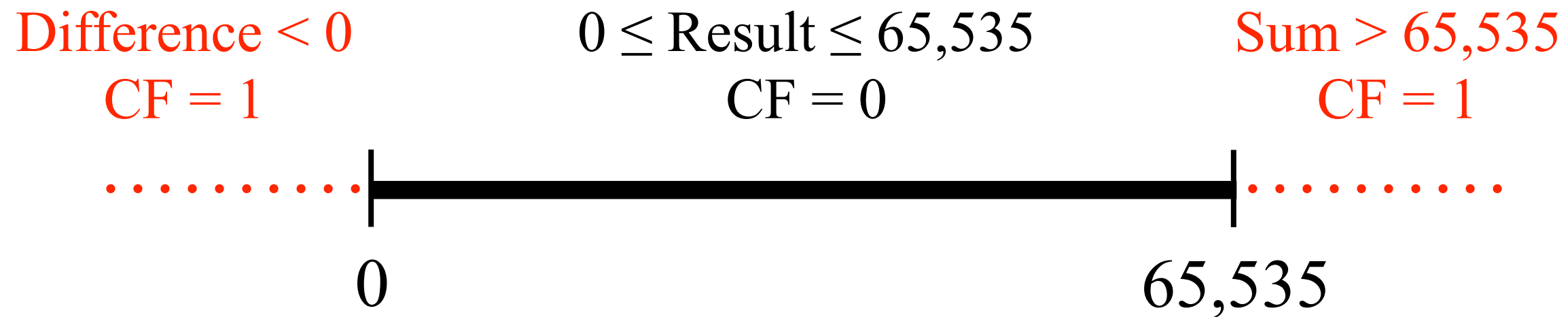
- ▶ Addition/subtraction on *signed* byte values:



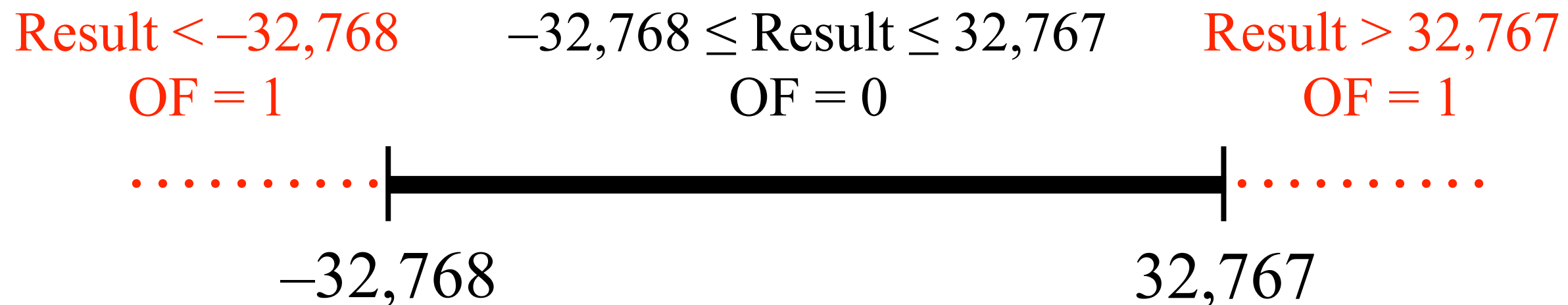
Arithmetic on 16-bit Values

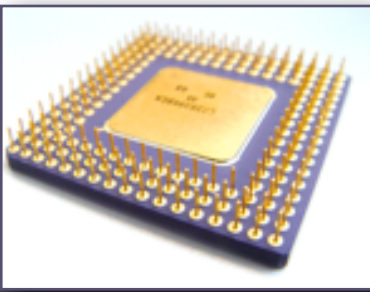


- Addition/subtraction on *unsigned* word values:



- Addition/subtraction on *signed* word values:





Activity 8