

Number Representations

You will learn about the binary number system and how subtractions are performed on the computer.

James Tam

How Does A Computer Work?

- Simple: something is either in one state or another.



Off / on

- All parts of modern computers work this way.
- This two state approach is referred to as *binary* (bi = two, for 2 states).

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What Is Binary?

- (What you know): Binary is a method of representing information that uses two states.
- (What you may not be aware of): The number system that you are familiar (decimal) uses 10 states to represent information.

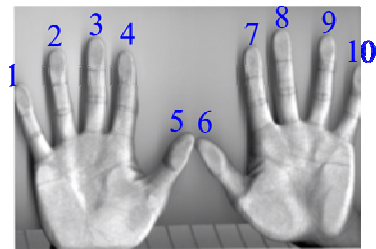
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How Is Decimal Used To Store Numeric Information

- Base 10
 - 10 unique symbols are used to represent values

0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
:

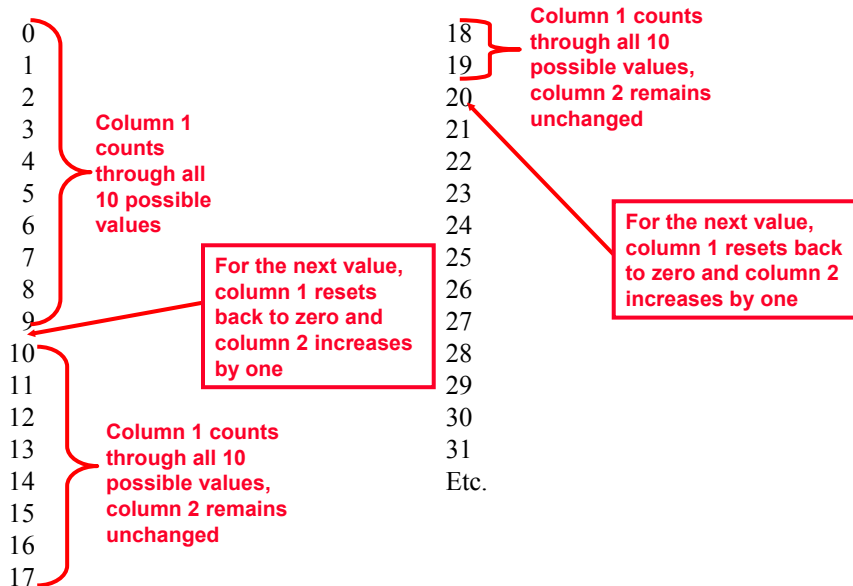
The number of digits is based on...the number of digits



The largest decimal value that can be represented by a single decimal digit is 9
= base(10) - 1

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How Does Counting In Decimal Work?



Decimal: Summary

- Base ten
- Employs ten unique symbols (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Each digit can only take on the value from 0 – 9
 - Once a column has traversed all ten values then that column resets back to zero (as does it's right hand neighbours) and the column to it's immediate left increases by one.

Binary: Summary

- Base two
- Employs two unique symbols (0 and 1)
- Each digit can only take on the value 0 or the value 1
 - Once a column has traversed both values then that column resets back to zero (as does it's right hand neighbours) and the column to it's immediate left increases by one.

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Counting In Binary

Decimal value	Binary value	Decimal value	Binary value
0	0000	8	1000
1	0001	9	1001
2	0010	10	1010
3	0011	11	1011
4	0100	12	1100
5	0101	13	1101
6	0110	14	1110
7	0111	15	1111

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Storing Information With Binary

- Text: ASCII represents simple alphanumeric information

8 bits:

1 used for error checking

7 for the alphanumeric information = 128 combinations

- Text: beyond simple English representations
 - Arabic, Dutch, Chinese, French, German, Spanish etc.
 - Representing this expanded text information uses additional bits:
 - 16 bits = 65,536 combinations
 - 24 bits = 16,777,216 combinations

