COSC 458-647 Application Software Security

2's Complement Arithmetic

(Adopted from projectLeadTheWay)

2's Complement Arithmetic

This presentation will demonstrate

- That subtracting one number from another is the same as making one number negative and adding.
- How to create negative numbers in the binary number system.
- The 2's Complement Process.
- How the 2's complement process can be use to add (and subtract) binary numbers.

Negative Numbers?

- Digital electronics requires frequent addition and subtraction of numbers. You know how to design an adder, but what about a subtract-er?
- A subtract-er is not needed with the 2's complement process. The 2's complement process allows you to easily convert a positive number into its negative equivalent.
- Since subtracting one number from another is the same as making one number negative and adding, the need for a subtract-er circuit has been eliminated.

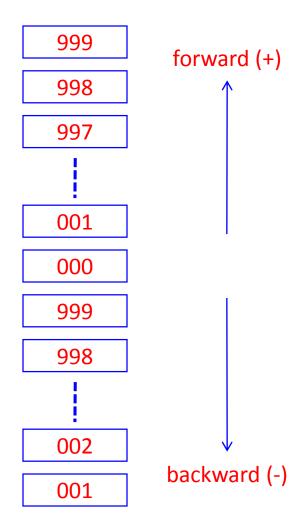
How To Create A Negative Number

- In digital electronics you cannot simply put a minus sign in front of a number to make it negative.
- You must represent a negative number in a *fixed-length* binary number system. All signed arithmetic must be performed in a *fixed-length* number system.
- A physical *fixed-length* device (usually memory) contains a fixed number of bits (usually 4-bits, 8-bits, 16-bits) to hold the number.

3-Digit Decimal Number System

A bicycle odometer with only three digits is an example of a fixed-length decimal number system.

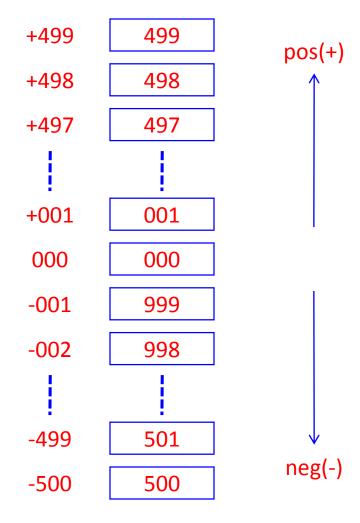
The problem is that without a negative sign, you cannot tell a +998 from a -2 (also a 998). Did you ride forward for 998 miles or backward for 2 miles?



Negative Decimal

How do we represent negative numbers in this 3-digit decimal number system without using a sign?

- → Cut the number system in half.
- \rightarrow Use 001 499 to indicate positive numbers.
- →Use 500 999 to indicate negative numbers.
- → Notice that 000 is not positive or negative.



"Odometer" Math Examples

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3 & 003 \\
 + 2 & + 002 \\
 \hline
 5 & 005
 \end{array}$$

$$(-5)$$
 995
+ 2 + 002
 (-3) 997

It Works!

Complex Problems

- The previous examples demonstrate that this process works, but how do we easily convert a number into its negative equivalent?
- In the examples, converting the negative numbers into the 3-digit decimal number system was fairly easy. To convert the (-3), you simply counted backward from 1000 (i.e., 999, 998, 997).
- This process is not as easy for large numbers (e.g., 214 is 786). How did we determine this?
- To convert a large negative number, you can use the 10's Complement Process.

10's Complement Process

The **10's Complement** process uses base-10 (decimal) numbers. Later, when we're working with base-2 (binary) numbers, you will see that the **2's Complement** process works in the same way.

First, complement all of the digits in a number.

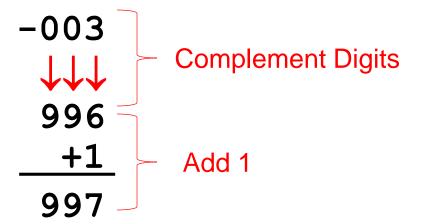
• A digit's complement is the number you add to the digit to make it equal to the largest digit in the base (i.e., 9 for decimal). The complement of 0 is 9, 1 is 8, 2 is 7, etc.

Second, add 1.

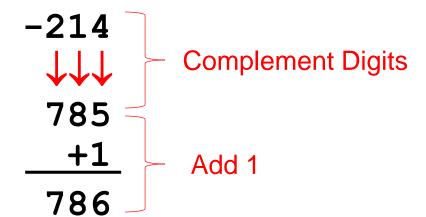
• Without this step, our number system would have two zeroes (+0 & -0), which no number system has.

10's Complement Examples

Example #1



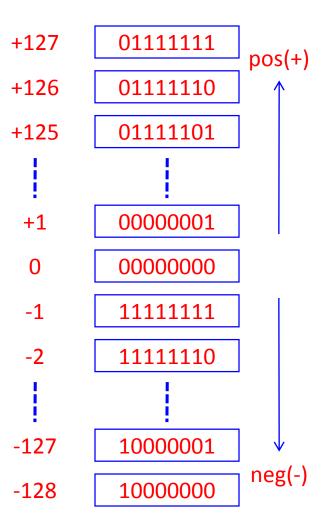
Example #2



8-Bit Binary Number System

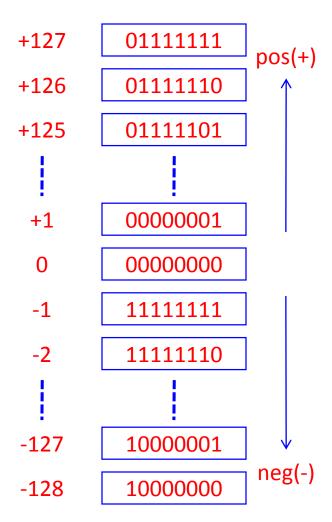
Apply what you have learned to the binary number systems. How do you represent negative numbers in this 8-bit binary system?

