

Embedded Controller programming for Real Time Systems: ECE-40097

Lesson 1
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Main Topics



Real Time
Embedded
System



Components of
Embedded
systems



Types of
microcontroller



C data Types



Bitwise Operation
in C



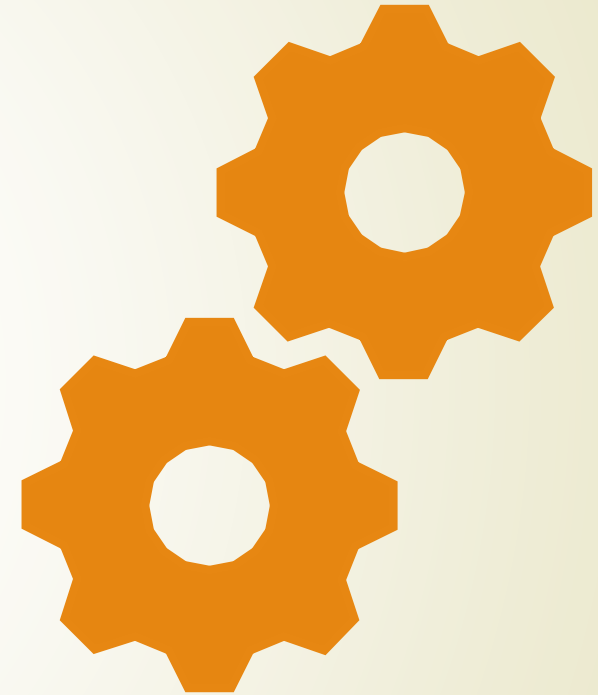
Signed/Unsigned
Numbers



Different Types of
Flag

Real Time Embedded System

- ▶ Embedded system is embedded within the large systems or part of Echo system
- ▶ Embedded system is designed to perform dedicated function
 - ▶ E.g. Factory automation
- ▶ Real time systems are designed to provide guaranteed worst-case response time to critical events
- ▶ Real time system designed as an embedded component
 - ▶ Is called real time embedded system
- ▶ Real time embedded systems are found in every facets of everyday lives
 - ▶ And they are proliferating (Especially with IoT)



Non-Real Time Embedded System

- ▶ Non real time systems are not time bounded
- ▶ Not time sensitive
- ▶ Tasks completion take priority over time constraints



Embedded Software

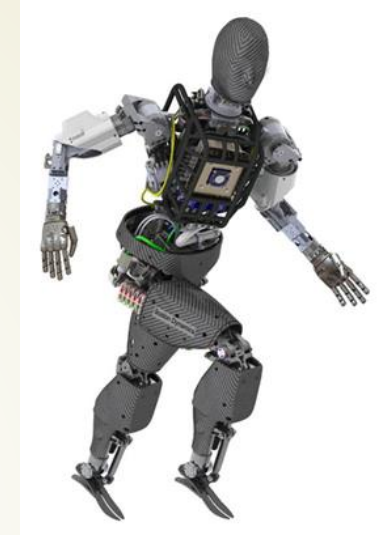
- ▶ Even with most powerful hardware, real time embedded software plays critical role
 - ▶ E.g. Sensors in IoT echo system
- ▶ Complexity of software grows with complexity of embedded hardware
 - ▶ Multi core Processor
 - ▶ System with multiple back-end communications
- ▶ More than one controllers are common for typical embedded systems
 - ▶ One for real time data processing and other one for applications

Types of Real Time Embedded System

- ▶ Any system which responds in real time within specified time constraints.
 - ▶ Hard real time system
 - ▶ Soft real time system
 - ▶ Firm real time system (sometimes)

Hard Real Time Embedded System

- ▶ If the time constraint is strict then it is called Hard real time system
 - ▶ Any deviation is not acceptable and will lead to system failure
 - ▶ There is no value to a computation if it is late and the effects of a late computation may be catastrophic
 - ▶ A hard-real-time system is one where all activities must be completed on time
 - ▶ Examples are mission critical system, cellular systems, Automation, Air traffic controller



Soft Real Time Embedded System

- ▶ If the time constraints could be tolerated, then it is called soft real time system
 - ▶ Computation values diminishes according to its tardiness
 - ▶ Deviation leads to degraded performance but still acceptable
 - ▶ Deadlines may be missed but the number and frequency typically comply with QOS
 - ▶ E.g. Temp sensors, home appliances



