

Low-Level Programming (2)

Program Design (II)

2022 Spring

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Recap: Bitwise Shift Operators

- The **bitwise shift operators** shift the **bits** in an integer to the **left** or **right**:

<< left shift

>> right shift

```
unsigned short i, j;  
  
i = 13;      /* i is now 13 (binary 00000000000001101) */  
j = i << 2;  /* j is now 52 (binary 00000000000110100) */  
j = i >> 2;  /* j is now 3 (binary 00000000000000011) */
```

Recap:

Bitwise Complement, *And*, Exclusive Or, and Inclusive Or

| Symbol | Meaning | Example | Result of Example |
|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| \sim | bitwise complement | $\sim (001)$ | 110 |
| $\&$ | bitwise <i>and</i> | $(011) \ \& \ (110)$ | 010 |
| \wedge | bitwise exclusive <i>or</i> | $(011) \ \wedge \ (110)$ | 101 |
| $ $ | bitwise inclusive <i>or</i> | $(011) \ \ (110)$ | 111 |

Outline

- Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits
- Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields
- Bit-Fields in Structures

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- The bitwise operators can be used to extract or modify data stored in a small number of bits.
- Common single-bit operations:
 - Setting a bit
 - Clearing a bit
 - Testing a bit

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- In the following example, we will use the assumptions that:
- `i` is a 16-bit unsigned short variable.
- The **leftmost**—or *most significant*—bit is numbered **15** and the **least significant** is numbered **0**.

```
unsigned short i;  
  
/* binary of i 00000000000000000) */
```


Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- ***Setting a bit.*** The easiest way to set bit 4 of `i` is to *or* the value of `i` with the constant `0x0010`

```
i = 0x0000;    /* i is now 0000000000000000 */
                /* 0x0010 is 0000000000010000 */
i |= 0x0010;    /* i is now 0000000000010000 */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- If the position of the bit is stored in the variable `j`, a shift operator can be used to create the mask
- Example: If `j` has the value **3**, then `1 << j` is `0x0008`.

- 1 in binary: 0000000000000001
- `0x0008` in binary: 0000000000001000 

```
i = 0x0000;    /* i is now 0000000000000000 */
i |= 0x0010;   /* i is now 0000000000001000 */
               /* 1 << j is 0000000000001000 */
i |= 1 << j;   /* i is now 00000000000011000 */
               /* sets bit j (3) to 1*/
```


Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- ***Clearing a bit.*** Clearing bit 4 of `i` requires a mask with a 0 bit in position 4 and 1 bits everywhere else

```
i = 0x00ff;    /* i is now 0000000011111111 */
               /* ~0x0010 is 1111111111101111 */
i &= ~0x0010; /* i is now 0000000011101111 */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- A statement that clears a bit whose position is stored in a variable
 - the position of the bit is stored in the variable `j`

```
i = 0x00ff;    /* i is now 0000000011111111 */  
i &= ~0x0010; /* i is now 0000000011101111 */  
i &= ~(1 << j); /* clears bit j */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- A statement that clears a bit whose position is stored in a variable
 - the position of the bit is stored in the variable `j`

```
i = 0x00ff;    /* i is now 0000000011111111 */  
i &= ~0x0010; /* i is now 0000000011101111 */  
i &= ~(1 << j); /* clears bit j */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- *Testing a bit.*

- An `if` statement that tests whether bit 4 of `i` is set:
- A statement that tests whether bit `j` is set:

```
if (i & 0x0010) ...    /* tests bit 4 */
```

```
if (i & 1 << j) ...    /* tests bit j */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

- Working with bits is easier if they are given names.
- Suppose that bits 0, 1, and 2 of a number correspond to the colors blue, green, and red, respectively.
- Names that represent the three bit positions:

```
#define BLUE  1  
#define GREEN 2  
#define RED   4
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