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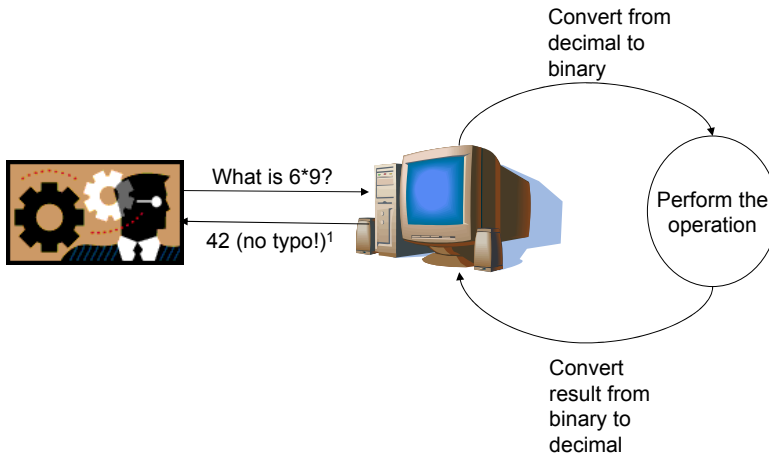
Storing Other Information (2)

- Colors: using ~16 million colors can present a 'true life' representation, how are the color combinations encoded?

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The Bigger Picture

- How does binary fit in when using a computer.



¹ "Hitchhiker's guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams

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Converting From Binary To Decimal

- Start with some binary number to convert:
 - E.g., 1 0 1 . 1
- Label each of the binary digits:
 - Starting with the digit immediately left of the decimal point and moving left (away from the decimal point) label the binary digits 0, 1, 2, 3 etc. in succession.
 - Starting with the digit immediately right of the decimal point and moving right (away from the decimal) label the binary digits -1, -2, -3...

2 1 0 -1 ← **Position of each binary digit**

- E.g., 1 0 1 . 1 ← **Binary number to be converted**

- Evaluate the expression: the binary digit raised to some exponent, multiply the resulting exponent by the corresponding digit and sum the resulting products.

$$\text{Value in decimal} = (1 \times 2^2) + (0 \times 2^1) + (1 \times 2^0) + (1 \times 2^{-1}) = (1 \times 4) + (0 \times 2) + (1 \times 1) + (1 * 1/2) = 4 + 0 + 1 + 0.5 = 5.5$$

¹ The value of this exponent will be determined by the position of the digit (value of the superscript)

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Binary To Decimal: Other Examples

• $0101.11_2 = ????_{10}$

• $100000_2 = ????_{10}$

• $011111_2 = ????_{10}$

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Decimal To Binary

Split up the integer and the fractional portions:

- 1) For the integer portion:
 - a. Divide the integer portion of the decimal number by two.
 - b. The remainder becomes the first integer digit of the number (immediately left of the decimal) in binary.
 - c. The quotient becomes the new integer value.
 - d. Divide the new integer value by two.
 - e. The new remainder becomes the second integer digit of the binary number (second digit to the left of the decimal).
 - f. Continue dividing until the quotient is less than two and this quotient becomes the last integer digit of the binary number.

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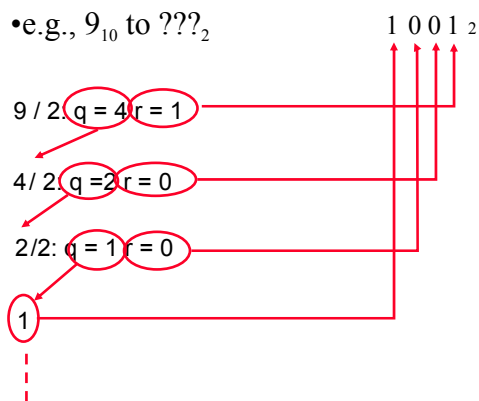
Decimal To Binary (2)

- 2) For the fractional portion:
 - a. Multiply by two.
 - b. The integer portion (if any) of the product becomes the first fractional digit of the converted number (first digit to the right of the decimal).
 - c. The remaining fractional portion of the product is then multiplied by two.
 - d. The integer portion (if any) of the new product becomes the second fractional digit of the converted number (second digit to the right of the decimal).
 - e. Keep multiplying by two until either the resulting fractional part of the product equals zero or you have the desired number of places of precision.

