

# Computer Programming

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Session: More on Two's Complement Representation

# Quick Recap of Relevant Topics

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- Representation of integers in a computer
  - Unsigned integers
  - Signed integers

# Overview of This Lecture

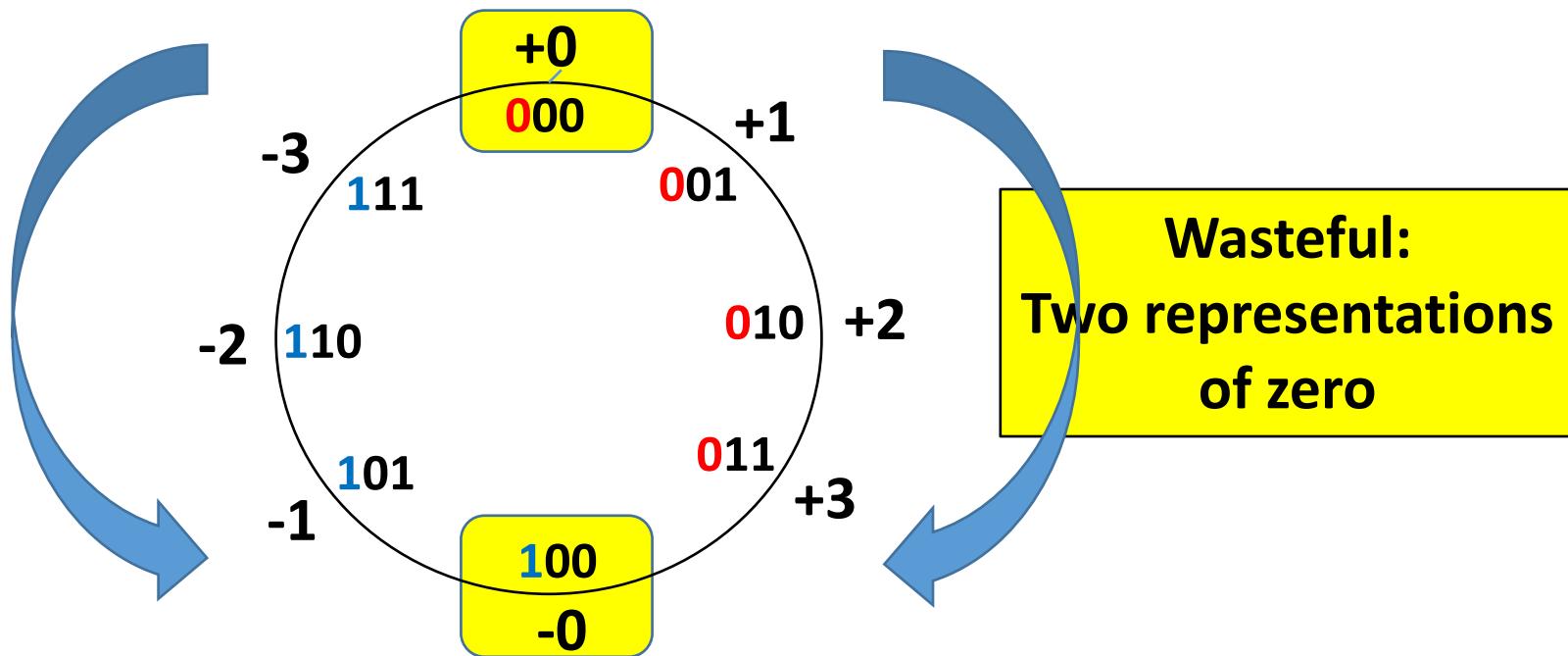
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- A closer look at two's complement representation
- Magnitude of negative integers in two's complement representation

