

# CS107, Lecture 2

## Bits and Bytes; Integer Representations

reading:

*Bryant & O'Hallaron, Ch. 2.2-2.3*

# Plan For Today

- Bits and Bytes
- Hexadecimal
- Integer Representations
- Unsigned Integers
- Signed Integers
- Casting and Combining Types

# Demo: Unexpected Behavior



# Plan For Today

- Bits and Bytes
- Hexadecimal
- Integer Representations
- Unsigned Integers
- Signed Integers
- **Break:** Announcements
- Casting and Combining Types

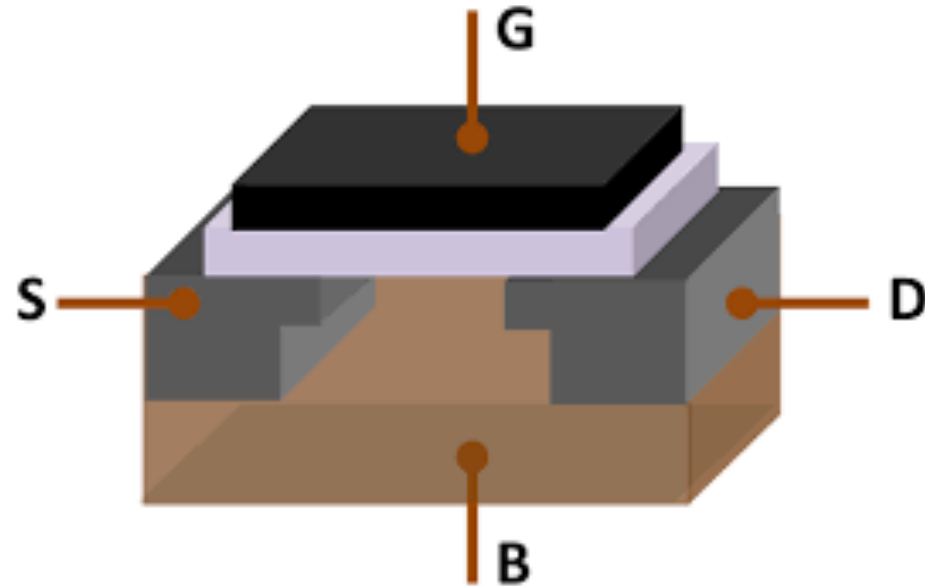


0

**1**

# Bits

- Computers are built around the idea of two states: “on” and “off”. Transistors represent this in hardware, and bits represent this in software!



# One Bit At A Time

- We can combine bits, like with base-10 numbers, to represent more data. **8 bits = 1 byte.**
- Computer memory is just a large array of bytes! It is *byte-addressable*; you can't address (store location of) a bit; only a byte.
- Computers still fundamentally operate on bits; we have just gotten more creative about how to represent different data as bits!
  - Images
  - Audio
  - Video
  - Text
  - And more...

# Base 10

5 9 3 4

Digits 0-9 (*0 to base-1*)

# Base 10

5 9 3 4

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

thousands hundreds tens ones

# Base 10

5 9 3 4  
↑ ↑ ↑ ↑  
thousands hundreds tens ones

$$= 5*1000 + 9*100 + 3*10 + 4*1$$

# Base 10

5 9 3 4

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

$10^3$   $10^2$   $10^1$   $10^0$



# Base 10

	5	9	3	4
$10^x$ :	3	2	1	0

# Base 2

$2^x$ :      1   0   1   1  
              3   2   1   0

Digits 0-1 (*0 to base-1*)

# Base 2

1 0 1 1  
 $2^3$   $2^2$   $2^1$   $2^0$

# Base 2

1 0 1 1  
eights fours twos ones

$$= 1*8 + 0*4 + 1*2 + 1*1 = 11_{10}$$

# Base 2

Most significant bit (MSB)

Least significant bit (LSB)

**1 0 1 1**  
eights fours twos ones

$$= 1*8 + 0*4 + 1*2 + 1*1 = 11_{10}$$

# Base 10 to Base 2

**Question:** What is 6 in base 2?

- Strategy:
  - What is the largest power of 2  $\leq 6$ ?

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- What is the largest power of  $2 \leq 6$ ?  $2^2=4$
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- $6 - 2^2 - 2^1 = 0$ !

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$$\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 2^3 & 2^2 & 2^1 & 2^0 \\ \hline \end{array} \\ = 0*8 + 1*4 + 1*2 + 0*1 = 6$$

# Practice: Base 2 to Base 10

What is the base-10 representation of  $1010_2$ ?

- a) 20
- b) 101
- c) 10
- d) 5
- e) Other

# Practice: Base 10 to Base 2

What is the base-2 representation of 14?

- a)  $1111_2$
- b)  $1110_2$
- c)  $1010_2$
- d) Other

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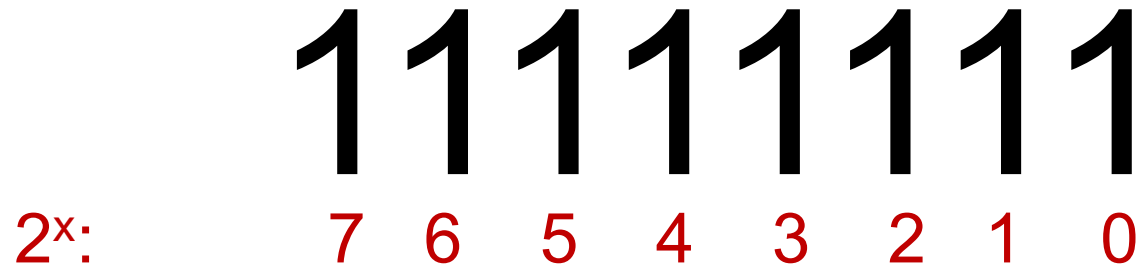
# Practice: Byte Values

- What is the minimum and maximum base-10 value a single byte (8 bits) can store?      **minimum = 0**      **maximum = ?**

2<sup>x</sup>:      1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1  
            7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

# Practice: Byte Values

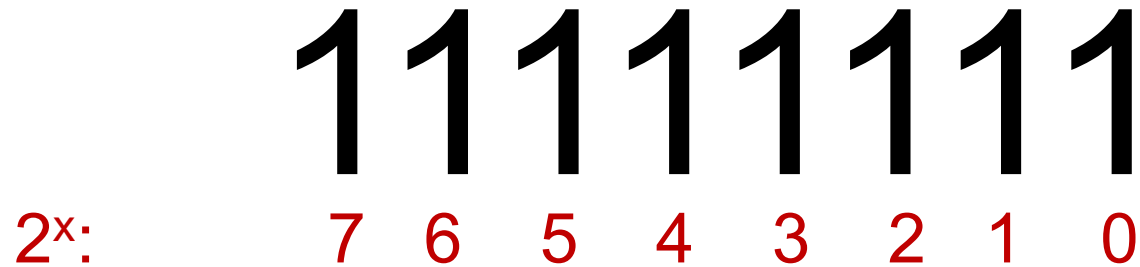
- What is the minimum and maximum base-10 value a single byte (8 bits) can store?      **minimum = 0**      **maximum = ?**



- **Strategy 1:**  $1*2^7 + 1*2^6 + 1*2^5 + 1*2^4 + 1*2^3 + 1*2^2 + 1*2^1 + 1*2^0 = 255$

# Practice: Byte Values

- What is the minimum and maximum base-10 value a single byte (8 bits) can store?      **minimum = 0**      **maximum = 255**



- **Strategy 1:**  $1*2^7 + 1*2^6 + 1*2^5 + 1*2^4 + 1*2^3 + 1*2^2 + 1*2^1 + 1*2^0 = 255$
- **Strategy 2:**  $2^8 - 1 = 255$

# Multiplying by Base

$$1453 \times 10 = 1453\underline{0}$$

$$1101_2 \times 2 = 1101\underline{0}$$

*Key Idea:* inserting 0 at the end multiplies by the base!

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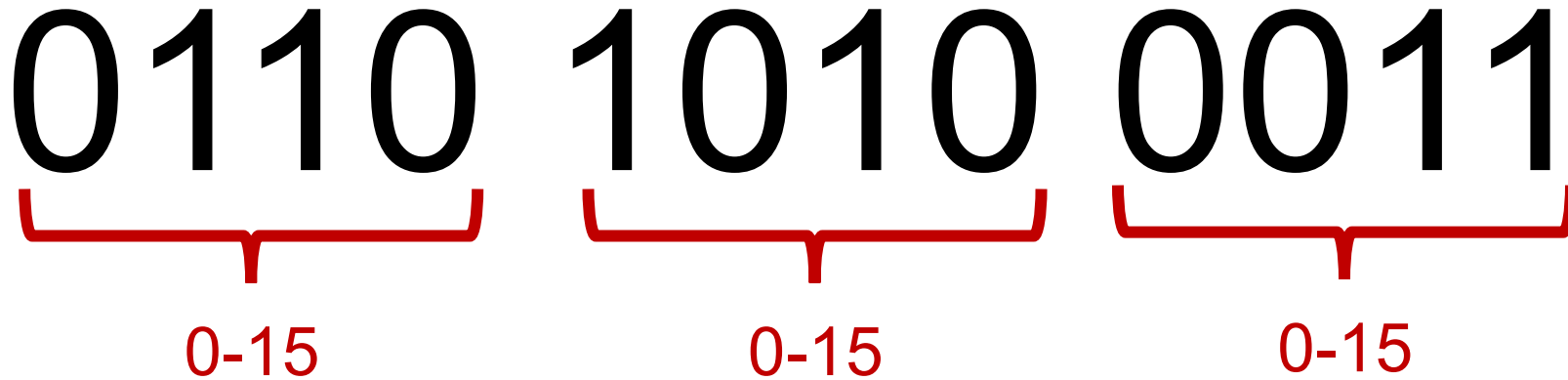
# Hexadecimal

- When working with bits, oftentimes we have large numbers with 32 or 64 bits.
- Instead, we'll represent bits in *base-16 instead*; this is called **hexadecimal**.

