REPRESENTANTIONS FOR FAST ARITHMETIC

Intensive Computation
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Lecture 5

REDUNDANT NUMBER SYSTEMS

Efficient number representations

- Representations other than binary and 2's complement have been studied with the aim of obtaining a faster arithmetic
- The most important examples of such representations are:
 - Redundant number systems
 - Residue number systems

Efficient number representations

- When a representation other than binary or 2's complement is adopted, it is important to consider the impact that the change of representation has on:
 - Standard operations of ALU:
 - Zero and overflow recognition
 - Sign detection
 - Arithmetic comparison
 - Conversions:
 - Forward conversion from binary to the new representation
 - Reverse conversion from the new representation to binary

- Addition is the main arithmetic operation since it is the building block in implementing other arithmetic operations
- All other operations speed and cost depend on the addition
- Speed and cost of addition mainly depend on the carry propagation
- The questions are:
 - can numbers be represented in such a way that addition limits carry propagation?
 - can numbers be represented in such a way that addition does not involve carry propagation?

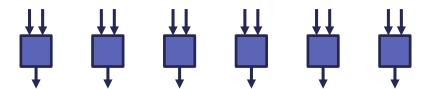
REDUNDANT NUMBER SYSTEMS

Computer Arithmetic – Algorithms and Hardware Designs – B. Parhami – 2nd Ed Ch. 3 Redundant Number Systems

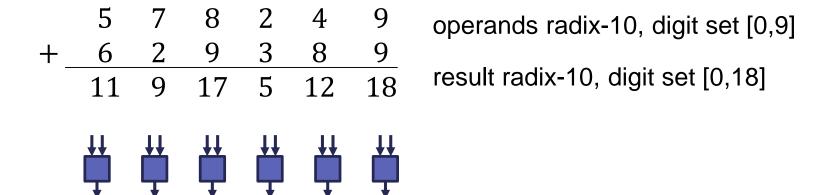
Computer Arithmetic Algorithms – I. Koren – 2nd Ed

Ch. 2 Unconventional Fixed-Radix Number Systems

- The most efficient way to execute an addition is avoiding carry propagation that is executing carry-free addition
- Carry-free addition can be obtained by:
 - widening of the digit set
 - executing all digit additions simultaneously



Example - Let us consider radix r=10 and digit set [0, 9]



 If we allow the digit set [0, 18] for the result, the scheme works, but only for the first addition, not for the subsequent additions

- Consider now adding two numbers with r=10 and set [0, 18]
- The sum of digits for each position is in [0, 36]
- It can be decomposed into an interim sum in [0, 16] and a **transfer digit** (carry) in $[0, 2] \rightarrow [0, 36] = 10 \times [0, 2] + [0, 16]$

		11	9	17	10	12	18	Operands d
		6	12	9	10	8	18	_
+		17	21	26	20	20	36	Result in dig
		\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	
		7	11	16	0	10	16	Intermediate
	K	/		/	V .		/	
	1	1	1	2	1	2		Transfer dig
	1	8	12	18	1	12	16	Sum [0,18]

digit in [0,18]

git set [0,36]

e sums [0,16]

git set [0,2]

- Hence
 - we cannot do true carry-free addition
 - carry propagates by only one position with r=10 and set [0, 18]
- Anyway, we refer to this scheme as carry-free addition
- Propagation of carries can be eliminated by a lookahead scheme:
 - Instead of first computing the transfer into position i based on the digits x_{i-1} and y_{i-1} and then combining it with the interim sum, we can determine s_i directly from x_i , y_i , x_{i-1} , and y_{i-1}
- The key to do carry-free addition is the redundancy introduced widening the digit set

- However, we really do not need this much redundancy in a decimal number system for carry-free addition
- The digit set [0, 11] will work
- Example

		11	10	7	11	3	8	
		7	2	9	10	9	8	Operands digit in [0,11]
+		18	12	16	21	12	16	Result in digit set [0,22]
		\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	
		8	2	6	1	2	6	Intermediate sums [0,9]
	\swarrow	/ /	/	/ k		/ 4	_	
	1	1	1	2	1	1		Transfer digit set [0,2]
	1	9	3	8	2	3	6	Sum [0,11]

Conventional radix-r systems use [0, r-1] digit set

radix-10
$$\rightarrow$$
 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
radix-2 \rightarrow 0, 1