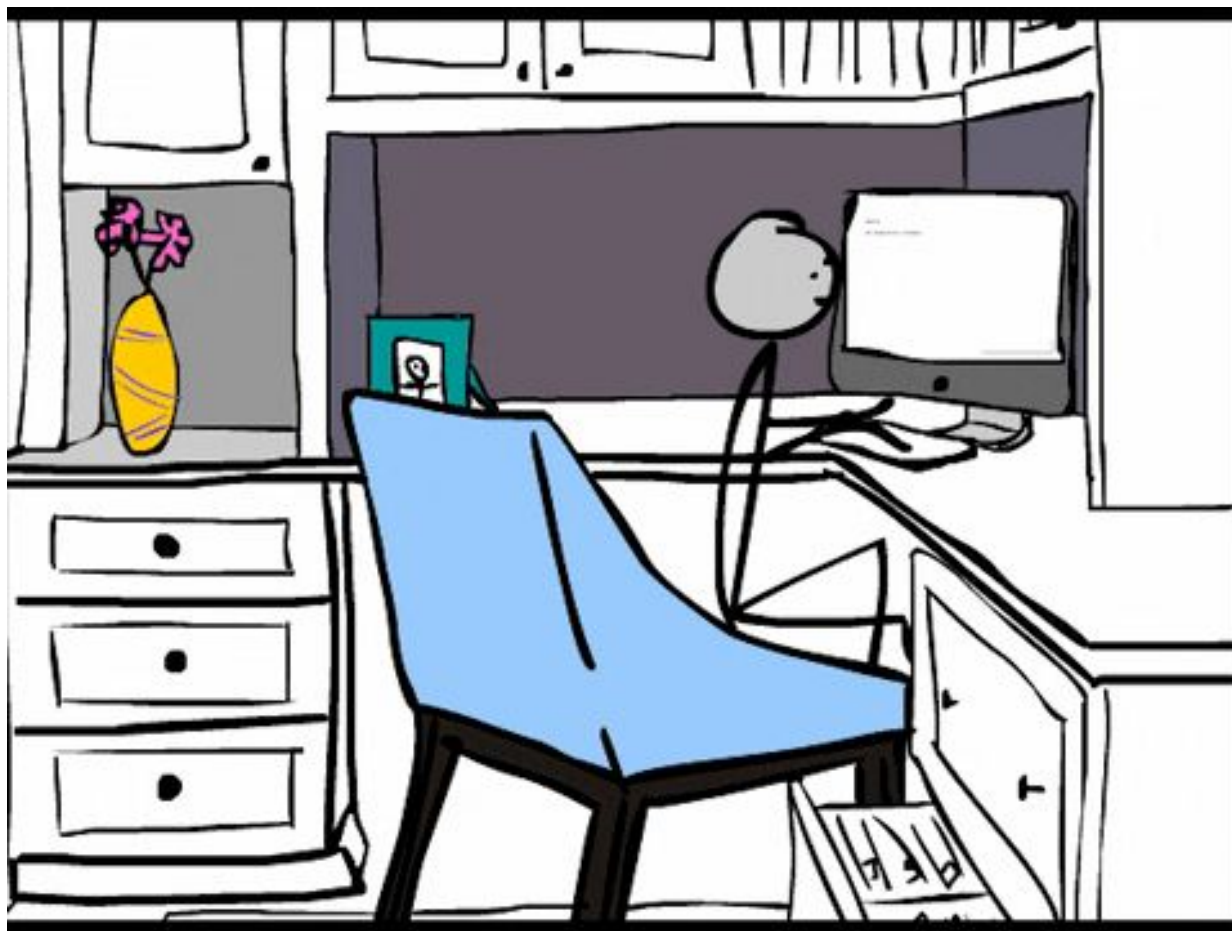
- Examples of setting, clearing, and testing the BLUE bit:

```
i |= BLUE;           /* sets BLUE bit    */  
i &= ~BLUE;          /* clears BLUE bit */  
if (i & BLUE) ...    /* tests BLUE bit  */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits

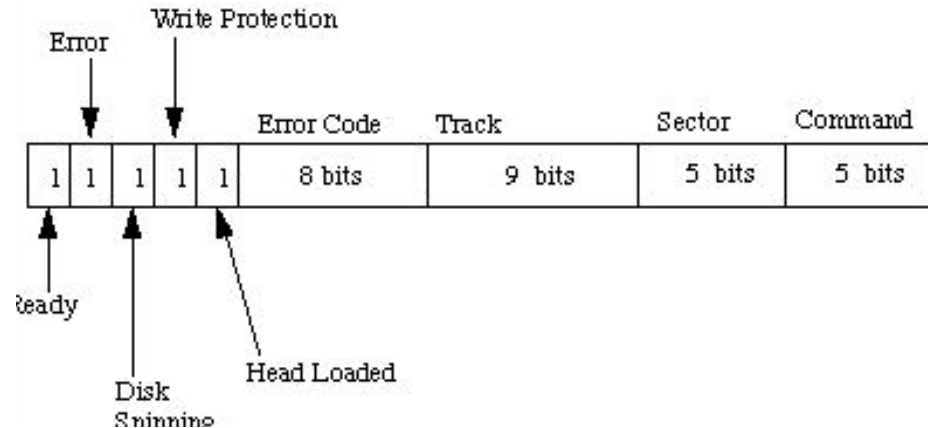
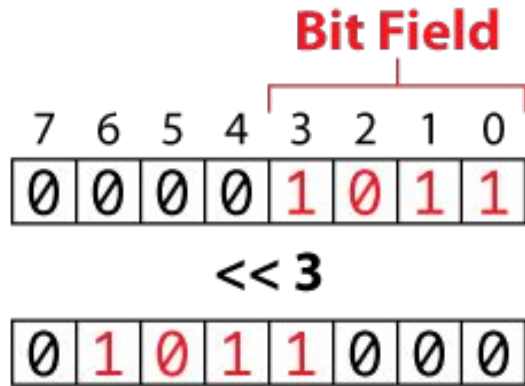
- It's also easy to set, clear, or test several bits at time