0110 1010 0011

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This is a base-16 number!



# Hexadecimal

- Hexadecimal is *base-16*, so we need digits for 1-15. How do we do this?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 a b c d e f  
10 11 12 13 14 15

# Hexadecimal

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

# Hexadecimal

- In C, we commonly distinguish hexadecimal numbers by prefixing them with **0x**, and binary numbers by prefixing them with **0b**.
- E.g. **0xf5** is **0b11110101**

0x f 5  
1111 0101

The diagram illustrates the conversion of the hexadecimal number 0xf5 to binary. The prefix '0x' is shown in black. The hexadecimal digits 'f' and '5' are shown in black. Below 'f' is a red bracket pointing to the binary string '1111'. Below '5' is a red bracket pointing to the binary string '0101'.

# Practice: Hexadecimal to Binary

What is **0x173A** in binary?

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What is **0x173A** in binary?

Hexadecimal	1	7	3	A
Binary	0001	0111	0011	1010

# Practice: Hexadecimal to Binary

What is **0b1111001010110110110011** in hexadecimal? (*Hint: start from the right*)

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What is **0b1111001010110110011** in hexadecimal? (*Hint: start from the right*)

---

Binary	11	1100	1010	1101	1011	0011
Hexadecimal	3	C	A	D	B	3

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# Number Representations

- **Unsigned Integers:** positive and 0 integers. (e.g. 0, 1, 2, ... 99999...)
- **Signed Integers:** negative, positive and 0 integers. (e.g. ...-2, -1, 0, 1,... 9999...)
- **Floating Point Numbers:** real numbers. (e.g. 0.1, -12.2,  $1.5 \times 10^{12}$ )

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# 32-Bit and 64-Bit



- In the early 2000's, most computers were **32-bit**. This means that pointers in programs were **32 bits**.
- 32-bit pointers could store a memory address from 0 to  $2^{32}-1$ , for a total of  **$2^{32}$  bytes of addressable memory**. This equals **4 Gigabytes**, meaning that 32-bit computers could have at most **4GB** of memory (RAM)!
- Because of this, computers transitioned to **64-bit**. This means that pointers in programs were **64 bits**.
- 64-bit pointers could store a memory address from 0 to  $2^{64}-1$ , for a total of  **$2^{64}$  bytes of addressable memory**. This equals **16 Exabytes**, meaning that 64-bit computers could have at most  **$1024*1024*1024$  GB** of memory (RAM)!

# Number Representations

C declaration		Bytes	
Signed	Unsigned	32-bit	64-bit
[signed] char	unsigned char	1	1
short	unsigned short	2	2
int	unsigned	4	4
long	unsigned long	4	8
int32_t	uint32_t	4	4
int64_t	uint64_t	8	8
char *		4	8
float		4	4
double		8	8

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Myth

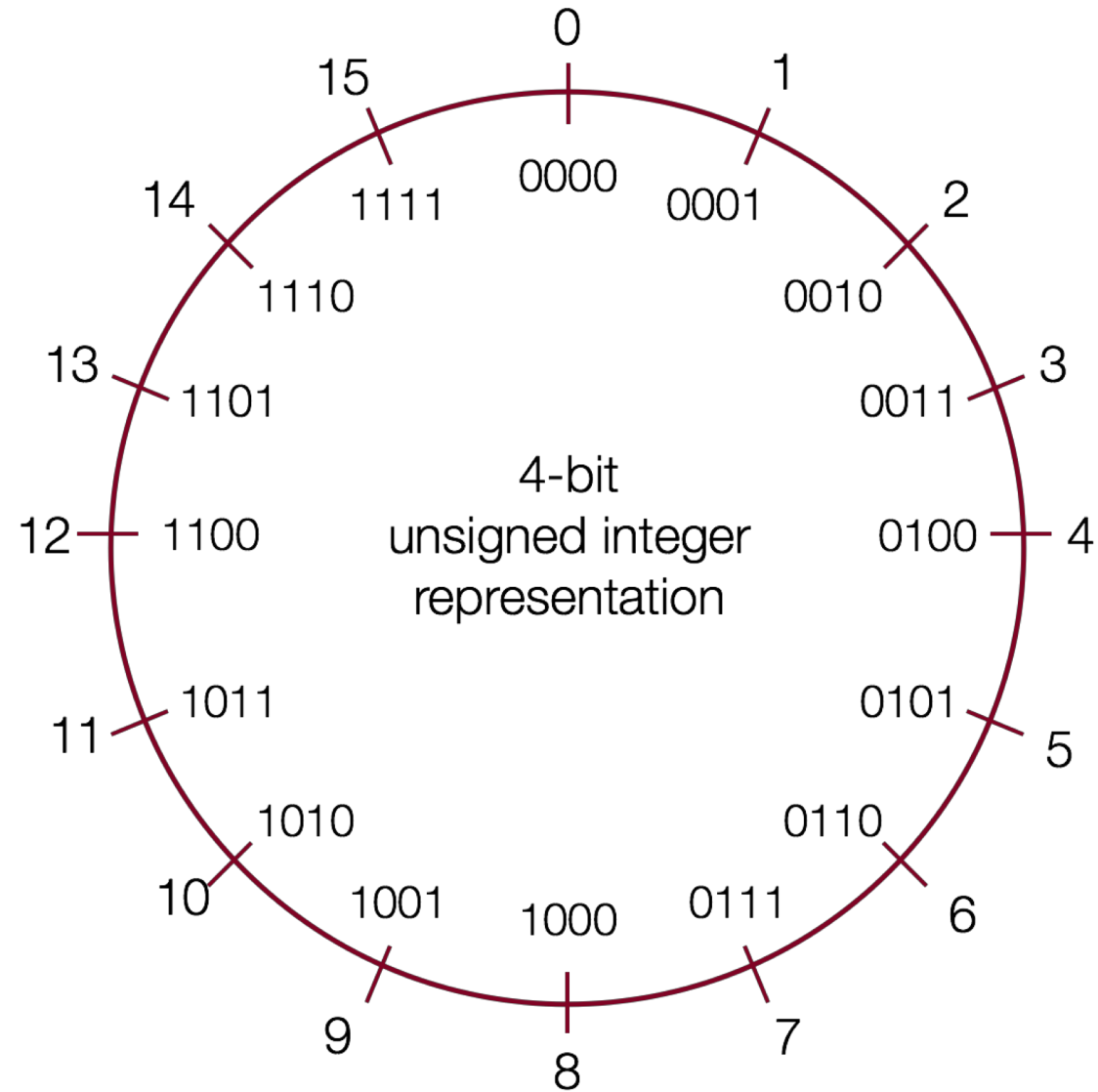
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# Unsigned Integers

- An **unsigned** integer is 0 or a positive integer (no negatives).
- We have already discussed converting between decimal and binary, which is a nice 1:1 relationship. Examples:
  - `0b0001` = 1
  - `0b0101` = 5
  - `0b1011` = 11
  - `0b1111` = 15
- The range of an unsigned number is  $0 \rightarrow 2^w - 1$ , where  $w$  is the number of bits. E.g. a 32-bit integer can represent 0 to  $2^{32} - 1$  (4,294,967,295).

# Unsigned Integers





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- *Problem:* How can we represent negative *and* positive numbers in binary?

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**Idea:** let's reserve the *most significant bit* to store the sign.

# Sign Magnitude Representation

0 1 1 0  
positive 6

1 0 1 1  
negative 3

# Sign Magnitude Representation

0000  
positive 0

1000  
negative 0



# Sign Magnitude Representation

$$1\ 000 = -0 \quad 0\ 000 = 0$$

$$1\ 001 = -1 \quad 0\ 001 = 1$$

$$1\ 010 = -2 \quad 0\ 010 = 2$$

$$1\ 011 = -3 \quad 0\ 011 = 3$$

$$1\ 100 = -4 \quad 0\ 100 = 4$$

$$1\ 101 = -5 \quad 0\ 101 = 5$$

$$1\ 110 = -6 \quad 0\ 110 = 6$$

$$1\ 111 = -7 \quad 0\ 111 = 7$$

- We've only represented 15 of our 16 available numbers!

# Sign Magnitude Representation

- **Pro:** easy to represent, and easy to convert to/from decimal.
- **Con:**  $\pm 0$  is not intuitive
- **Con:** we lose a bit that could be used to store more numbers
- **Con:** arithmetic is tricky: we need to find the sign, then maybe subtract (borrow and carry, etc.), then maybe change the sign...this might get ugly!