- If the digit set (in radix-r system) contains more than r digits, the system is redundant
 - radix-2 \rightarrow 0, 1, 2 or -1, 0, 1
 - radix-10 \rightarrow 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
 - radix-10 \rightarrow -6, -5,-4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Redundancy may result from adopting the digit set wider than radix and mantaining the conventional number interpretation
- Redundancy may imply representation of numbers is not unique

- Digit sets of the form $[-\alpha, \beta]$ were studied for redundant number representations
- This class is called generalized signed-digit (GSD) representation
- A radix-r redundant signed-digit number system is based on digit set

S = {-
$$\alpha$$
, -(α - 1), ..., -1, 0, 1, ..., β }
where $1 \le \alpha, \beta \le r$ -1

- The digit set S contains $\alpha + \beta + 1$ values
- Hence multiple representations for any number in signed digit format → redundancy

- Main characteristics:
 - All digits have weights r^p (p-position, r-radix)
 - Digits have signed values
 - Any set digit $[-\alpha, \beta]$ including 0, can be used, and also $[-\alpha, \alpha]$
 - If $\alpha+\beta+1 > r$ the number system is redundant
- An important parameter of a GSD number system (but can be applied to any digit set) is its **redundancy index**: $\rho = \alpha + \beta + 1 r$
- Examples

[-1,1] radix-2
$$\rightarrow$$
 1-10-10 = $6_{(10)}$ and 01-110 = $6_{(10)}$
[-1,3] radix-4 \rightarrow 1-1203 = $227_{(10)}$ and 1-121-1 = $227_{(10)}$
1111 (2's compl.) \rightarrow -1111 = -1

Example

- radix-10 digit set $[\overline{9}, 9]$
- If n=2 the range is $\overline{99} < x < 99$ which includes 199 numbers
- With two digits (x_1, x_0) , each having 19 possibile values, there are 19^2 =361 representations
- Hence some numbers have more than one representation and the number system is redundant
- For example $(01) = (1\overline{9}) = 1$ and $(0\overline{2}) = (\overline{1}8) = -2$
- However the representation of 0 is unique and so is that of 10
- 361-199=162 redundant representations → 81% redundancy (162/199)
- redundancy index: $\rho = \alpha + \beta + 1 r = 9 + 9 + 1 10 = 9$

• The amount of redundancy can be reduces by restricting the digit set to the symmetric set $[\overline{a}, a]$ with $\left[\frac{r-1}{2}\right] \le a \le r-1$

Example

- For r=10 the range for a is 5 < a < 9
- If a = 6 for n=2 there are 133 numbers in the range $\overline{66} < x < 66$
- Each bit has 13 possible values there are 13²=169 representations
- Now 1 has only one representation (01) because $(1\overline{9})$ is not valid,
- 4 has two representations (04) and $(1\overline{6})$
- Redundancy is 27% (169-133/133) \rightarrow 36 redundant representations
- redundancy index: $\rho = 6 + 6 + 1 10 = 3$

- The original motivation to introduce SD numbers is to eliminate carry propagation chains in addition/subtraction so that execution time is independent of length of operands
- Anyway, SD numbers are useful for multiplication and division
- Addition algorithm
 - Consider $(x_{n-1}, ..., x_0) \pm (y_{n-1}, ..., y_0) = (s_{n-1}, ..., s_0)$
 - Breaking the carry chains requires an algorithm in which sum digit s_i depends only on the four operand digits x_i , y_i , x_{i-1} , and y_{i-1}
 - Step 1: Compute carry digit c_i and interim sum u_i

$$c_{i} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x_{i} + y_{i}) \ge a \\ \overline{1} & \text{if } (x_{i} + y_{i}) \le \overline{a} \\ 0 & \text{if } (x_{i} + y_{i}) < a \end{cases} \qquad u_{i} = x_{i} + y_{i} - rc_{i}$$

• Step 2: Calculate the final sum : $s_i = u_i + c_{i-1}$

Example

• r=10
$$a = 6$$
 $x_i \in \{-6, \dots, 0, 1, \dots, 6\}$

•
$$c_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x_i + y_i) \ge 6 \\ \overline{1} & \text{if } (x_i + y_i) \le \overline{6} \\ 0 & \text{if } (x_i + y_i) < 6 \end{cases}$$
 and $u_i = x_i + y_i - 10c_i$