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Decimal To Binary (3)

•e.g., 9_{10} to $???_2$



Stop dividing! (quotient less than target base)

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Decimal To Binary: Other Examples

• $5.75_{10} = \text{????}_2$

• $32_{10} = \text{????}_2$

• $31_{10} = \text{????}_2$

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Addition In Binary: Five Cases

• Case 1: sum = 0, no carry out

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 \\ + 0 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$$

Case 2: sum = 1, no carry out

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 \\ + 1 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

Case 3: sum = 1, no carry out

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 0 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

Case 4: sum 0, carry out = 1

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ + 1 \\ \hline 1 0 \end{array}$$

1 + 1 = 2 (in decimal)
= 10 (in binary)

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Addition In Binary: Five Cases (2)

Case 5: Sum = 1, Carry out = 1

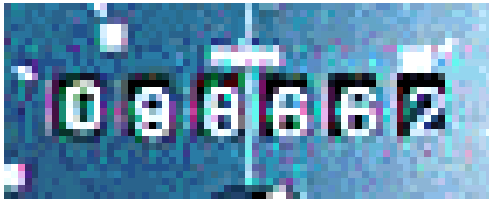
1
1
1
+ 1
1 1

1 + 1 + 1 = 3 (in decimal)
= 11 (in binary)

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Overflow: A Real World Example

- You can only represent a finite number of values



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Overflow: Binary

- Occurs when you don't have enough bits to represent a value (“wraps around” to zero)

Binary (1 bit)	Value
0	0
1	1

0 0

1 1

: :

Binary (2 bits)	Value
00	0
01	1
10	2
11	3

00 0

01 1

10 2

11 3

: :

Binary (3 bits)	Value
000	0
001	1
010	2
011	3
100	4
101	5
110	6
111	7

000 0

001 1

: :

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Overflow: Morale

- Regardless of the number of bits used to represent a number there always exists the possibility of an incorrect result due to overflow.
- Understanding how overflow works will help you determine where the errors may exist in your program and what is causing them.

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Subtraction

- In the real world

$$A - B$$

- In the computer

$$A - B$$

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Subtraction

- In the real world

$$A - B$$

- In the computer

~~$$A - B$$~~

~~$$A + (-B)$$~~

Not done this way!

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Binary Subtraction

- Requires the complementing of a binary number
- i.e., $A - B$ becomes $A + (-B)$
- The complementing can be performed by representing the negative number as a twos complement value.

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Complementing Binary Using The Twos Complement Representation

- For positive values there is no difference (no change is needed)
- e.g., positive seven (The 'A' in the expression $A - B$)
0111 (regular binary)
0111 (Twos complement equivalent)
- For negative values complement the number by negating the number: reversing (flipping) the bits (i.e., a 0 becomes 1 and 1 becomes 0) *and adding one to the result.*
- e.g., minus six (The 'B' in the expression $A - B$ becomes $A + (-B)$)
-0110 (regular binary)
1010 (Twos complement equivalent)

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Interpreting The Bit Pattern: Complements

- Recall:
 - Positive values remain unchanged:
 - 0110 is the same value with both representations.
 - Negative values are converted through complementing:
 - Twos complement: negate the bits and add one
 - 0110 becomes 1010
- Problem: the sign must be retained (complements don't use a minus sign).
- Approach:
 - One bit (most significant bit/MSB or the signed bit) is used to indicate the sign of the number.
 - This bit cannot be used to represent the magnitude (size) of the number
 - If the MSB equals 0, then the number is positive
 - e.g. 0 bbb is a positive number (bbb stands for a binary number)
 - If the MSB equals 1, then the number is negative
 - e.g. 1 bbb is a negative number (bbb stands for a binary number)

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Summary Of The Binary Representations

	Positive values are represented with:	Negative values are represented with:
Regular binary	No explicit symbol is needed (rarely is a plus '+' used) e.g., 100 vs. +100	A minus '-' sign e.g., -100
Twos complement	The sign bit (MSB) is zero e.g., 011	The sign bit (MSB) is one e.g., 100

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What You Already Should Know

- How to convert from decimal to binary.
- How to convert from binary to decimal.