# A Better Idea

- Ideally, binary addition would *just work* regardless of whether the number is positive or negative.

$$\begin{array}{r} 0101 \\ + \color{red}{????} \\ \hline 0000 \end{array}$$



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# A Better Idea

- Ideally, binary addition would *just work* **regardless** of whether the number is positive or negative.

$$\begin{array}{r} 0000 \\ +0000 \\ \hline 0000 \end{array}$$

# A Better Idea

Decimal	Positive	Negative
0	0000	0000
1	0001	1111
2	0010	1110
3	0011	1101
4	0100	1100
5	0101	1011
6	0110	1010
7	0111	1001

Decimal	Positive	Negative
8	1000	1000
9	1001 (same as -7!)	NA
10	1010 (same as -6!)	NA
11	1011 (same as -5!)	NA
12	1100 (same as -4!)	NA
13	1101 (same as -3!)	NA
14	1110 (same as -2!)	NA
15	1111 (same as -1!)	NA

# There Seems Like a Pattern Here...

$$\begin{array}{r} 0101 \\ + 1011 \\ \hline 0000 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0011 \\ + 1101 \\ \hline 0000 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0000 \\ + 0000 \\ \hline 0000 \end{array}$$

- The negative number is the positive number **inverted**, **plus one!**

# There Seems Like a Pattern Here...

A binary number plus its inverse is all 1s.

---

$$\begin{array}{r} 0101 \\ + 1010 \\ \hline 1111 \end{array}$$

Add 1 to this to carry over all 1s and get 0!

---

$$\begin{array}{r} 1111 \\ + 0001 \\ \hline 0000 \end{array}$$



# Another Trick

- To find the negative equivalent of a number, work right-to-left and write down all digits *through* when you reach a 1. Then, invert the rest of the digits.

$$\begin{array}{r} 100100 \\ + \text{?????} \\ \hline 000000 \end{array}$$

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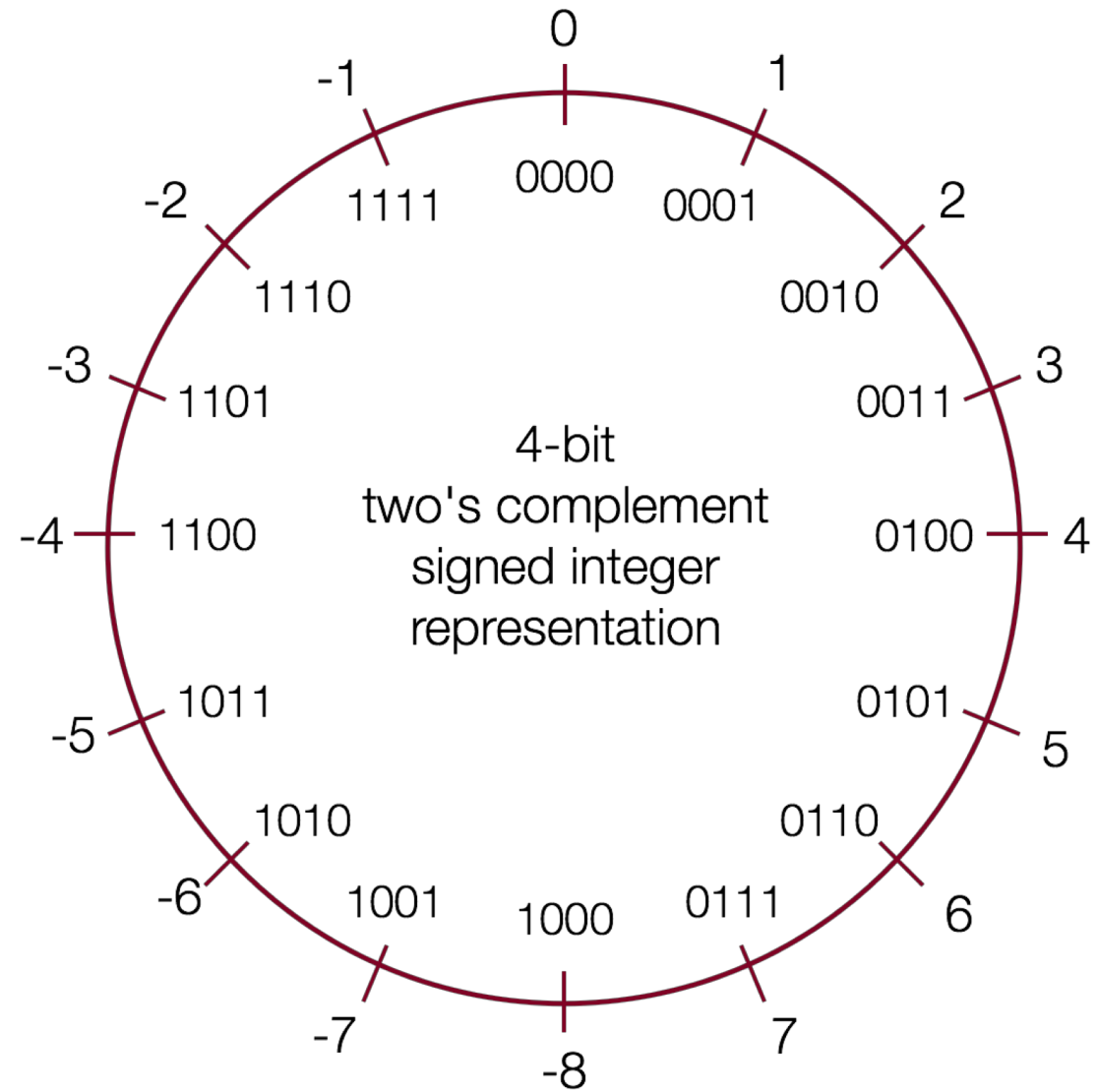
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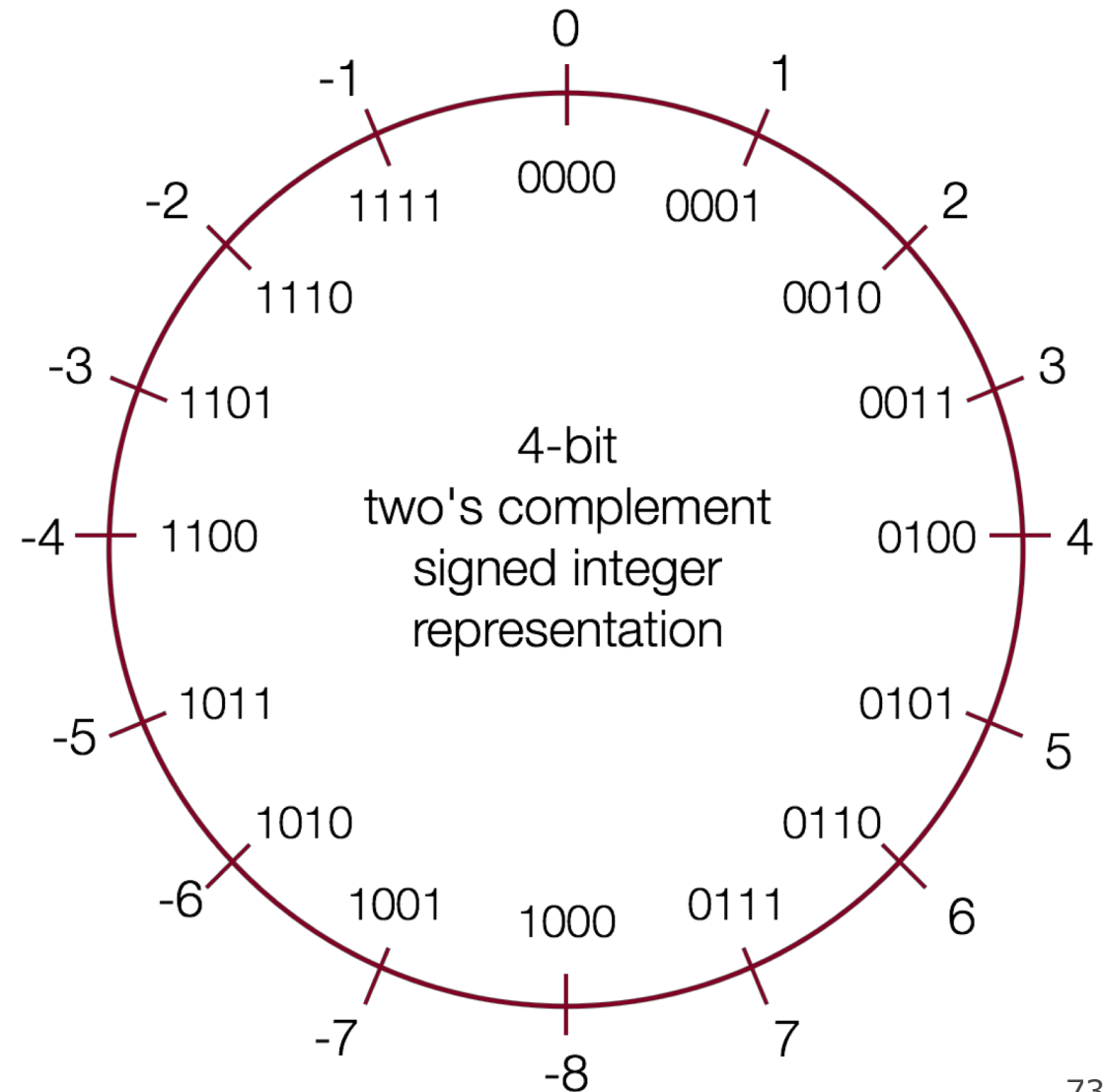
$$\begin{array}{r} 100100 \\ + 011100 \\ \hline 000000 \end{array}$$