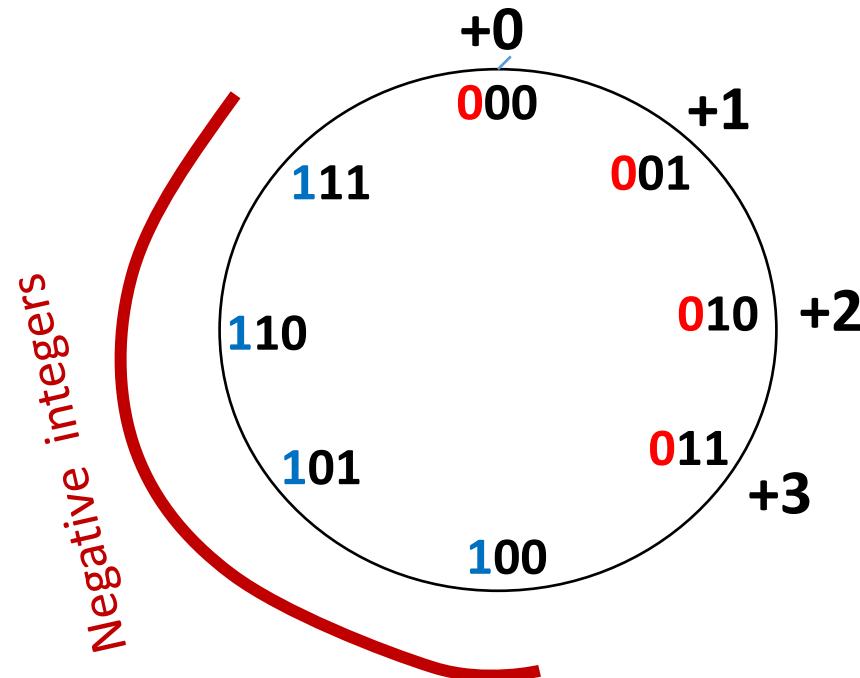
# Representing Signed Integers

- Treat MSB as sign bit: negative if MSB is 1, positive if MSB is 0
  - **Sign-magnitude representation**
  - Consider integers represented using 3 bits



# How Else Could We Represent?

- Using MSB to represent sign is convenient



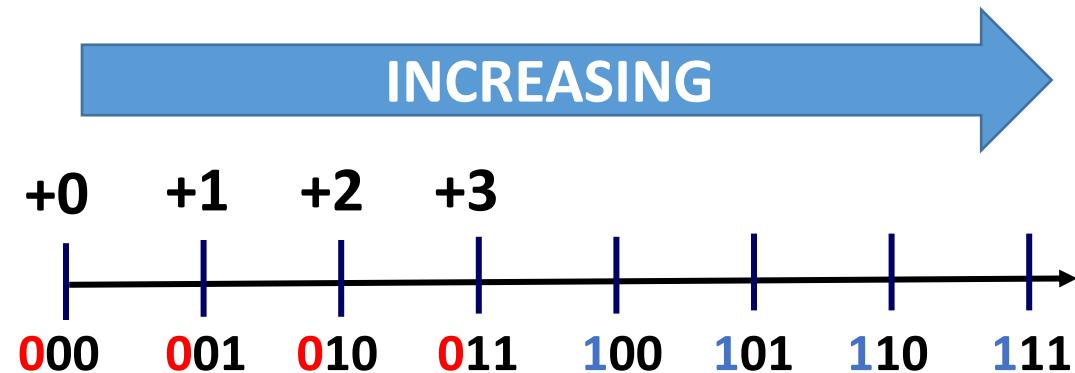
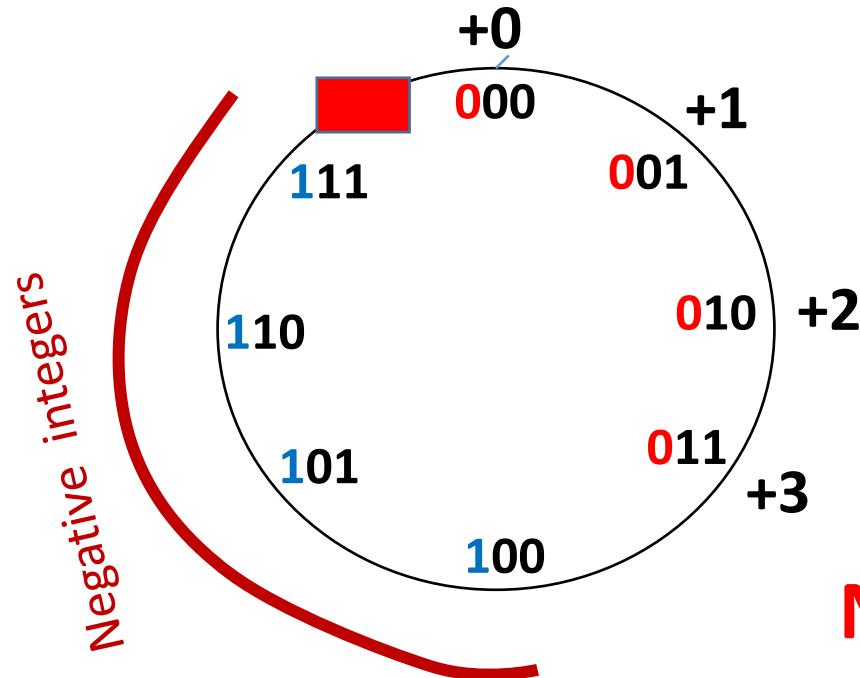
What negative number should 100 represent?

