

# Negative Numbers

Adding:  $a+b$

- If both negative, add ignoring signs, make result negative.
  - $-3 + -2 = -5$
- If one negative, subtract larger – smaller ignoring sign, use sign of larger number.
  - $-3 + 2 = -1$

Subtracting:  $a - b$

- If  $b$  is negative, the minus and negative sign cancel:
  - $5 - (-2) = 5 + (+2) = 7$
- Otherwise, insert “+”, because “ $a-b$ ” is the same as “ $a + -b$ ”, then use adding rules above
  - $-5 - 2 = -5 + -2 = -7$

Multiplication & Division:  $a * b$ ,  $a / b$

- If only one number is negative, do as usual ignoring sign, result is negative
  - $(-5) * 2 = -10$
- If both numbers are negative, they cancel & the result is positive
  - $(-10) / (-2) = +5$