# Two's Complement



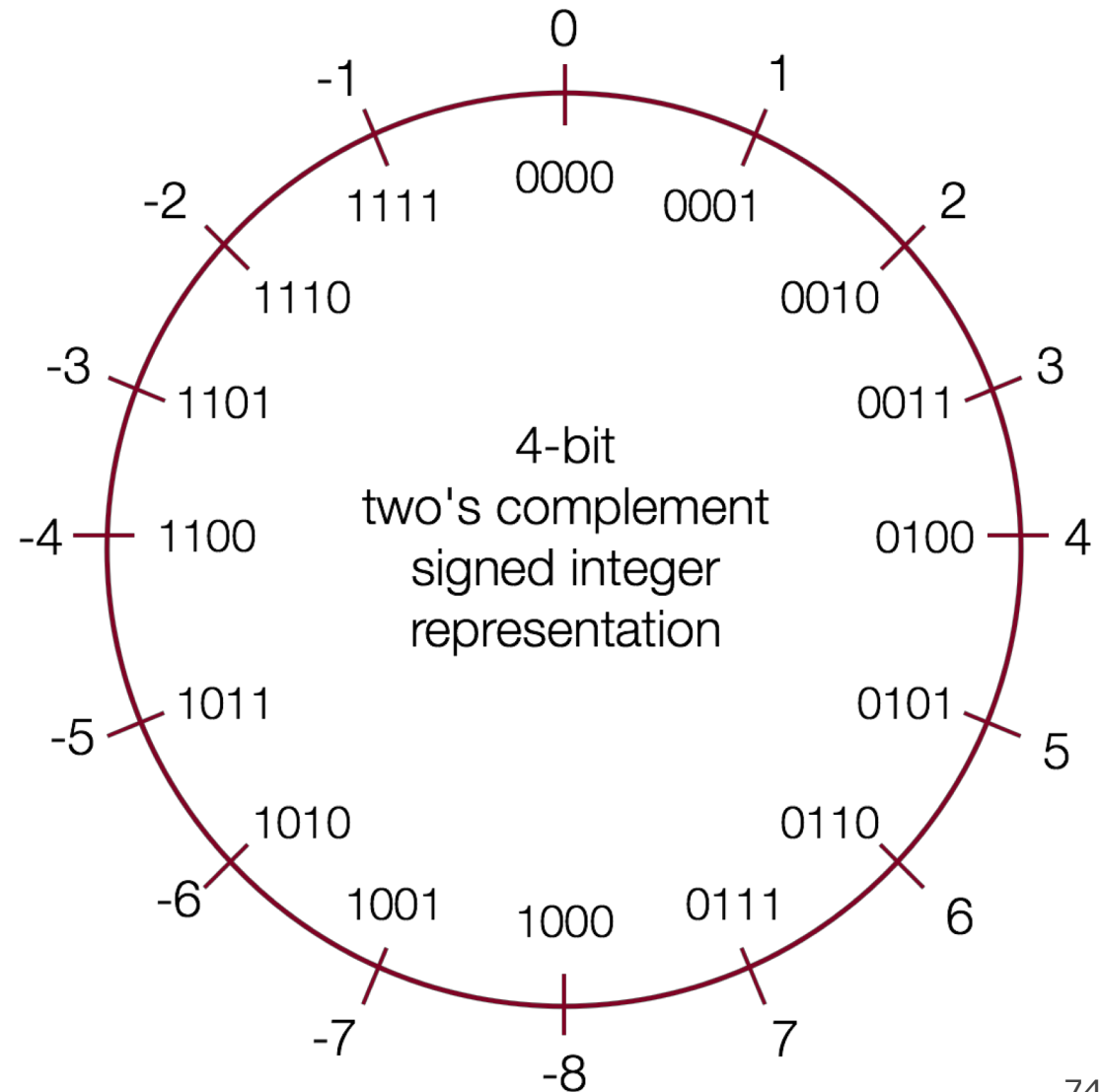
# Two's Complement

- In **two's complement**, we represent a positive number as **itself**, and its negative equivalent as the **two's complement of itself**.
- The **two's complement** of a number is the binary digits inverted, plus 1.
- This works to convert from positive to negative, **and** back from negative to positive!



# Two's Complement

- **Con:** more difficult to represent, and difficult to convert to/from decimal and between positive and negative.
- **Pro:** only 1 representation for 0!
- **Pro:** all bits are used to represent as many numbers as possible
- **Pro:** it turns out that the most significant bit *still indicates the sign* of a number.
- **Pro:** arithmetic is easy: we just add!



# Two's Complement

- Adding two numbers is just...adding! There is no special case needed for negatives. E.g. what is  $2 + -5$ ?

$$\begin{array}{r} 0010 \\ +1011 \\ \hline 1101 \end{array}$$

2  
-5  
-3

# Two's Complement

- Subtracting two numbers is just performing the two's complement on one of them and then adding. E.g.  $4 - 5 = -1$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} 0100 \\ -0101 \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 4 \\ 5 \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{r} 0100 \\ +1011 \\ \hline 1111 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 4 \\ -5 \\ -1 \end{array}$$



# Two's Complement

- Multiplying two numbers is just multiplying, and discarding overflow digits.  
E.g.  $-2 \times -3 = 6$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} 1110 \text{ (-2)} \\ \times \underline{1101} \text{ (-3)} \\ \hline 1110 \\ 0000 \\ 1110 \\ + \underline{1110} \\ \hline \cancel{1011}0110 \text{ (6)} \end{array}$$

# Practice: Two's Complement

What are the negative or positive equivalents of the numbers below?

a) -4 (1100)

b) 7 (0111)

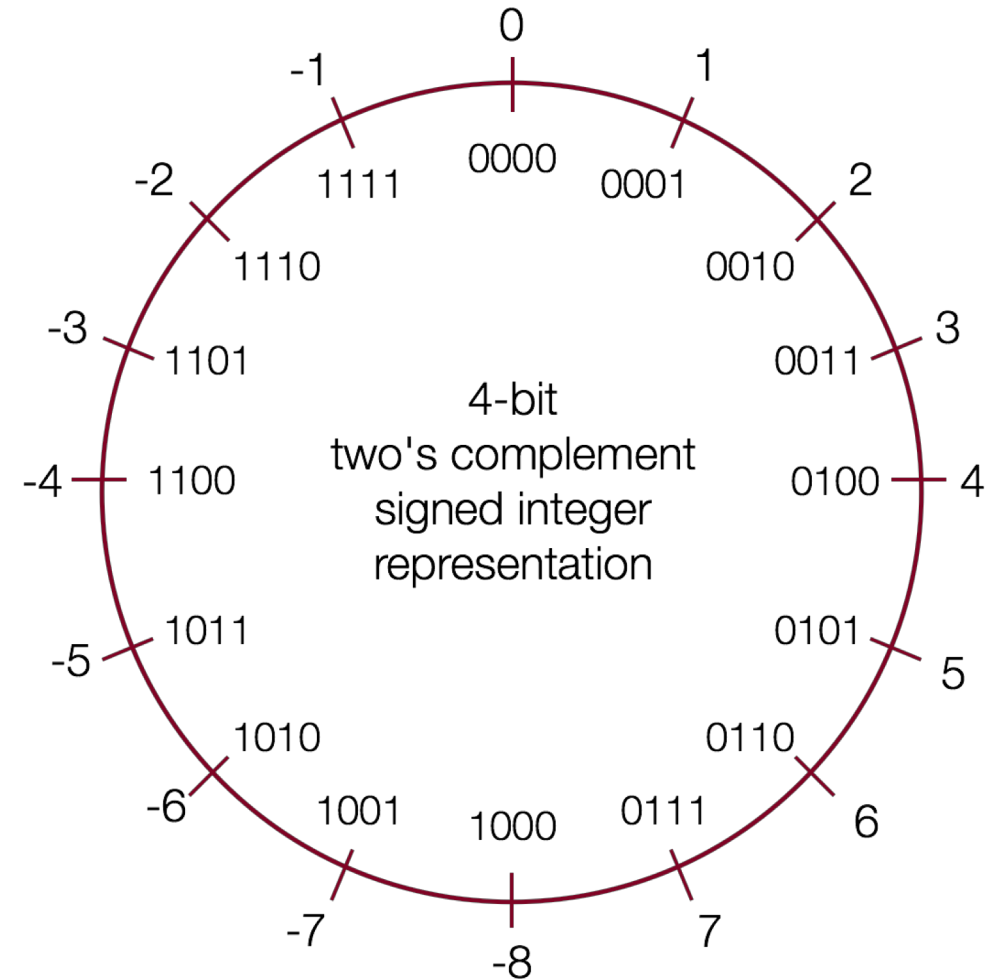
c) 3 (0011)

d) -8 (1000)

# Practice: Two's Complement

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- a) -4 (1100)
- b) 7 (0111)
- c) 3 (0011)
- d) -8 (1000)



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# Announcements

- Sign up for Piazza on the Help page if you haven't already!
- Assign0 released earlier this week, due Mon.
- Lab signups opened earlier this week, start next week.
- Please send course staff OAE letters for accommodations!

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# Overflow and Underflow

- If you exceed the **maximum** value of your bit representation, you *wrap around* or *overflow* back to the **smallest** bit representation.

$$0b1111 + 0b1 = 0b0000$$

- If you go below the **minimum** value of your bit representation, you *wrap around* or *underflow* back to the **largest** bit representation.