Conventional addition

$$3645 \times + 1456 \text{ y}$$
 $\overline{5101 \text{ s}}$

Carry bits shifted to left to simplify execution of second step

- This addition algorithm can be used for conversion
 - Conversion from decimal number to SD
 - Consider each digit as the sum x_i+y_i
 - Example converting decimal 6849 to SD

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 & \underline{6849} & x_i + y_i \\
\hline
1101 & c_i \text{ computed using } x_i + y_i \\
\hline
 & \underline{4241} & u_i \text{ computed as } x_i + y_i - 10c_i \\
\hline
 & 1\overline{3251} & s_i \text{ computed as } u_i + c_{i-1}
\end{array}$$

- Conversion from SD to decimal
 - Subtract digits with negative weight from positive weight digits
 - Example converting $1\overline{3}\overline{2}5\overline{1}$ to decimal

$$\begin{array}{r}
 10050 \\
 -03201 \\
 \hline
 6849
 \end{array}$$

Choice of digit set to guarantee no new carry

- Sum digit $s_i = u_i + c_{i-1}$ must satisfy $|s_i| \le a$
- Since $|c_{i-1}| \le 1$, the condition $|u_i| \le a-1$ must hold for all x_i and y_i
- Largest $x_i + y_i$ is 2a for which $c_i = 1$ and $u_i = 2a r$
- Since $|u_i| \le a-1$ then $2a-r \le a-1$ holds and $a \le r-1$
- Smallest $x_i + y_i$ for which $c_i = 1$ is a and so $u_i = a r < 0$ that implies $|u_i| = r a$
- Substituting $|u_i| = r a$ into $|u_i| \le a 1$ we get $2a \ge r + 1$
- So the digit set must satisfy $\left[\frac{r+1}{2}\right] \le a \le r-1$
- For example, to guarantee no new carries in previous algorithm, SD decimal numbers must satisfy $a \ge 6$

Addition algorithm for the case r=2

- For r=2 we have only a=1 and only one possible digit set $x_i \in \{-1,0,1\} = \{\overline{1},0,1\}$
- Interim sum and carry in addition algorithm are:

$$c_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x_i + y_i) \ge 1\\ \bar{1} & \text{if } (x_i + y_i) \le \bar{1}\\ 0 & \text{if } (x_i + y_i) = 0. \end{cases} \qquad u_i = (x_i + y_i) - 2c_i$$

Summary of rules

x_iy_i	00	01	01	11	11	11
c_i	0	1	1	1	1	0
u_i	0	1	1	0	0	0

- Note that $10, \overline{1}0, \overline{1}1$ are not included since addition is commutative
- Since in the binary case $a \ge \lceil \frac{r+1}{2} \rceil = 2$ cannot be satisfied, there is no guarantee a new carry will not be generated in step 2

If operands do not have $\overline{1} \rightarrow$ new carries are **not generated**

Example

- In conventional representation a carry propagates from least to most significant position
- Here no carry propagation chain exists

If operands have $\overline{1} \rightarrow$ new carries may be generated

Example

- If $x_{i-1}y_{i-1}=01$ and $c_i=1$ and if $x_iy_i=01$ and $u_i=1$ then $s_i=u_i+c_i=1+1$ and a **new carry** is generated
- Stars indicate positions where new carries are generated and must be allowed to propagate

• Combination $c_{i-1}=u_i=1$ occurs when $x_iy_i=0\overline{1}$ and $x_{i-1}y_{i-1}$ is 11/01

x_iy_i	00	01	01	11	11	1 1
c_i	0	1	1	1	1	0
u_i	0	1	1	0	0	0

- To avoid setting $u_i=1$ we can set $c_i=0$ and $u_i=\overline{1}$
- Similarly, $c_{i-1}=u_i=\overline{1}$ when $x_iy_i=01$ and $x_{i-1}y_{i-1}$ is $\overline{1}\overline{1}/0\overline{1}$ and to avoid setting $u_i=\overline{1}$ we can set $c_i=0$ and $u_i=1$
- No new carries are generated if c_i and u_i are determined by examining the two bits $x_{i-1}y_{i-1}$
- c_i and u_i can still be calculated in parallel for all bit positions

x_iy_i	00	01	01	$0\overline{1}$	$0\overline{1}$	11	$\bar{1}\bar{1}$
$x_{i-1} y_{i-1}$	_	neither is $\bar{1}$	at least one is $\bar{1}$		at least one is $\bar{1}$	-	
$egin{array}{c} c_i \ u_i \end{array}$	0	1 1	0 1	0 1	1 1	1 0	Ī 0

x_iy_i	00	01	01	$0\overline{1}$	$0\overline{1}$	11	11
$\int x_{i-1} y_{i-1}$	_	neither is $\bar{1}$	at least one is $\bar{1}$	_	at least one is $\bar{1}$	_	_
$egin{array}{c} c_i \ u_i \end{array}$	0 0	$\frac{1}{1}$	0 1	$\frac{0}{1}$	$ar{1}$ 1	1 0	$\bar{1}$ 0