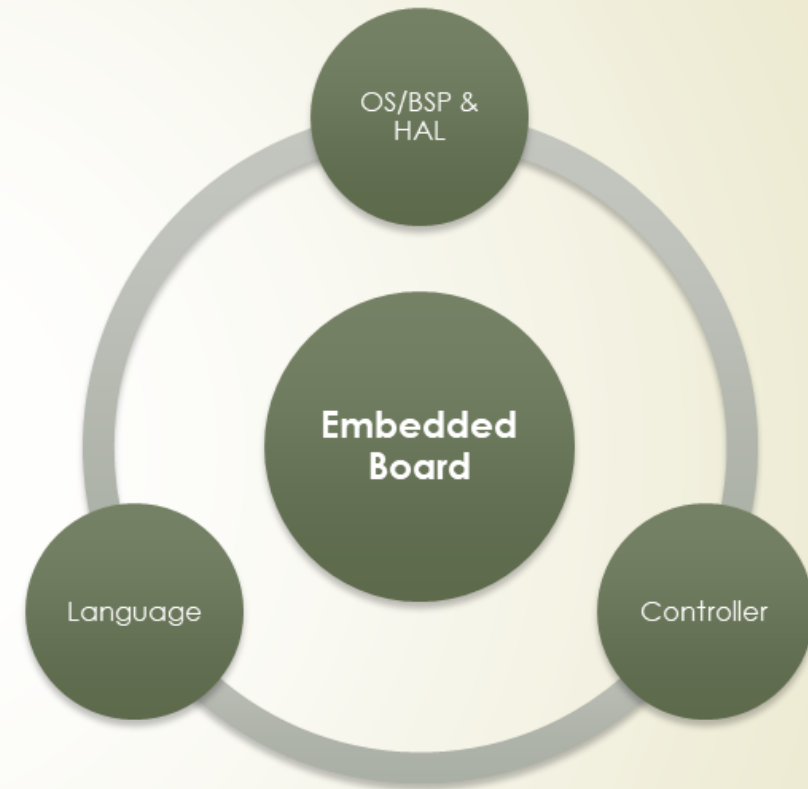
Firm Real Time Embedded System

- ▶ It is in-between Hard and Soft Real time system
- ▶ Slight deviation is acceptable without any failure
 - ▶ E.g. video Streaming



Embedded System

- Three (among many others) major components of embedded system are
 - Controller
 - **Main focus of this course**
 - Operating System/HAL
 - Will use HAL heavily in this class
 - Language (Depends on OS) – why ?



Other Components

- ▶ Other components deal with communication, external interface and storage
 - ▶ Display unit
 - ▶ Connectivity
 - ▶ Wired – Ethernet, USB, Serial, GPIO
 - ▶ Wireless – Wi-Fi, BT, BLE, Cellular, Satellite, NFC
 - ▶ Networking stack
 - ▶ Storage devices
 - ▶ Flash, RAM, ROM



Real time OS

- ▶ Choice of operating system (OS) depends on the system applications
 - ▶ Real time (Windows Embedded, VxWorks, Linux Embedded, QNX, XINU, Open RTOS)
 - ▶ Non real time (Windows desktop, Linux desktop, Android ?, IOS ?)
- ▶ Language primarily depends on the OS and types of processor
 - ▶ C/C++
 - ▶ Assembly
 - ▶ primarily for IOT type devices and/or Hard Real time Systems
 - ▶ Mix of C/C++ and assembly
 - ▶ C# or Java or may be Python