How about 101, 111, ...?

Can we think of the circle as a wrapped-around number line?

# How Else Could We Represent?

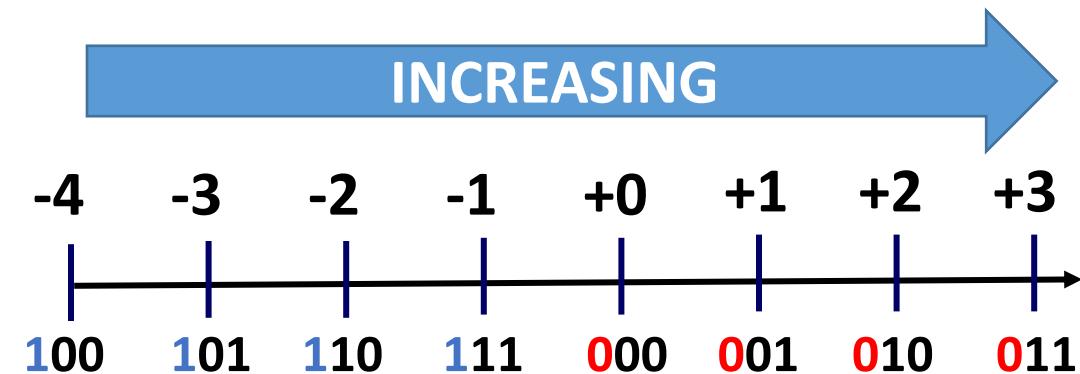
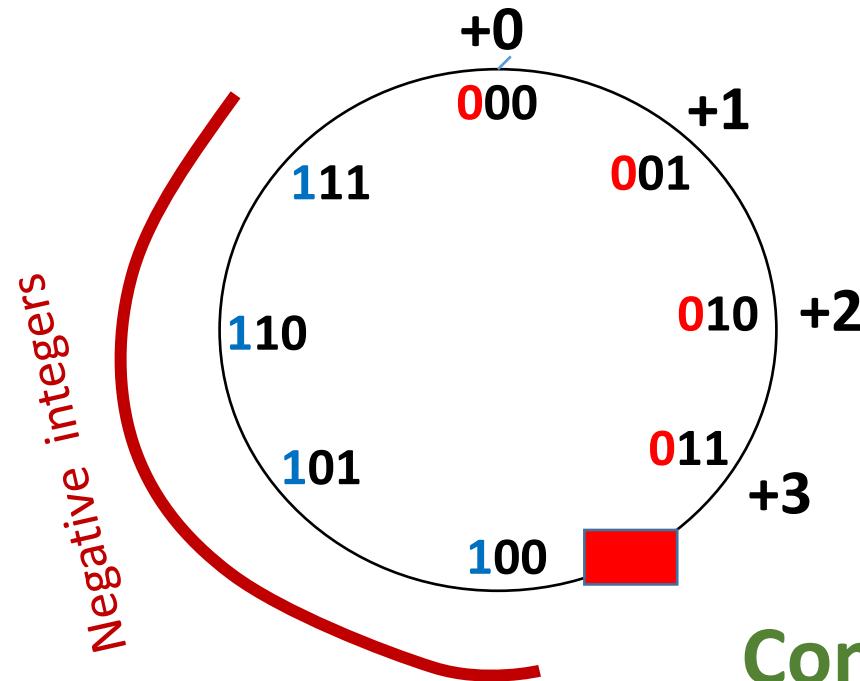
- Where do we break the circle?