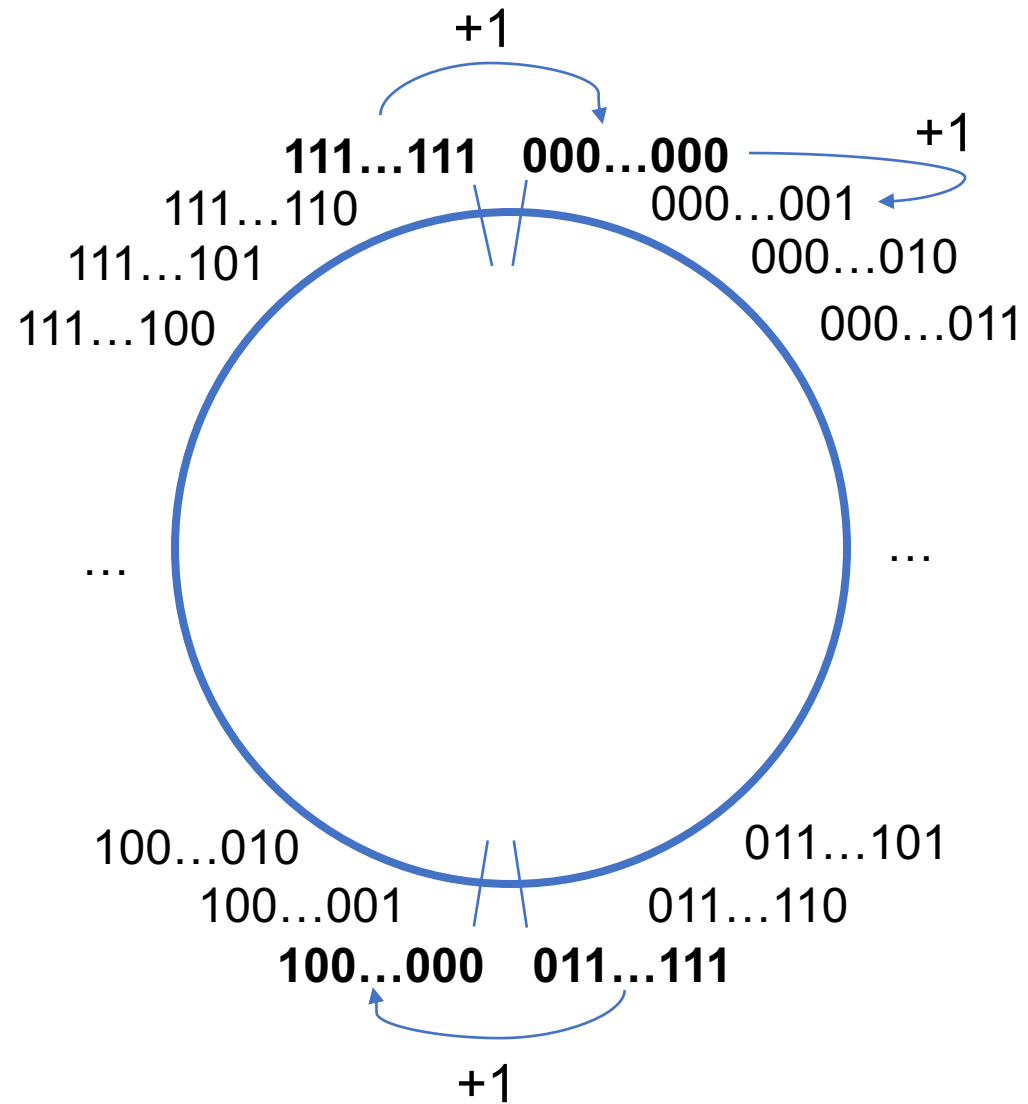
$$0b0000 - 0b1 = 0b1111$$

# Min and Max Integer Values

Type	Width (bytes)	Width (bits)	Min in hex (name)	Max in hex (name)
char	1	8	80 (CHAR_MIN)	7F (CHAR_MAX)
unsigned char	1	8	0	FF (UCHAR_MAX)
short	2	16	8000 (SHRT_MIN)	7FFF (SHRT_MAX)
unsigned short	2	16	0	FFFF (USHRT_MAX)
int	4	32	80000000 (INT_MIN)	7FFFFFFF (INT_MAX)
unsigned int	4	32	0	FFFFFFFF (UINT_MAX)
long	8	64	8000000000000000 (LONG_MIN)	7FFFFFFFFFFFFFFF (LONG_MAX)
unsigned long	8	64	0	FFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF (ULONG_MAX)