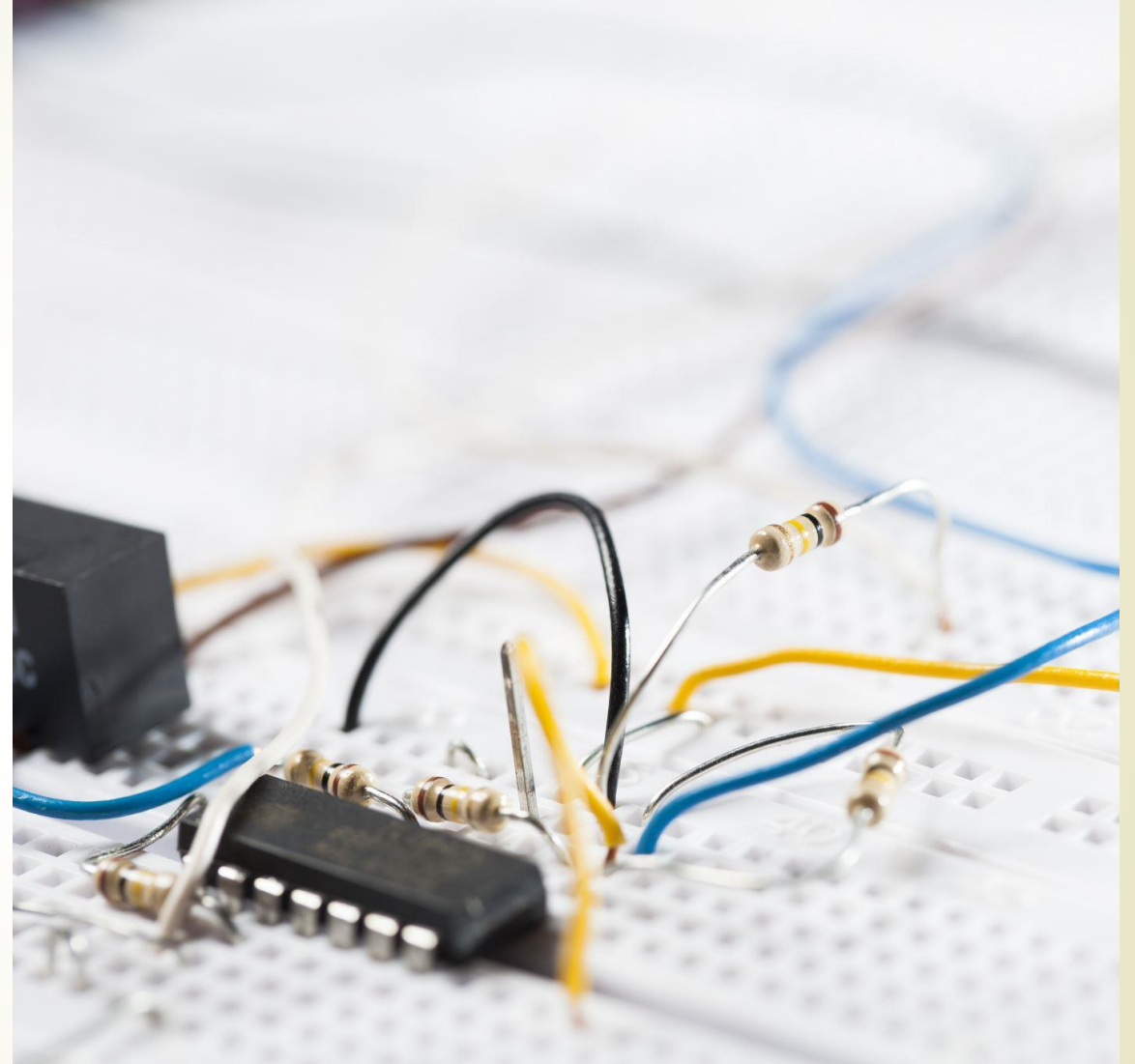


Types of Controllers

- ▶ Myriad of controllers in the market
- ▶ SoC (System on chip)
 - ▶ Various functions on a single chip
 - ▶ Small form factor and designed for low power consumption
 - ▶ Goes in sync with IOTs
- ▶ SOB/SBC (System on Board, Single Board computer)
 - ▶ Lot of peripherals support (CAN, UART, HDMI, Ethernet, 1553)
 - ▶ Might include SoC
 - ▶ Advanced embedded system
- ▶ Development kit is based on ARM® Cortex®-M4 32-bit RISC core
 - ▶ Is it SoC or SOB?

Controller Selection

- ▶ Selection of controller depends on many factors
 - ▶ Cost
 - ▶ Interrupt latency
 - ▶ Size
 - ▶ Application type (low end or high demanding)
 - ▶ Communication support
 - ▶ Tools and support availability
 - ▶ Support from controller vendors
 - ▶ Power consumption



Cortex-xx Family

- ARM Cortex-A family:
 - **A**pplications processors
 - Support OS and high-performance applications
 - Such as ,Tablet, Smartphones

Other Types

- ARM Cortex-R family:
 - **R**Real-time processors with high performance and high reliability
 - Fault Tolerance
 - Support real-time processing and mission-critical control
- ARM Cortex-M family:
 - **M**icrocontroller
 - Cost-sensitive, support SoC

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C Data Types

- ▶ Next few slides are very basic but are useful for this course
 - ▶ Added here to give you an overview and refresh your memory
- ▶ Might have been covered in previous courses

C Data Types

| Basic Data Types | Typical size in Memory | Range |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Char/unsigned char | 1 byte | -128 to 127/ 0- 255 |
| Short int/ unsigned short int | 2 bytes | -32,768 to 32,767/0 - 65535 |
| Integer/unsigned int | 4 bytes | -2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647/ 0 – 4,294,967,295 |
| Long/unsigned long | 4 bytes | |
| Long Long/unsigned long long | 8 bytes | |
| Float | 4 bytes | ... |
| Double | 8 bytes | |

Pattern

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 0xDEADBEEF | Dead Beef |
| 0xBADDCAFE | Bad Cafe |
| 0xFEE1DEAD | Feel Dead |
| 0x8BADF00D | Ate Bad Food |
| 0xBAADF00D | Bad Food |
| 0xDEADC0DE | Dead Code |
| 0xFACEB00C | Facebook |
| 0xDEADD00D | Deade Dude |