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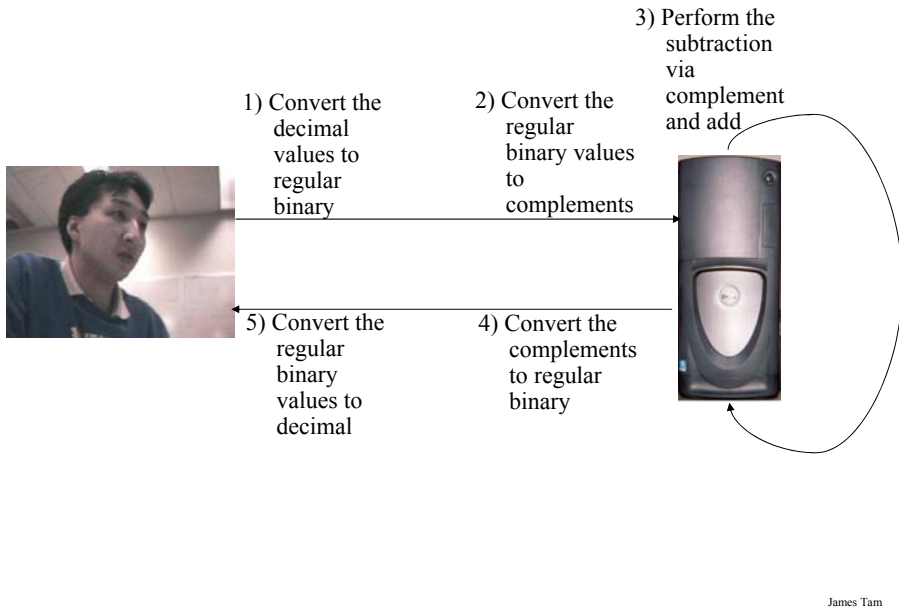
What You Will Learn

- How to subtract numbers with the complement and add technique:

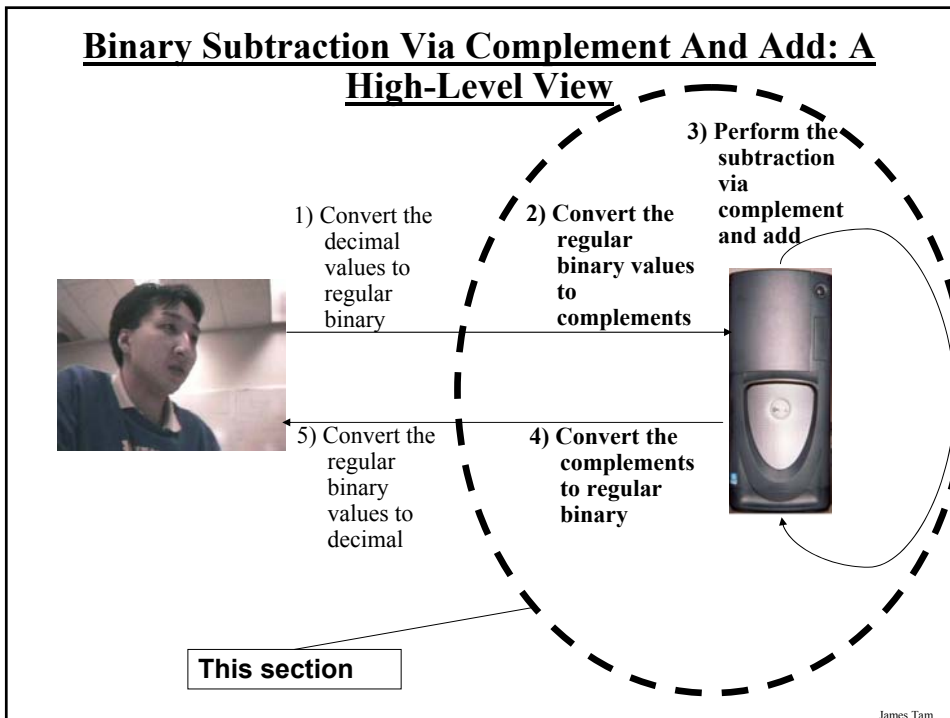
The operation $A - B$ is performed as $A + (-B)$