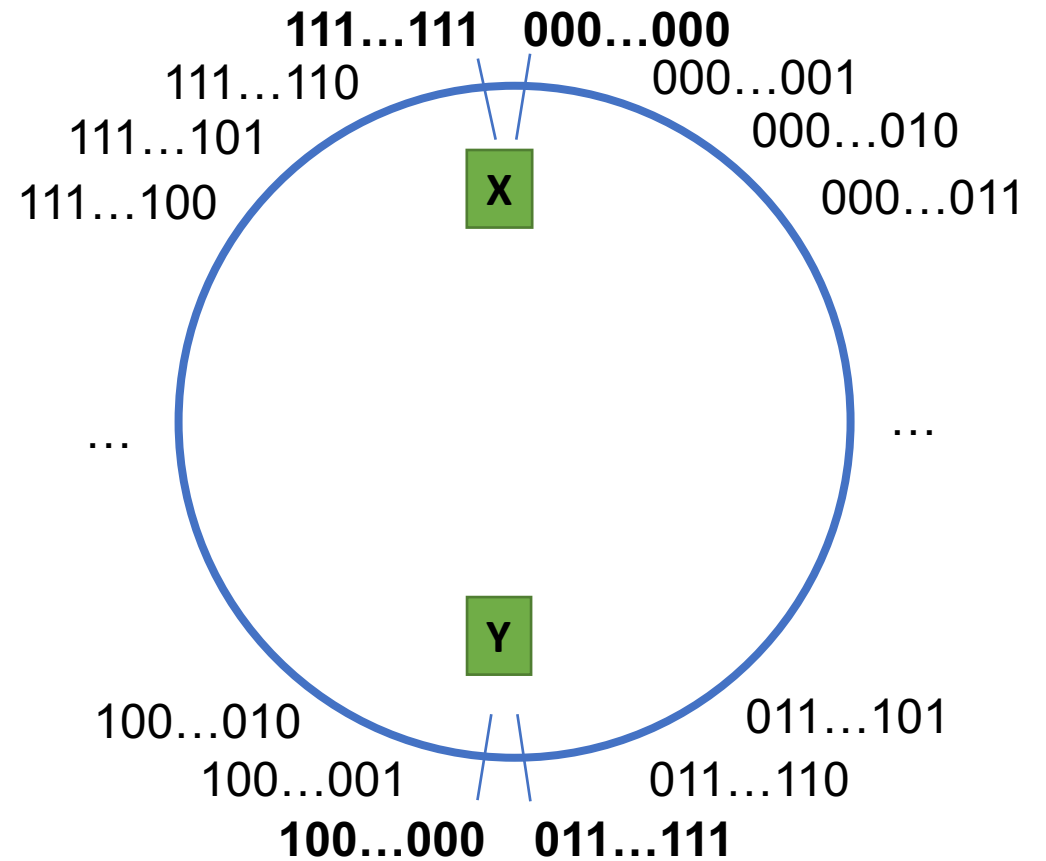
# Overflow and Underflow



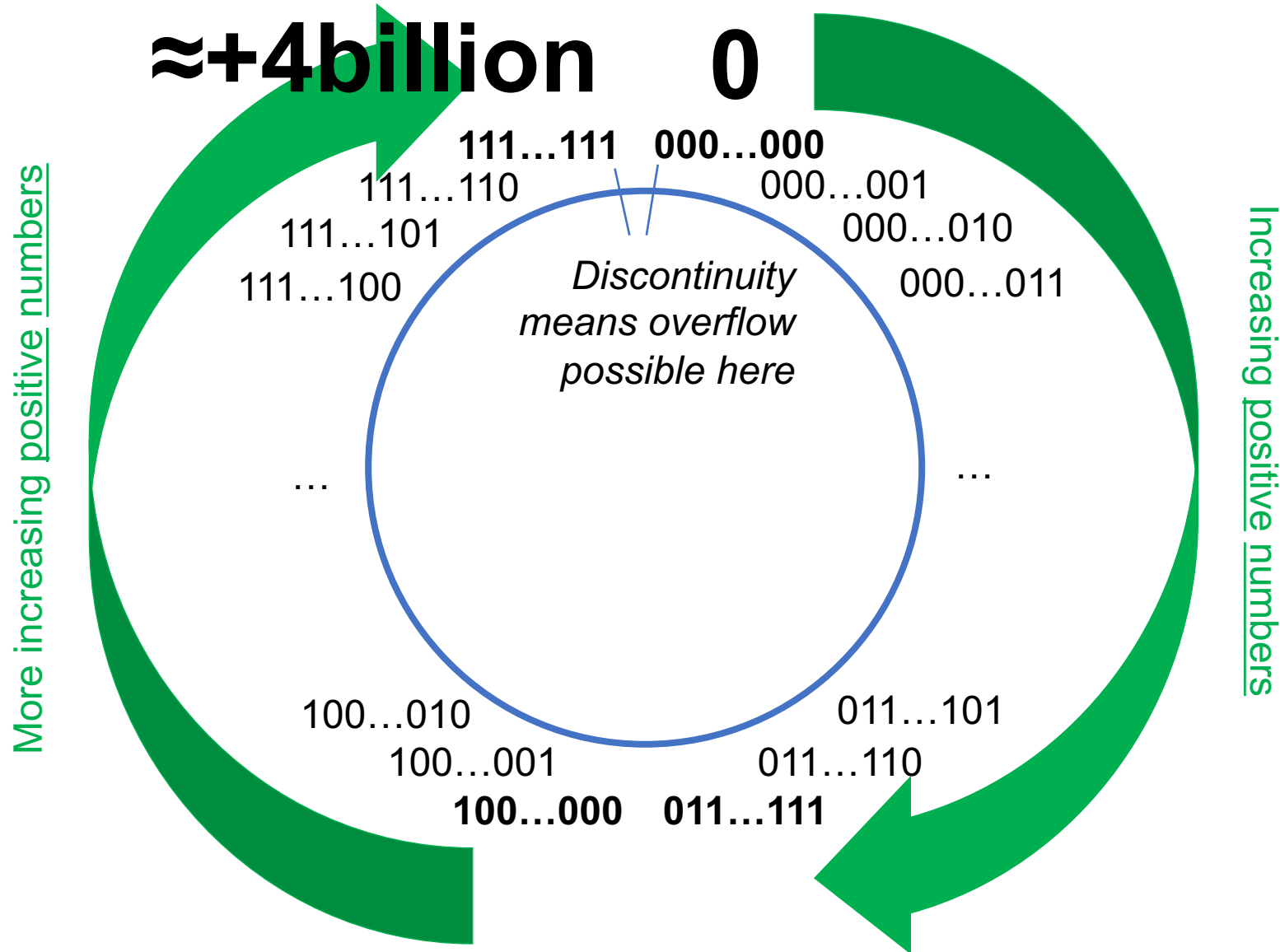
# Overflow

**At which points can overflow occur for signed and unsigned int?** *(assume binary values shown are all 32 bits)*

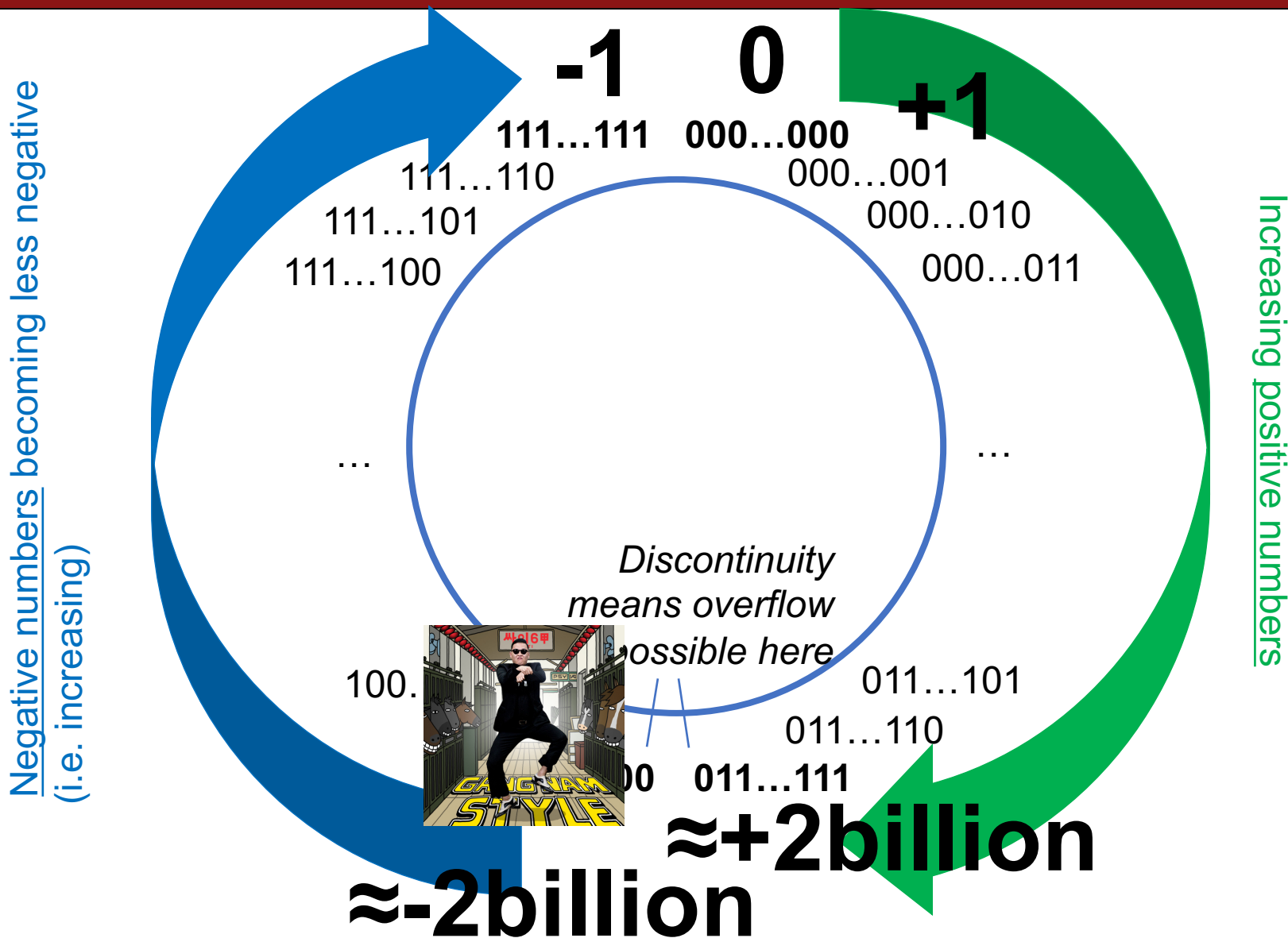
- A. Signed and unsigned can both overflow at points X and Y
- B. Signed can overflow only at X, unsigned only at Y
- C. Signed can overflow only at Y, unsigned only at X
- D. Signed can overflow at X and Y, unsigned only at X
- E. Other



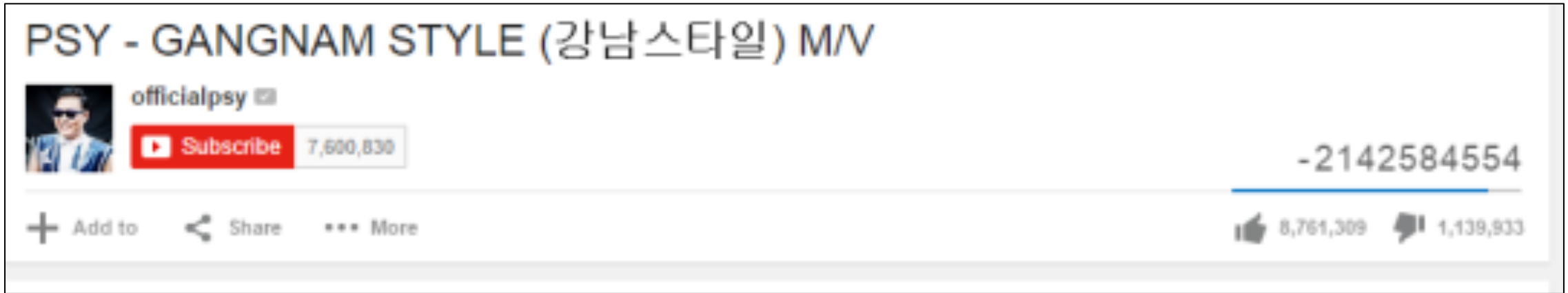
# Unsigned Integers




# Signed Numbers




# Overflow In Practice: PSY







PSY - GANGNAM STYLE (강남스타일) M/V

officialpsy 

 7,600,830

-2142584554

+ Add to  Share  More

 8,761,309  1,139,933

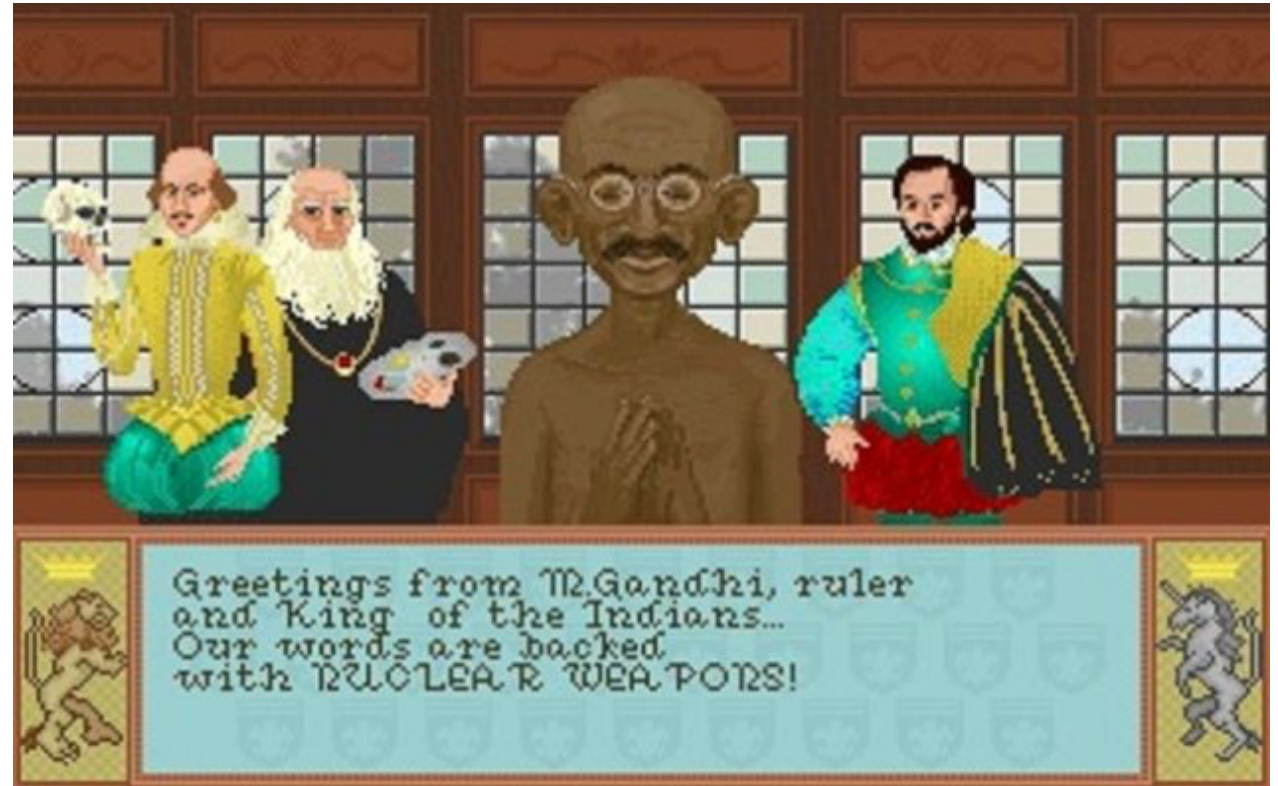
**YouTube:** “We never thought a video would be watched in numbers greater than a 32-bit integer (=2,147,483,647 views), but that was before we met PSY. "Gangnam Style" has been viewed so many times we had to upgrade to a 64-bit integer (9,223,372,036,854,775,808)!”