Bit-Wise Operation in C

- One of the most powerful feature in C
- Logical operators
 - && (and), || (or), ! (not)
- Bit-wise operators
 - & (and), | (or), ^ (x-or), ~ (invert), << (left shift), >> (right shift)
- Used for resetting, setting, toggling, masking bits and testing bits

Binary, Octal, Decimal, Hex

| Decimal | Binary | Octal | Hex |
|---------|--------|-------|-----|
| 0 | 0000 | 00 | 0x0 |
| 1 | 0001 | 01 | 0x1 |
| 2 | 0010 | 02 | 0x2 |
| 3 | 0011 | 03 | 0x3 |
| 4 | 0100 | 04 | 0x4 |
| 5 | 0101 | 05 | 0x5 |
| 6 | 0110 | 06 | 0x6 |
| 7 | 0111 | 07 | 0x7 |
| 8 | 1000 | 010 | 0x8 |
| 9 | 1001 | 011 | 0x9 |
| 10 | 1010 | 012 | 0xA |
| 11 | 1011 | 013 | 0xB |
| 12 | 1100 | 014 | 0xC |
| 13 | 1101 | 015 | 0xD |
| 14 | 1110 | 016 | 0xE |
| 15 | 1111 | 017 | 0xF |

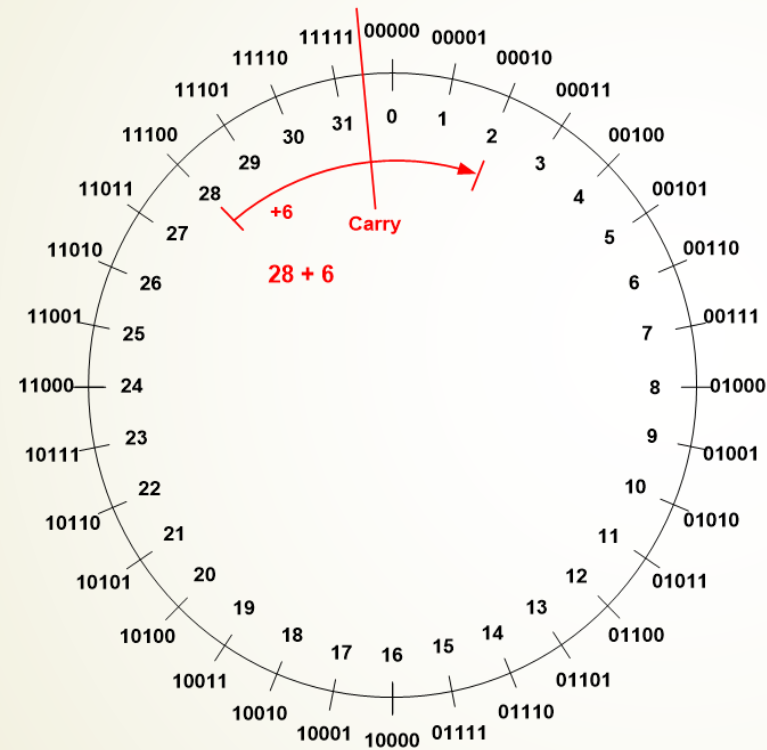
Examples

| A | B | AND (A & B) | OR (A B) | EX-OR (A ^ B) | Invert ~B |
|---|---|----------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Carry/Borrow Flag for unsigned numbers

- ▶ If addition result is larger than the maximum unsigned integer, then Carry occurs
- ▶ If subtraction results is negative, then borrow occurs
 - ▶ If result is positive, then Carry is Set
- ▶ On ARM Cortex-M processors, the carry flag and the borrow flag are physically the same flag bit in the status register ASPR (Application Program Status Register)
 - ▶ For an unsigned subtraction, $\text{Carry} = \text{NOT Borrow}$