No space for negative integers !!!

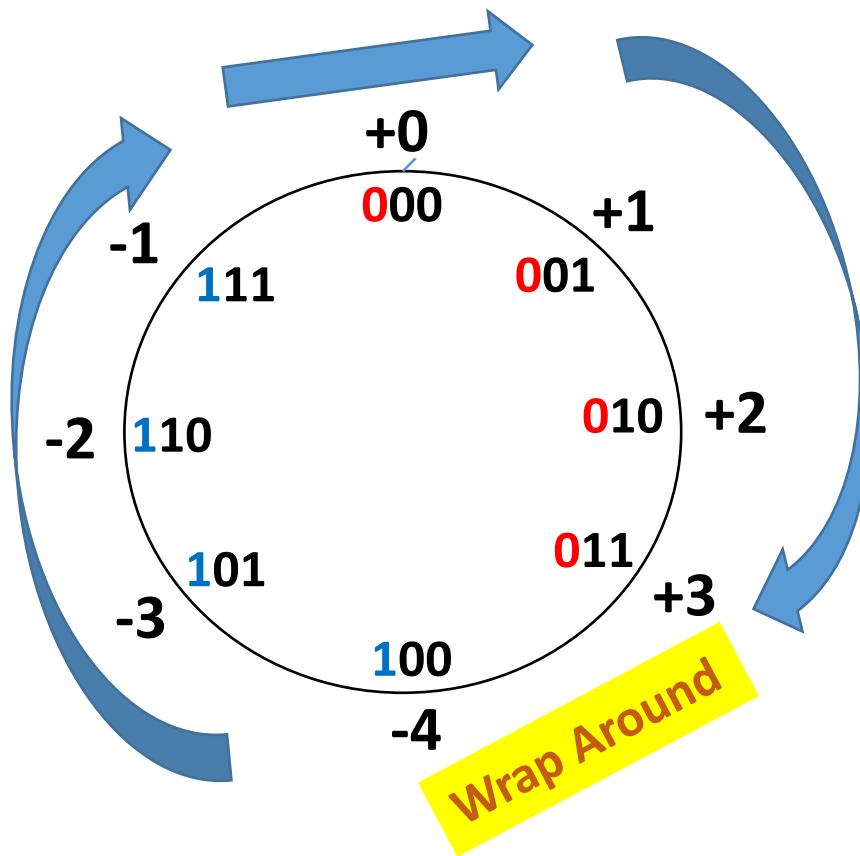
# How Else Could We Represent?

- Where do we break the circle?



