

# Check if a number is positive, negative or zero using bit operators

Given a number N, check if it is positive, negative or zero without using conditional statements.

Examples:

**Input :** 30

**Output :** 30 is positive

**Input :** -20

**Output :** -20 is negative

**Input:** 0

**Output:** 0 is zero

The signed shift  $n \gg 31$  converts every negative number into -1 and every other into 0.

When we do a  $-n \gg 31$ , if it is a positive number then it will return -1 as we are doing  $-n \gg 31$  and the vice versa when we do for a negative number.

But when we do for 0 then  $n \gg 31$  and  $-n \gg 31$  both returns 0, so we get a formula:

$$1 + (n \gg 31) - (-n \gg 31)$$

..1) **when n is negative :**

$$1 + (-1) - 0 = 0$$

..2) **when n is positive:**

$$1 + 0 - (-1) = 2$$

..3) **when n is 0:**

$$1+0-0=1$$

So we know it returns 0 when it is a negative number, it returns 1 when it is zero, and returns 2 when it is a positive number.

So to not use if statements we store at 0th index "negative", 1st index "zero" and at 2nd index "positive", and print according to it.