Carry/Borrow Flag for Addition

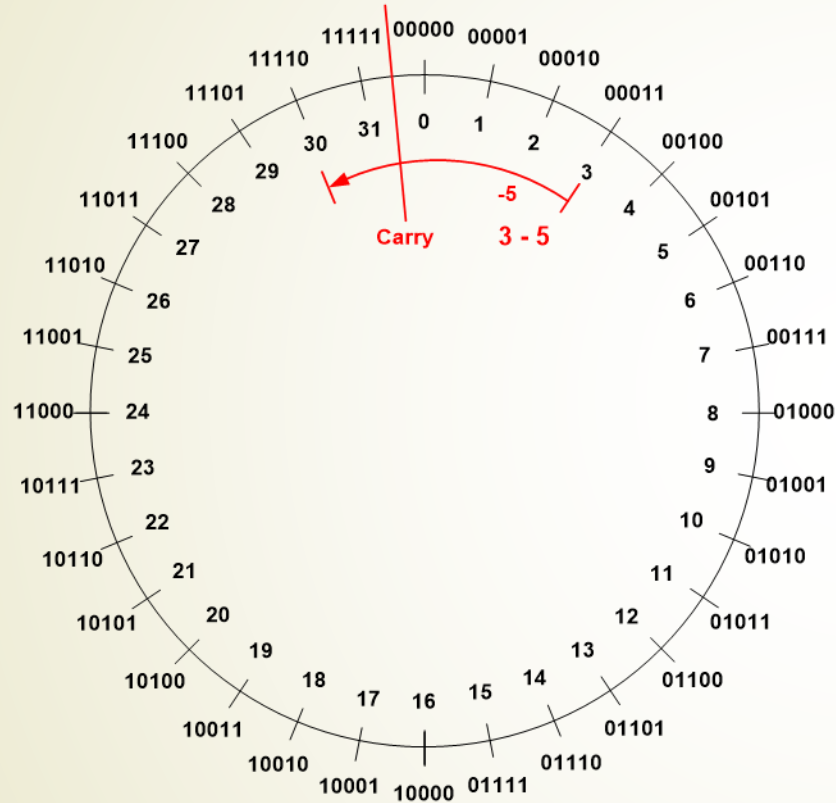


$$\begin{array}{r}
 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0 \\
 +\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 1\ 0 \\
 \hline
 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 0
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{r}
 28 \\
 +\ 6 \\
 \hline
 2
 \end{array}$$

Extra bit is discarded . 5-bit result

- Carry flag = 1, indicating carry has occurred on unsigned addition.
- Carry flag is 1 because the result crosses the boundary between 31 and 0.

Carry/Borrow Flag for Subtraction



$$\begin{array}{r}
 00011 \quad 3 \\
 - 00101 \quad - 5 \\
 \hline
 11110 \quad 30
 \end{array}$$

5-bit result

- Carry flag = 0, indicating borrow has occurred on unsigned subtraction.
- For subtraction, carry = NOT borrow.

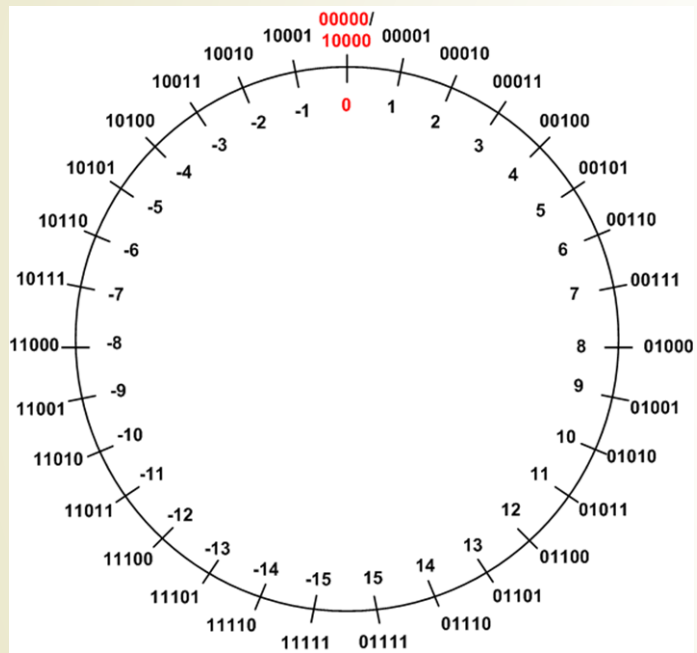
Examples

| Action (5 bits, max 32) | Num1 | Num2 | Carry | Borrow | Comment |
|-------------------------|------|------|-------|--------|---|
| Add with carry | 28 | 6 | Yes | No | Sum is more than 32 |
| Add but no Carry | 10 | 2 | No | No | Sum is less than 32 |
| Subtract with Borrow | 3 | 5 | No | Yes | Result is Negative |
| Subtract with No Borrow | 12 | 2 | Yes | No | No borrow, hence carry flag will remain set |

Signed Integer presentation

- Different ways to represent negative numbers
 - Signed magnitude
 - 1's complement ()
 - 2's complement ()