Consistent with increasing direction

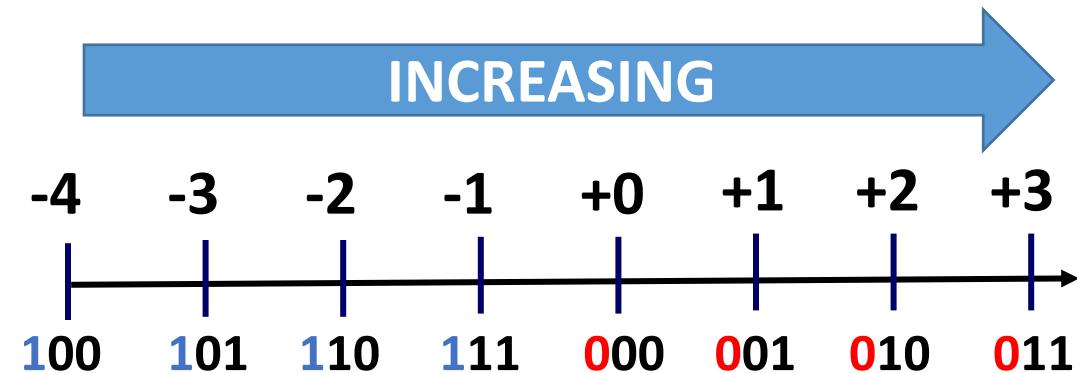
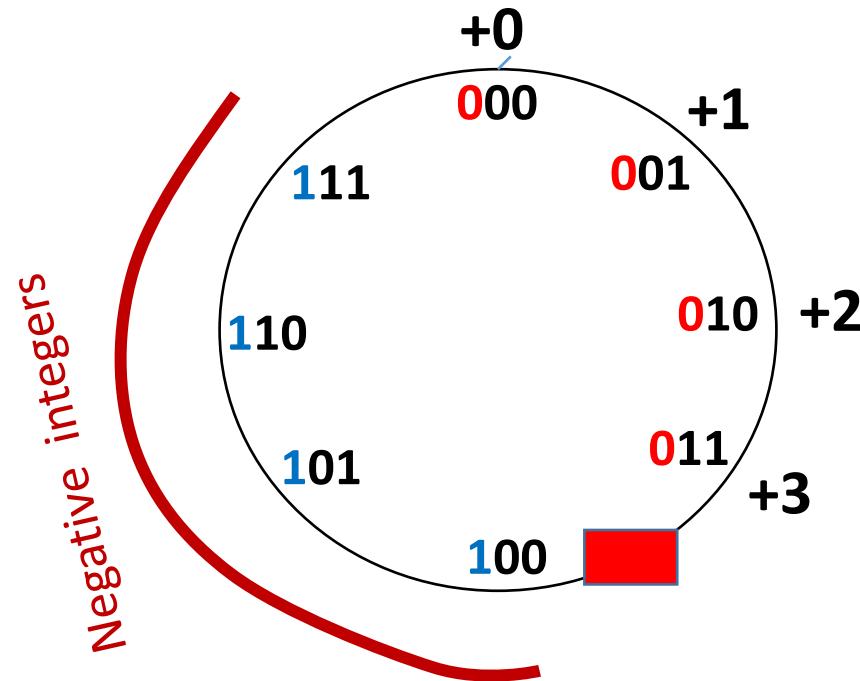
# Two's Complement Representation