- → Cut the number system in half.
- →Use 00000001 01111111 to indicate positive numbers.
- →Use 10000000 111111111 to indicate negative numbers.
- → Notice that 00000000 is not positive or negative.



Sign Bit

- What did do you notice about the most significant bit of the binary numbers?
- The MSB is (0) for all positive numbers.
- The MSB is (1) for all negative numbers.
- The MSB is called the sign bit.
- In a signed number system, this allows you to instantly determine whether a number is positive or negative.



2'S Complement Process

The steps in the **2's Complement** process are similar to the 10's Complement process. However, you will now use the base two.

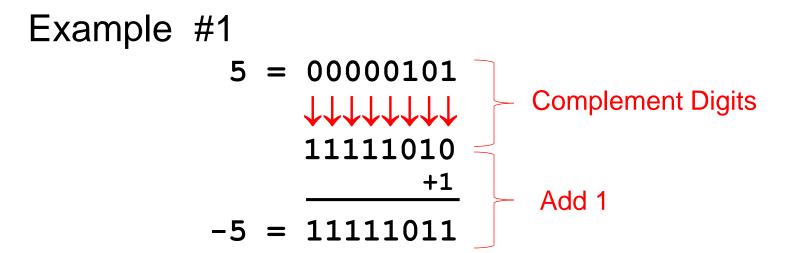
First, complement all of the digits in a number.

• A digit's complement is the number you add to the digit to make it equal to the largest digit in the base (i.e., 1 for binary). In binary language, the complement of 0 is 1, and the complement of 1 is 0.

Second, add 1.

• Without this step, our number system would have two zeroes (+0 & -0), which no number system has.

2's Complement Examples



Example #2

$$-13 = 11110011$$
 $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
 00001100
 $+1$
 $13 = 00001101$

Complement Digits

Add 1

Using The 2's Compliment Process

Use the 2's complement process to add together the following numbers.

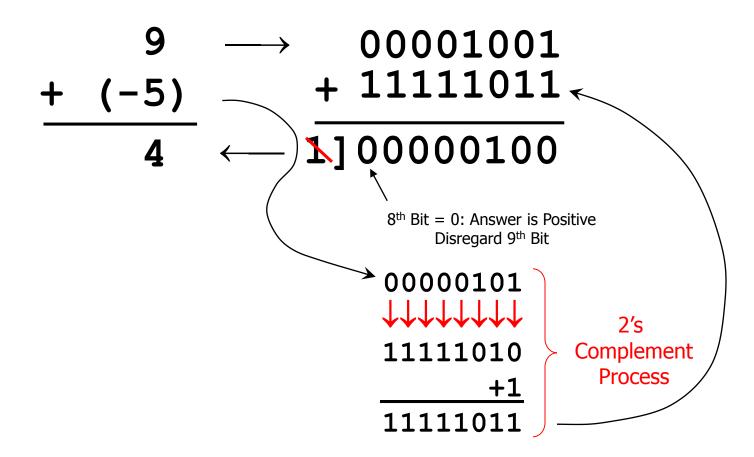
POS 9 NEG (-9)
+ NEG
$$\Rightarrow$$
 + (-5)
POS 4 NEG \Rightarrow + (-5)
NEG \Rightarrow + (-5)
NEG \Rightarrow - 14

$POS + POS \rightarrow POS$ Answer

If no 2's complement is needed, use regular binary addition.

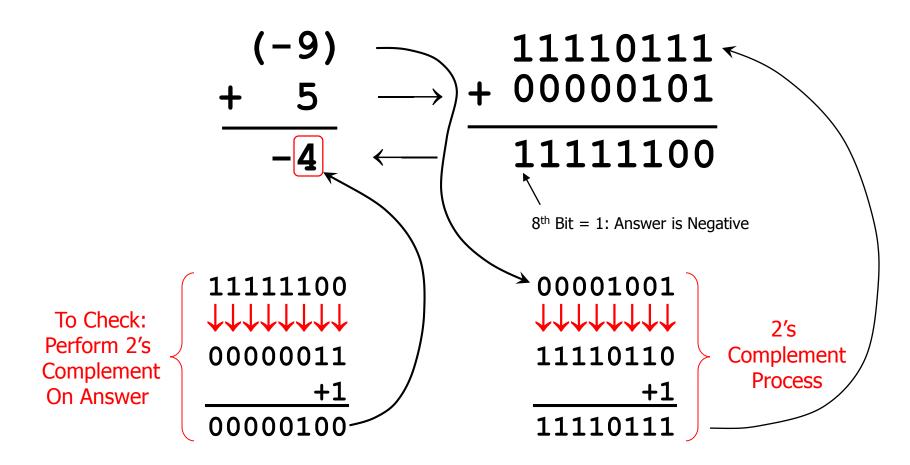
$POS + NEG \rightarrow POS$ Answer

Take the 2's complement of the negative number and use regular binary addition.



POS + NEG → NEG Answer

Take the 2's complement of the negative number and use regular binary addition.



NEG + NEG → NEG Answer

Take the 2's complement of both negative numbers and use regular binary addition.