Repeating the example before with the new table we obtain

- Note that pair $1\overline{1}$ is equivalent to pair 01
- Note also that direct summation of the two operands results in $1\overline{1}1\overline{1}00$ that is equivalent to 010100, all representing **20**

Multiple number representations

- Minimal SD representations include the minimal number of nonzero digits and is important for fast multiplication and division algorithms
 - Nonzero digits → add/subtract operations
 - Zero digits → shift-only operations

Example

- Among the representations of 7, $100\overline{1}$ is the minimal representation
- The canonical Booth recoding algorithm generates minimal SD representations of given binary numbers

	8	4	2	1
	0	1	1	1
	1	$\overline{1}$	1	1
	1	0	$\overline{1}$	1
	1	0	0	$\overline{1}$
1	$\overline{1}$	1	1	1
		:		

Encoding

- Any hardware implementation of GSD arithmetic requires the choice of a binary encoding scheme for the digit values
- In the case of binary SD numbers there are 4x3x2=24 ways to encode the three values 0, 1 and -1 using 2 bits, x^h and x^l (high and low)
- Only nine are distinct encodings under permutation and logical negation, but only two have been used in practice:

	Encoding 1	Encoding 2
x	$x^h \ x^l$	$x^h \ x^l$
0	0 0	0 0
1	0 1	0 1
1	1 0	1 1

- **Encoding 2**: the two bits follow the 2's complement representation
- Encoding 1: the two bits are associated to the same power of 2
 - is sometimes preferable
 - Satisfies $x=x^l-x^h$ and 11 is a valid value of 0
 - Simplifies conversion from SD to 2's complement subtracting the sequence of high bits from the sequence of low bit using 2's complement arithmetic
 - This requires a complete binary adder
 - (A simpler conversion algorithm exists)

	Encoding 1	Encoding 2
x	$x^h x^l$	$x^h x^l$
0	0 0	0 0
1	0 1	0 1
1	1 0	1 1

Conversions

- Since input numbers provided from the outside (machine or human interface) are in standard binary or decimal and outputs must be presented in the same way, conversions between binary or decimal and GSD representations are required
- The conversion from redundant representation essentially involves carry propagation and is thus rather slow
- Conversion is done generally at the input and output, i.e. not very often
- Thus, if long sequences of computation are performed between input and output, the conversion overhead can become negligible

- Storage overhead (number of bits used to represent a GSD digit compared to a standard digit in the same radix) can appear as a disadvantage of redundant representations
- However, with advances in VLSI technology, this is no a major drawback
- Properties of GSD representations are important for the implementation of arithmetic support functions, that are:
 - zero detection
 - sign test
 - overflow handling

Zero detection

- In a GSD number system, the integer 0 may have multiple representations
- Example in radix 4 and set [-1, 5], the three-digit numbers
 0 0 0 and −1 4 0 both represent 0
- Note that in the special case of α < r and β < r, zero is uniquely represented by the all-0s vector
- So, despite redundancy and multiple representations,
 comparison of numbers for equality can be simple in this common special case, since it involves subtraction and detecting the all-Os pattern

Sign test

- Sign test is more difficult and so any relational comparison such as <, ≤, etc.
- The sign of a GSD number in general depends on all its digits
- Thus, sign test is slow if done through signal propagation (ripple design) or expensive if done by a fast lookahead circuit (that is in contrast for it is trivial sign test for 2's-complement)
- In the special case of α < r and β < r, the sign of a number is identical to the sign of its most significant nonzero digit
- But even in this special case, determination of sign requires scanning of all digits, a process that can be as slow as worst-case carry propagation

Overflow handling

- Overflow handling is also more difficult in GSD arithmetic
- Consider the addition of two k-digit numbers
- Such an addition produces a transfer-out digit t_k
- Since t_k is produced using the worst-case assumption about yet unknown t_{k-1} , we can get an overflow indication (t_k != 0) even when the result can be represented with k digits
- It is possible to perform a test to see whether the overflow is real and, if it is not, to obtain a k-digit representation for the true result
- However, this test and conversion are fairly slow