8 numbers represented:  
-4 through +3

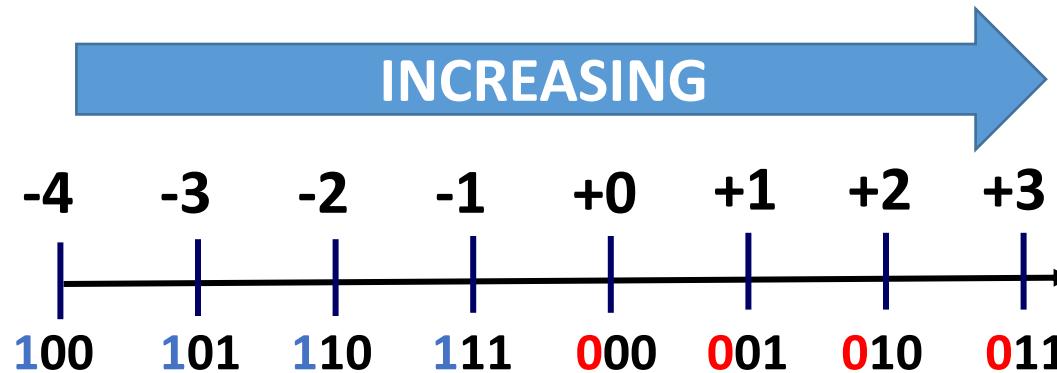
Only one representation of 0

# Magnitudes of Negative Integers



Need a way to map binary representation to magnitudes of negative integers

# Magnitudes of Negative Integers



Desired map:  $11 \rightarrow 1, 10 \rightarrow 2, 01 \rightarrow 3, 00 \rightarrow 4$

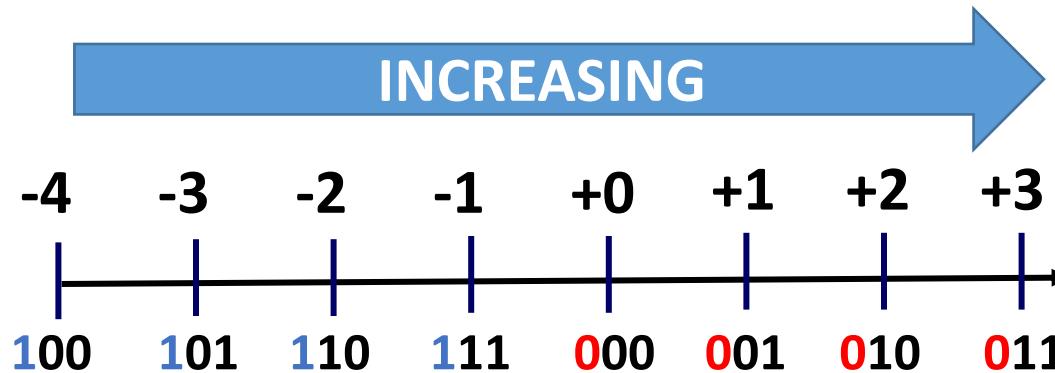
Observation:  $11$  (represents unsigned 3)  $\rightarrow 2^2 - 3 = 1$

$10$  (represents unsigned 2)  $\rightarrow 2^2 - 2 = 2$

$01$  (represents unsigned 1)  $\rightarrow 2^2 - 1 = 3$

$00$  (represents unsigned 0)  $\rightarrow 2^2 - 0 = 4$

# Magnitudes of Negative Integers



Desired map:  $11 \rightarrow 1, 10 \rightarrow 2, 01 \rightarrow 3, 00 \rightarrow 4$

Observation:  $11$  (represents unsigned 3)  $\rightarrow 00 (= 0) + 1 = 1$   
 $10$  (represents unsigned 2)  $\rightarrow 01 (= 1) + 1 = 2$   
 $01$  (represents unsigned 1)  $\rightarrow 10 (= 2) + 1 = 3$   
 $00$  (represents unsigned 0)  $\rightarrow 11 (= 3) + 1 = 4$

# Magnitude of Negative Integers



- Is there an easy way to figure out the magnitude of what 10111 represents in 2's complement?
  - 10111 has MSB 1: Negative integer
  - To get absolute value of 10111
    - Ignore MSB: 10111
    - Flip every bit in 0111: 1000 (decimal 8)
    - Add 1: decimal 9
    - Absolute value is 9
  - Answer: -9

# Two's Complement Representation



- Is there an easy way to figure out the magnitude of what 10111 represents in 2's complement?
  - 10111 has MSB 1: Negative integer
  - To get absolute value of 10111
    - Ignore MSB: 10111 (decimal 7)
    - Magnitude:  $2^4 - 7 = 16 - 7 = 9$
  - Answer: -9

No. of bits in magnitude = No. of bits - 1

# Summary

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- Rationale behind two's complement representation
- Simple ways of getting magnitude of negative integers from two's complement representation