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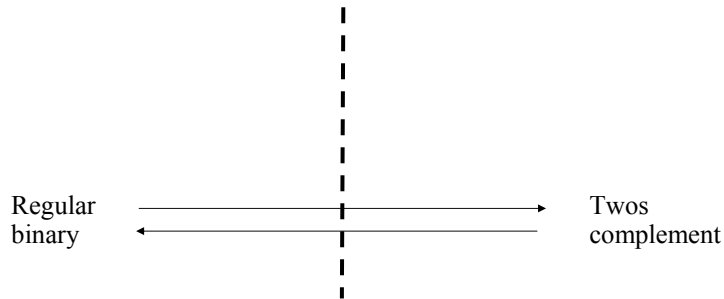
Binary Subtraction Via Complement And Add: A High-Level View



Binary Subtraction Via Complement And Add: A High-Level View



Reminder: Crossing The Boundary Between Regular And Signed Binary



Each time that this boundary is crossed (steps 2 & 4 from the previous slide) apply the rule:

- 1) Positive numbers pass unchanged
- 2) Negative numbers must be converted (complemented): negate and add one to the result

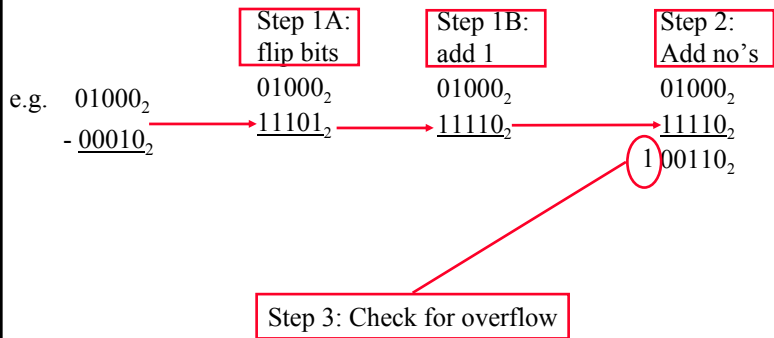
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Binary Subtraction Through Twos Complements

- 1) *Convert from regular binary to a 2's complement representation* (check if it's preceded by a minus sign).
 - a. If the number is not preceded by a minus sign, it's positive (leave it alone).
 - b. If the number is preceded by a minus sign, the number is negative (complement it and discard the minus sign).
 - i. Flip the bits.
 - ii. Add one to the result.
- 2) Add the two binary numbers.
- 3) Check if there is overflow (a bit is carried out) and if so discard it.
- 4) *Convert the 2's complement value back to regular binary* (check the value of the MSB).
 - a. If the MSB = 0, the number is positive (leave it alone).
 - b. If the MSB = 1, the number is negative (complement it and precede the number with a negative sign).
 - i. Flip the bits.
 - ii. Add one to the result.

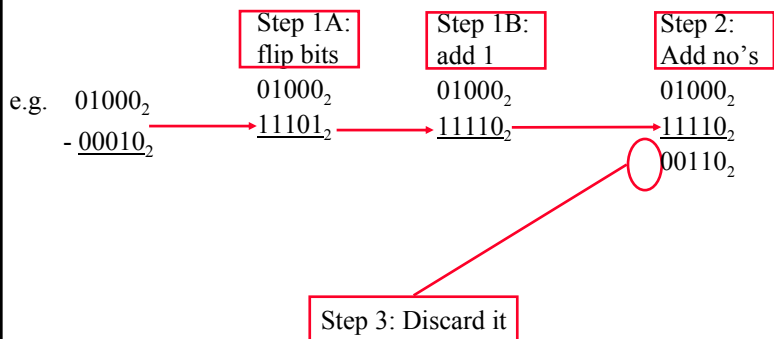
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Binary Subtraction Through Twos Complements



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Binary Subtraction Through Twos Complements



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Overflow: Signed

- In all cases it occurs do to a “shortage of bits”.
- Subtraction – subtracting two negative numbers results in a positive number.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{e.g. } - 7 \\ - 1 \\ + 7 \end{array}$$

- Addition – adding two positive numbers results in a negative number.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{e.g. } 7 \\ + 1 \\ - 8 \end{array}$$

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After This Section You Should Now Know

- How binary plays a role in the operation of a computer
- How the binary number system works
- How to convert between decimal and binary
- Binary addition
- Binary subtraction via the complement and add technique
- How signed and unsigned overflow work

James Tam