# Overflow In Practice: Timestamps

- Many systems store timestamps as **the number of seconds since Jan. 1, 1970** in a **signed 32-bit integer**.
- **Problem:** the latest timestamp that can be represented this way is 3:14:07 UTC on Jan. 13 2038!

# Underflow In Practice: Gandhi

- In the game “Civilization”, each civilization leader had an “aggression” rating. Gandhi was meant to be peaceful, and had a score of 1.
- If you adopted “democracy”, all players’ aggression reduced by 2. Gandhi’s went from 1 to **255**!
- Gandhi then became a big fan of nuclear weapons.



<https://kotaku.com/why-gandhi-is-such-an-asshole-in-civilization-1653818245>

# printf and Integers

- There are 3 placeholders for 32-bit integers that we can use:
  - %d: signed 32-bit int
  - %u: unsigned 32-bit int
  - %x: hex 32-bit int
- As long as the value is a 32-bit type, `printf` will **treat it according to the placeholder!**



# Casting

- What happens at the byte level when we cast between variable types? **The bytes remain the same! This means they may be interpreted differently depending on the type.**

```
int v = -12345;
unsigned int uv = v;
printf("v = %d, uv = %u\n", v, uv);
```

This prints out: "v = -12345, uv = 4294954951". **Why?**

# Casting

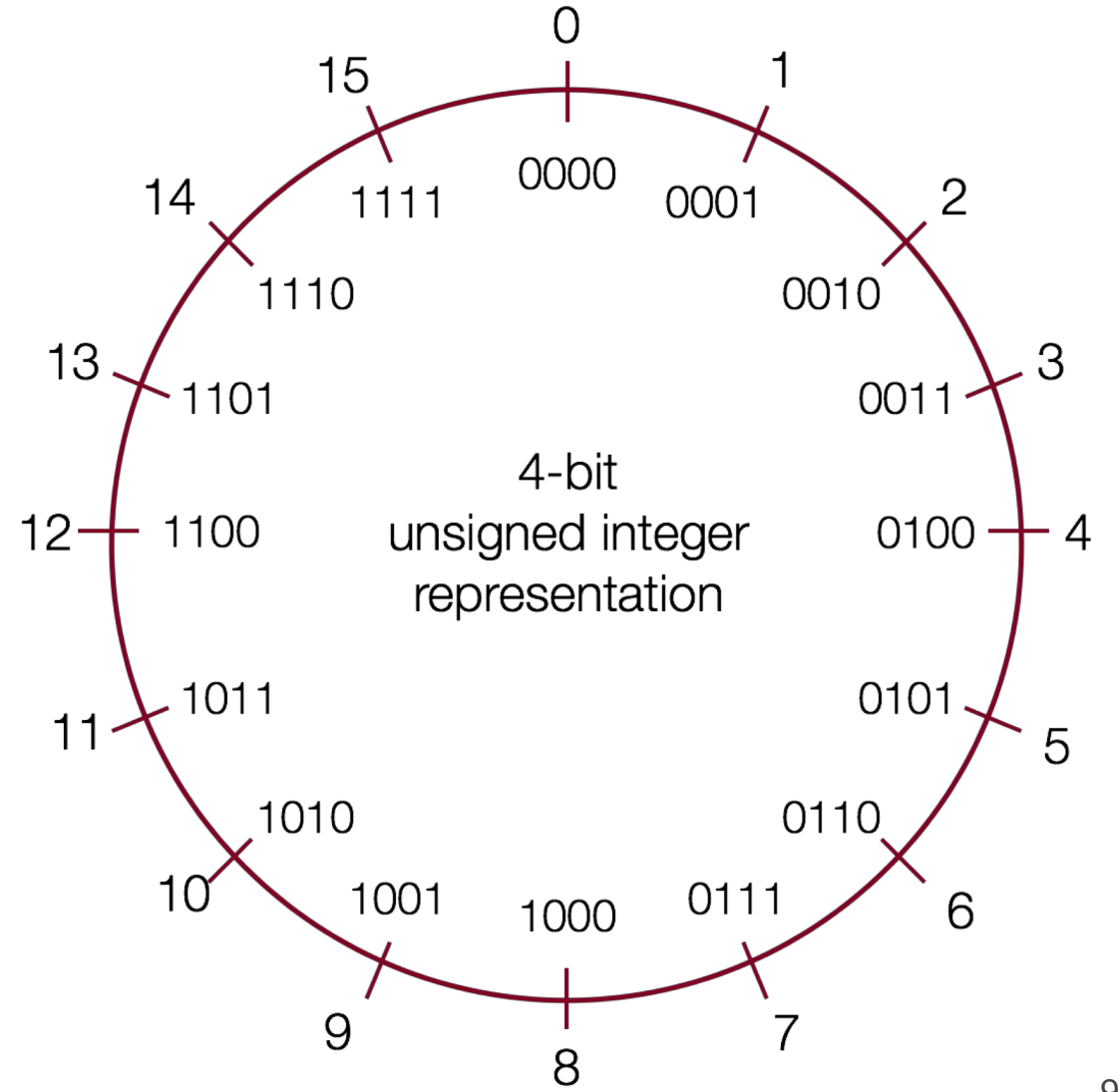
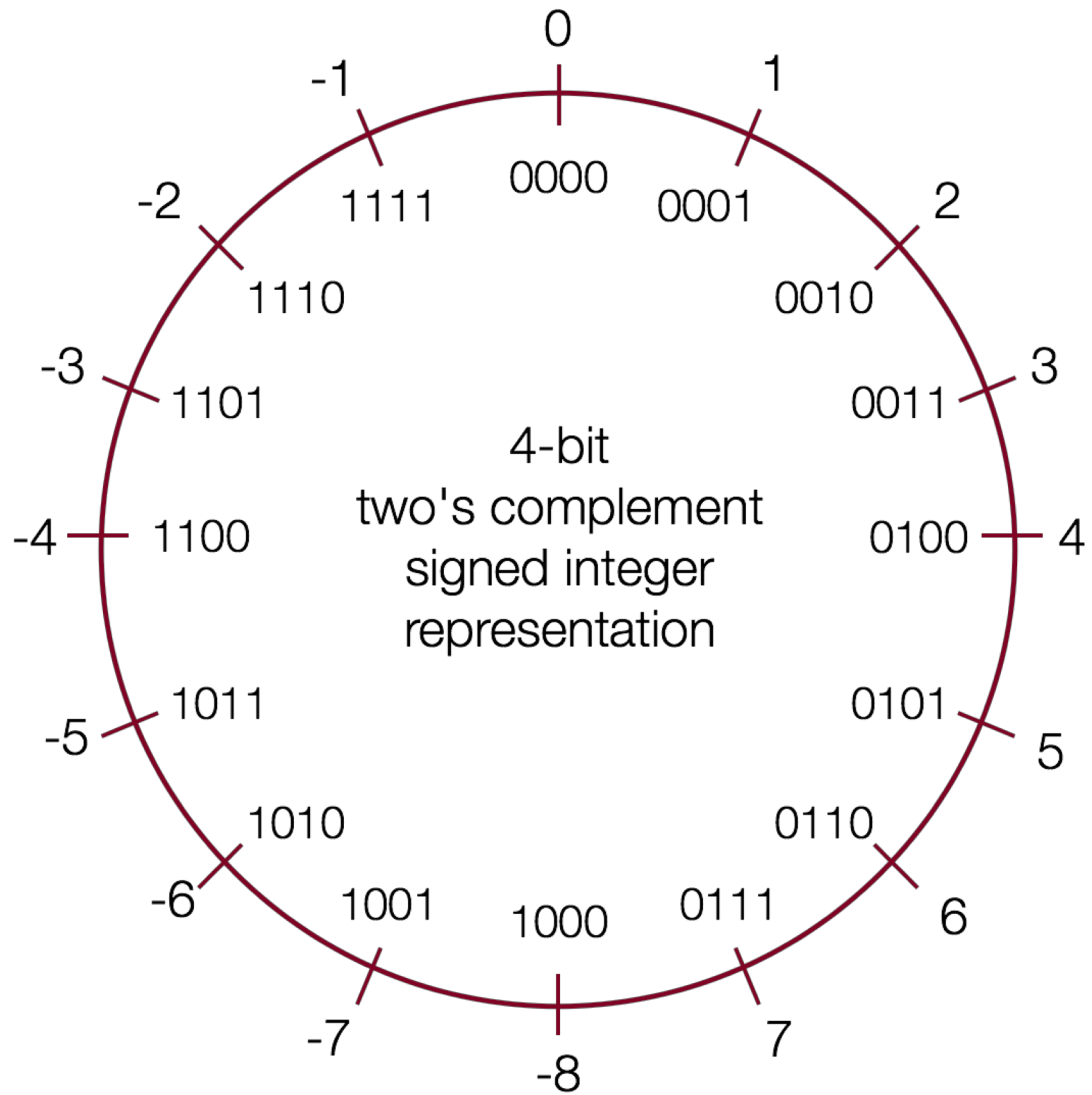
- What happens at the byte level when we cast between variable types? **The bytes remain the same! This means they may be interpreted differently depending on the type.**

```
int v = -12345;
unsigned int uv = v;
printf("v = %d, uv = %u\n", v, uv);
```

The bit representation for -12345 is **0b11000000111001**.