MODIFIED SIGNED DIGIT REPRESENTATION

A. K. Cherri, M. A. Karim, *Modified-signed digit arithmetic using an efficient symbolic substitution*, Appl. Opt. (1988)

Modified signed digit representation

- The set of digit is $\{-1,0,1\} = \{\bar{1},0,1\}$
- The representation is not unique:

$$\begin{array}{l}
\bar{1}01\bar{1} = -8 + 2 - 1 = -7 \\
\bar{1}001 = -8 + 1 = -7 \\
\bar{1}11\bar{1} = -8 + 4 - 2 - 1 = -7
\end{array}$$

- The number of possible representation depends on the length of the sequence of digits
- To perform the addition, truth table are used

Modified signed digit representation

Addition can be executed applying Truth tables

		First addend				
		-1	0	1		
٦	-1	0	1	0		
len		-1	-1	0		
adc	0	1	0	-1		
pu		-1	0	1		
Second addend	1	0	-1	0		
S		0	1	1		

		First addend				
		-1	0	1		
d	-1	0	-1	0		
len		-1	0	0		
adc	0	-1	0	1		
pu		0	0	0		
Second addend	1	0	1	0		
S		0	0	1		

- Three steps are needed to obtain the sum
 - Left table is applied in step 1 and 3
 - Right table is applied in step 2
- Output: lower row → sum upper row → complemented sum

Modified signed digit representation

Example

		Firs	st adde	end
		-1	0	1
٦	-1	0	1	0
den		-1	-1	0
adc	0	1	0	-1
pu		-1	0	1
Second addend	1	0	-1	0
S		0	1	1

		First addend		
		-1	0	1
Second addend	-1	0	-1	0
		-1	0	0
	0	-1	0	1
		0	0	0
	1	0	1	0
S		0	0	1

Modified signed digit representation

Example

	1	1	0	1	1	9
	<u>-</u> 1	1	<u>-</u> 1	1	0	-10
	0	0	1	0	1	
0	0	<u>-</u> 1	1	1	0	

		First addend			
		-1	0	1	
7	-1	0	1	0	
len		-1	-1	0	
adc	0	1	0	-1	
Second addend		-1	0	1	
eco	1	0	-1	0	
S		0	1	1	

		First addend			
		-1	0	1	
d	-1	0	-1	0	
len		-1	0	0	
adc	0	-1	0	1	
pu		0	0	0	
Second addend	1	0	1	0	
S		0	0	1	

Modified signed digit representation

Example

	1	<u>-</u> 1	0	1	<u>-</u> 1	9
	1	1	<u>-</u> 1	1	0	-10
	0	0	1	0	1	
0	0	1	1	1	0	
	0	1	0	1	1	
0	0	1	0	0	0	

		First addend			
		-1	0	1	
d	-1	0	1	0	
len		-1	-1	0	
adc	0	1	0	-1	
pu		-1	0	1	
Second addend	1	0	-1	0	
S		0	1	1	

		First addend			
		-1	0	1	
d	-1	0	-1	0	
len		-1	0	0	
adc	0	-1	0	1	
pu		0	0	0	
Second addend	1	0	1	0	
2		0	0	1	

Modified signed digit representation

Example

	1	<u>1</u>	0	1	<u>-</u>	9
	1	1	<u>1</u>	1	0	-10
	0	0	1	0	1	
0	0	<u>1</u>	1	1	0	
	0	1	0	1	1	
0	0	1	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	1		_1

		First addend			
		-1	0	1	
d	-1	0	1	0	
len		-1	-1	0	
adc	0	1	0	-1	
Second addend		-1	0	1	
eco	1	0	-1	0	
S		0	1	1	

		First addend			
		-1	0	1	
Ъ	-1	0	-1	0	
den		-1	0	0	
adc	0	-1	0	1	
pu		0	0	0	
Second addend	1	0	1	0	
S		0	0	1	

RB - REDUNDANT BINARY NUMBER REPRESENTATION

G. A. De Biase, A. Massini "Redundant binary number representation for an inherently parallel arithmetic on optical computers", Appl. Opt., 32 (1993)

An integer D obtained by

$$D = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i 2^{i - \lceil i/2 \rceil}$$

 This weight sequence characterizes the RB number representation and is:

 All position weights are doubled: the left digit is called r (redundant) and the right digit n (normal)

 RB representation of a number can be obtained from its binary representation by the following recoding rules:

$$0 \rightarrow 00$$
 $1 \rightarrow 01$

- The RB number obtained in this way is in canonical form
- This encoding operation is performable in parallel in constant time (one elemental logic step)

- Each RB number has a canonical form and several redundant representations
- Examples of unsigned RB numbers (canonical and redundant)

```
000
    000000
     000001
            000010
    000100
             001000
                     000011
010
             001001
     000101
                     001010
            100000
                     001100
100
    010000
                             000111
             010010
                     100001
                             100010
101
     010001
    010100
                     101000
             011000
                             010011
```

Table for addition

Addition is performed using a truth table

	00	01	10	11
00	00	10	00	10
	00	00	01	01
01	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
10	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
11	00	10	00	10
	10	10	11	11

Table for addition

- Two steps: parallel application of the table on all rn pairs
- Output: sum on the lower row and zero on the upper row

	00	01	10	11
00	00	10	00	10
	00	00	01	01
01	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
10	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
11	00	10	00	10
	10	10	11	11

Example

	00	01	10	11
00	00	10	00	10
	00	00	01	01
01	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
10	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
11	00	10	00	10
	10	10	11	11

• Example

0 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 8

0 0 1 1 0 1 10

0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0

0 1 0 0 1 1 0 0

	00	01	10	11
00	00	10	00	10
	00	00	01	01
01	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
10	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
11	00	10	00	10
	10	10	11	11

	• Exa	ample			
0	0	0 1	0 1	1 1	8
0	0	1 1	0 1	1 0	11
0	0	1 0	1 0	1 0	7
0	1	0 0	1 1	0 0	12
0	0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0
1	0	1 1	1 0	1 0	19

	00	01	10	11
00	00	10	00	10
	00	00	01	01
01	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
10	00	10	00	10
	01	01	10	10
11	00	10	00	10
	10	10	11	11

In analogy with the 2's complement binary system, a signed RB number is obtained by

$$D = -\sum_{i=n-2}^{n-1} a_i 2^{i-\lceil i/2 \rceil} + \sum_{i=0}^{n-3} a_i 2^{i-\lceil i/2 \rceil}$$
n even

 The same procedure of the addition of two unsigned RB numbers obtains the algebraic sum of two signed RB numbers

- The additive inverse of an RB number is obtained by
 - following a procedure similar to that used in the 2's complement number system
 - taking into account that the negation of all RB representations of the number 0 is $(-2)_{10}$ whereas in the 2's complement binary system it is $(-1)_{10}$

Procedure

- Step 1 all digits of the RB number are complemented
- Step 2 algebraic sum between the RB canonical form of (2) $_{10}$ and the RB number
- The output is the additive inverse of the considered RB number

 The decoding of RB numbers, with the correct truncation, can be performed with the following procedure that derives directly from the RB number definition

Procedure

- The input is RBn and RBr
- Binary addition RBn + RBr.
- Only the first n/2 bits are considered
- The output is the corresponding binary or 2's complement binary number

- Zero and its detection
- In the case of unsigned RB numbers the $(0)_{10}$ has only the RB canonical form and is easily detectable
- In the case of signed RB numbers, $(0)_{10}$ has many RB representations
- Example for six-digit signed RB numbers:

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(000000) (101011) (101100)
(100111) (010111) (011100)
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• The difficulty in detecting the (0) $_{10}$ can be overcome by using the number (- 1) $_{10}$

- Zero and its detection
- In fact, any redundant representation of the number (- 1) $_{10}$ is composed by pairs 01 or 10
- The canonical representation of the $(-1)_{10}$ can be obtained if the following rules are applied on all the rn pairs

$$10 \rightarrow 01$$
 $01 \rightarrow 01$

• Then, a RB number is a representation of (0) $_{10}$ if the result of an algebraic sum between an RB number and an RB representation of (-1) $_{10}$ is an RB representation of the number (-1) $_{10}$ again,

- Zero and its detection
- Then the procedure to detect the number $(0)_{10}$ is the following

Procedure

- Input an RB number
- \bullet Step 1 algebraic sum between the RB canonical form of (- 1) $_{10}$ and the RB number
- Step 2 application of rules to the result
- Output the RB canonical form of (-1) $_{10}$ or of another RB number