Signed Magnitude

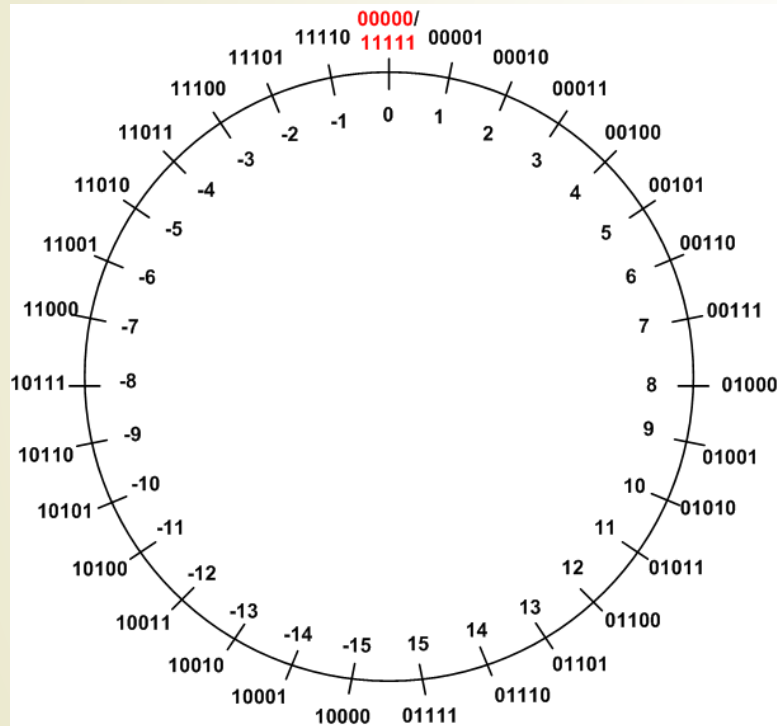


- The most significant bit is the sign.
- The rest bits are magnitude.

- Example: in a 5-bit system
 - $+7_{10} = 00111_2$
 - $-7_{10} = 10111_2$
- Two ways to represent zero
 - $+0_{10} = 00000_2$
 - $-0_{10} = 10000_2$
- Not used in modern systems
 - Hardware complexity
 - Two zeros

1's complement

It is bitwise NOT of its positive counterpart.