If we treat this binary representation as a positive number, it's *huge*!

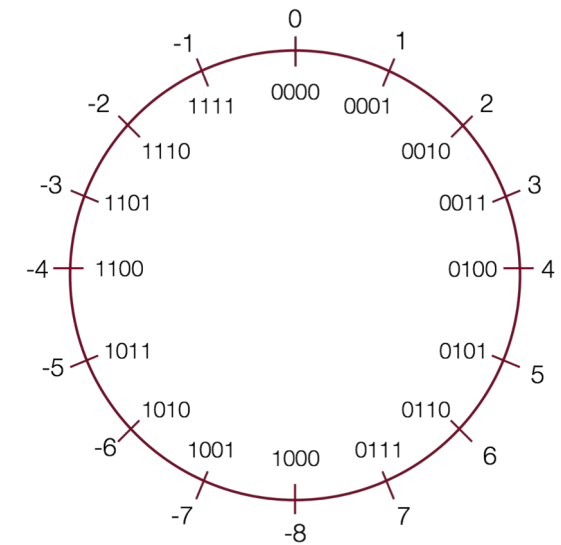
# Casting



# Comparisons Between Different Types

- **Be careful** when comparing signed and unsigned integers. **C will implicitly cast** the signed argument to unsigned, and then performs the operation assuming both numbers are non-negative.

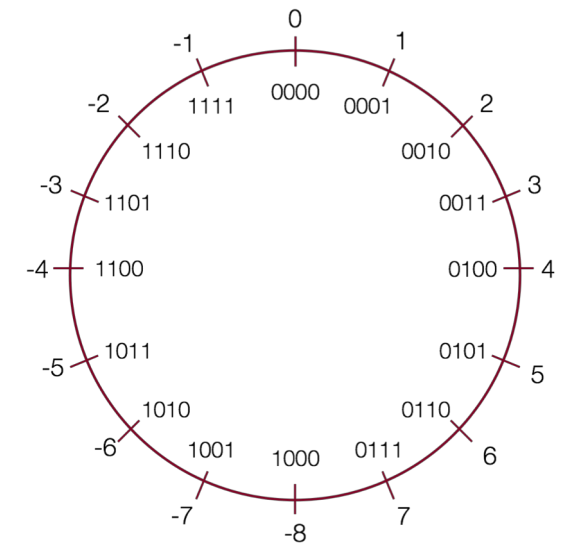
Expression	Type	Evaluation
<code>0 == 0U</code>		
<code>-1 &lt; 0</code>		
<code>-1 &lt; 0U</code>		
<code>2147483647 &gt; -2147483647 - 1</code>		
<code>2147483647U &gt; -2147483647 - 1</code>		
<code>2147483647 &gt; (int)2147483648U</code>		
<code>-1 &gt; -2</code>		
<code>(unsigned)-1 &gt; -2</code>		



# Comparisons Between Different Types

- **Be careful** when comparing signed and unsigned integers. **C will implicitly cast** the signed argument to unsigned, and then performs the operation assuming both numbers are non-negative.

Expression	Type	Evaluation
<code>0 == 0U</code>	Unsigned	1
<code>-1 &lt; 0</code>	Signed	1
<code>-1 &lt; 0U</code>	Unsigned	0
<code>2147483647 &gt; -2147483647 - 1</code>	Signed	1
<code>2147483647U &gt; -2147483647 - 1</code>	Unsigned	0
<code>2147483647 &gt; (int)2147483648U</code>	Signed	1
<code>-1 &gt; -2</code>	Signed	1
<code>(unsigned)-1 &gt; -2</code>	Unsigned	1



# Comparisons Between Different Types

Which many of the following statements are true? (*assume that variables are set to values that place them in the spots shown*)

**s3 > u3**

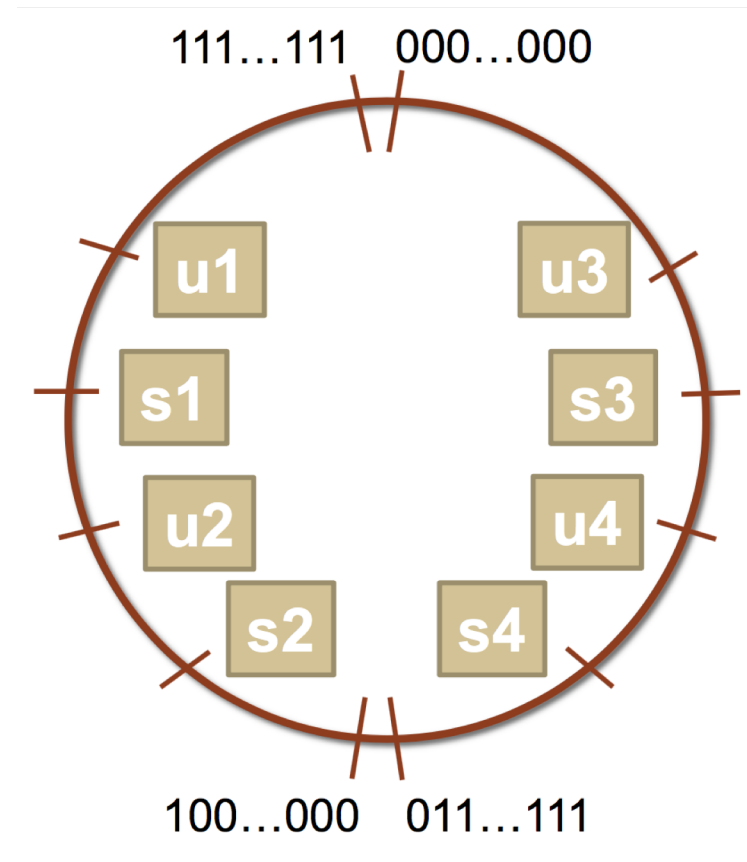
**u2 > u4**

**s2 > s4**

**s1 > s2**

**u1 > u2**

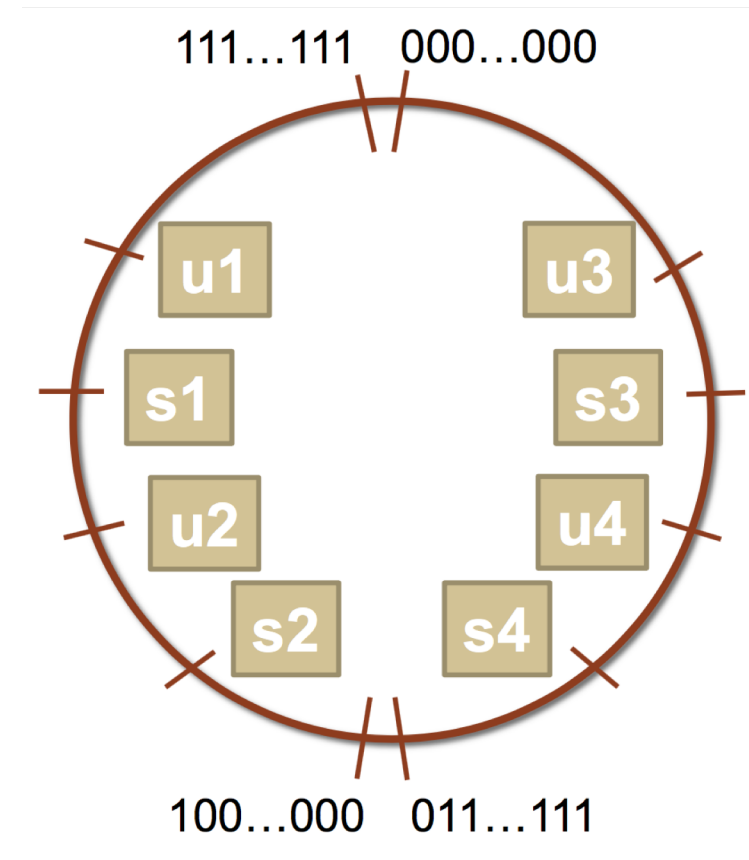
**s1 > u3**



# Comparisons Between Different Types

Which many of the following statements are true? (*assume that variables are set to values that place them in the spots shown*)

- s3 > u3 - true**
- u2 > u4 - true**
- s2 > s4 - false**
- s1 > s2 - true**
- u1 > u2 - true**
- s1 > u3 - true**



# Recap

- Bits and Bytes
- Hexadecimal
- Integer Representations
- Unsigned Integers
- Signed Integers
- **Break:** Announcements
- Casting and Combining Types

**Next time:** Boolean logic and bit operations