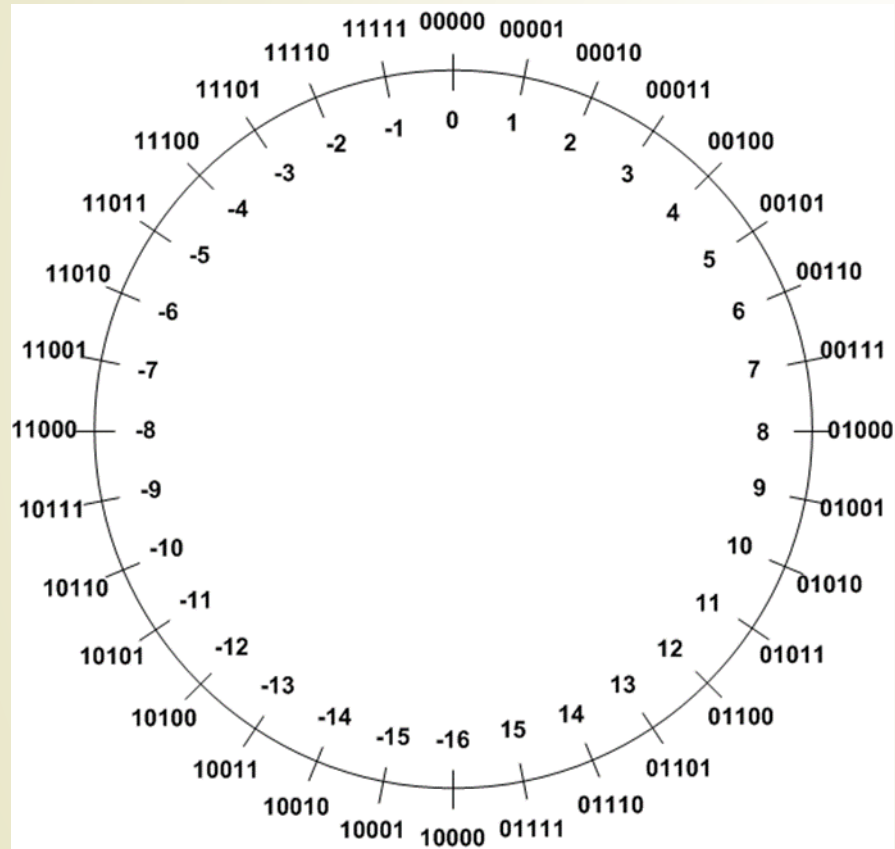


Example: in a 5-bit system

$$+7_{10} = 00111_2$$

$$-7_{10} = 11000_2$$

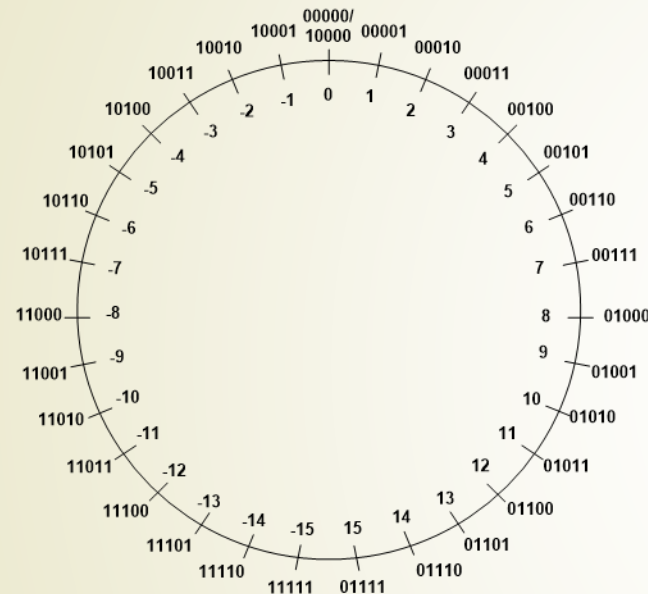
2's complement



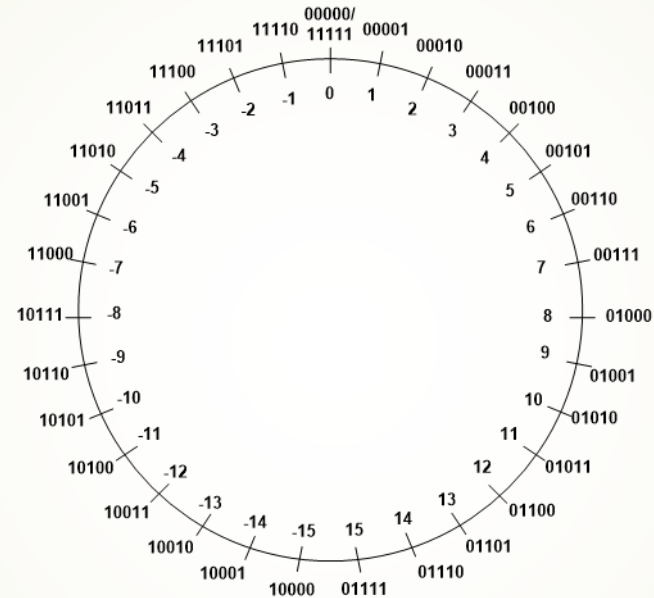
It is bitwise NOT of its positive counterpart plus one.

| | Binary | Decimal |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Original number | 0b00101 | 5 |
| Step 1: Invert every bit | 0b11010 | |
| Step 2: Add 1 | + 0b00001 | |
| Two's complement | 0b11011 | --5 |

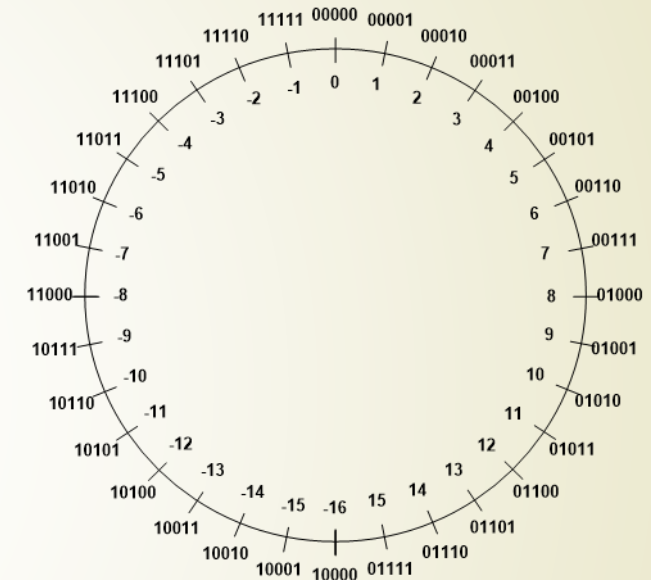
Comparison



Signed magnitude
representation
0 = positive
1 = negative



One's
complement
representation
Negative = invert
all bits of a
positive

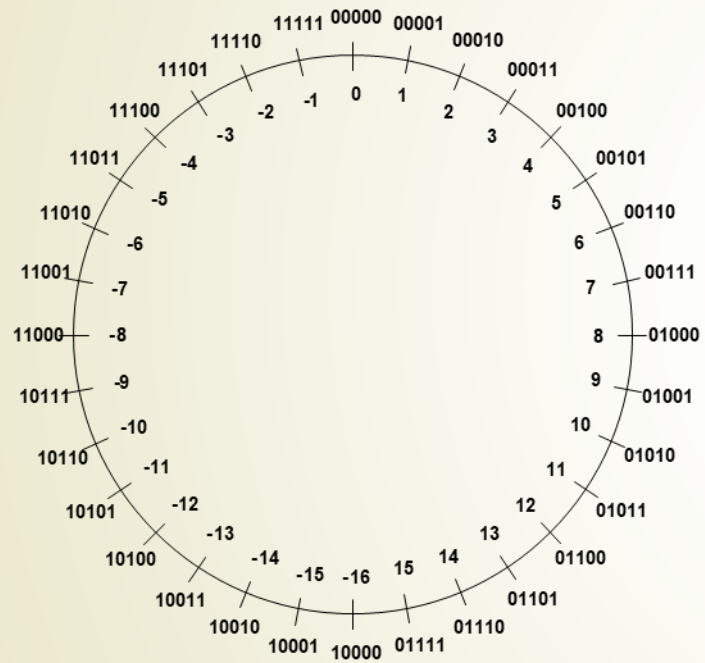


Two's
Complement
representation
TC = invert all
bits, then plus 1

Overflow Flag for Signed Numbers

- ▶ When adding signed numbers represented in two's complement, overflow occurs only in two scenarios:
 - ▶ adding two positive numbers but getting a non-positive result, or
 - ▶ adding two negative numbers but yielding a non-negative result.

Overflow Flag



| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|----|
| | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | -13 | |
| + | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | + -7 | |
| | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 12 |

Extra bit is discarded.

5-bit result

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| + | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | + 5 |
| | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -15 |

5-bit result

Subtracting signed numbers

- Similarly, when subtracting signed numbers, overflow occurs in two scenarios
 - subtracting a positive number from a negative number but getting a positive result, or
 - subtracting a negative number from a positive number but producing a negative result
- Overflow cannot occur when adding operands with different signs or when subtracting operands with the same signs.

Summary

- ▶ Processor detects overflow
- ▶ Indicates when an arithmetic overflow has occurred
 - ▶ Means signed 2's complement result would not fit in numbers
- ▶ For 5 bits range is: -16 to 15

Examples

| Action (5 bits, max 32) | Num1 | Num2 | Overflow | Comment |
|--|------|------|----------|---|
| Add two positive number | 12 | 5 | Yes | Result is negative (-15) as MSB is One. |
| Add two negative numbers | -13 | -7 | Yes | Sum is 12, positive |
| Subtract positive number from negative | -9 | 6 | No | Result is negative |
| Subtract with no borrow | 12 | - 2 | No | Result is positive |

Signed or Unsigned

$a = 0b1000011$

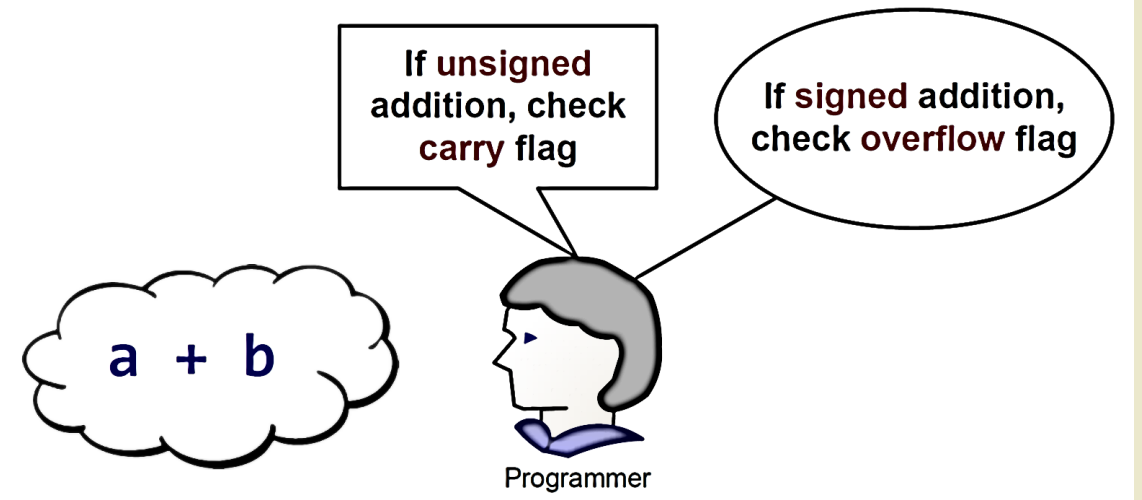
$b = 0b1000011$

$c = a + b$

- Processor does not know the answer at all
- So, hardware sets up both the carry flag and the overflow flag

Programmer Intention

► Whether the carry flag or the overflow flag should be used depends on the programmer's intention.



- When programming in high-level languages such as C, the compiler automatically chooses to use the carry or overflow flag based on how this integer is declared in source code ("int" or "unsigned int").

Example

$a = 0b10000$

$b = 0b10000$

$c = a + b$

`int a,b;`

`c = a+b;`

➡ Should we check carry or **overflow** ?

`uint a,b;`

`C = a+b;`

➡ Should we check **carry** or overflow ?

Next lesson

- Processor Architecture
- STM32L475V Processor
- Processor Registers
- Code execution
- Why ARM processor
- Processor packaging