```
i |= BLUE | GREEN;          /* sets BLUE and GREEN bits */  
i &= ~(BLUE | GREEN);       /* clears BLUE and GREEN bits */
```



Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields

- Dealing with a group of several **consecutive** bits (a *bit-field*) is slightly more complicated than working with single bits.
- Using a 16-bits integer to store a small number is wasting. Sometimes, we can store information in certain bit field.



Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields

- Common bit-field operations:
 - Modifying a bit-field
 - Retrieving a bit-field

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields

- ***Modifying a bit-field.*** Modifying a bit-field requires two operations
 - A bitwise *and* (to clear the bit-field)
 - A bitwise *or* (to store new bits in the bit-field)
- The & operator clears bits 4–6 of i; the | operator then sets bits 6 and 4.

```
i = ((i & ~0x0070) | 0x0050); /* stores 101 in bits 4-6 */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields

- To generalize the example, assume that `j` contains the value to be stored in bits 4–6 of `i`.
- `j` will need to be shifted into position before the bitwise *or* is performed

```
i = (i & ~0x0070) | (j << 4); /* stores j in bits 4-6 */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields

- ***Retrieving a bit-field.*** Fetching a bit-field at the right end of a number (in the least significant bits) is easy
- 0x0007 in binary: 0000000000000111

```
j = i & 0x0007; /* retrieves bits 0-2 of i */
```

Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields

- If the bit-field isn't at the right end of `i`, we can first **shift** the bit-field to the end before extracting the field using the `&` operator

```
j = (i >> 4) & 0x0007; /* retrieves bits 4-6 of i*/
```

Program: XOR Encryption

- One of the simplest ways to encrypt data is to exclusive-*or* (XOR) each character with a secret key.
- Suppose that the key is the & character.
- XORing this key with the character z **yields** the \ character:

```
    00100110   (ASCII code for &)  
XOR 01111010   (ASCII code for z)  
    01011100   (ASCII code for \)
```

Program: XOR Encryption

- Decrypting a message is done by applying the same algorithm
- XORing \ with & (key) and we can get z back

```
00100110 (ASCII code for &)
XOR 01011100 (ASCII code for \)
01111010 (ASCII code for z)
```


Program: XOR Encryption

- The `xor.c` program encrypts a message by XORing each character with the `&` character.
- The original message can be entered by the user or read from a file using input redirection.
- The encrypted message can be viewed on the screen or saved in a file using output redirection.

Program: XOR Encryption

- A sample file named msg:

Trust not him with your secrets, who, when left
alone in your room, turns over your papers.

--Johann Kaspar Lavater (1741-1801)

- A command that encrypts msg, saving the encrypted message in newmsg:

```
xor <msg >newmsg
```

- Contents of newmsg:

rTSUR HIR NOK QORN _IST UCETCRU, QNI, QNCH JC@R
GJIHC OH _IST TIIK, RSTHU IPCT _IST VGVCTU.

--LINGHH mGUVGT jGPGRCT (1741-1801)

Program: XOR Encryption

- A command that recovers the original message and displays it on the screen

```
xor <newmsg
```

Program: XOR Encryption

- The `xor.c` program won't change some characters, including digits. Why?
 - XORing these characters with `&` would produce invisible control characters, which could cause problems with some operating systems.
- So, the program checks whether both the original character and the new (encrypted) character are printing characters by using `isprint()` function
- If not, the program will write the original character instead of the new character.

XOR.C

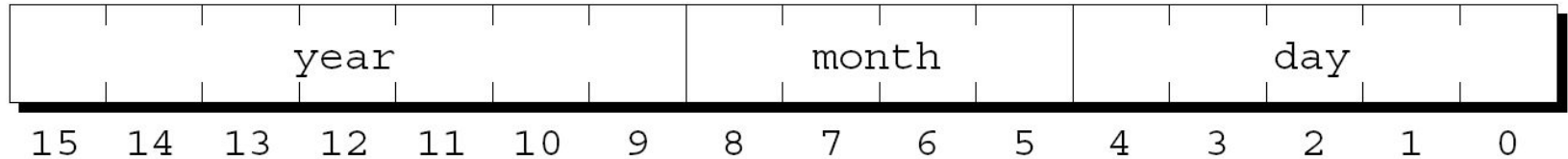
```
#include <ctype.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#define KEY '&'
int main(void){
    int orig_char, new_char;
    while ((orig_char = getchar()) != EOF) {
        new_char = orig_char ^ KEY;
        if (isprint(orig_char) && isprint(new_char))
            putchar(new_char);
        else
            putchar(orig_char);
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Bit-Fields in Structures

- The bit-field techniques discussed previously can be tricky to use and potentially confusing.
- Fortunately, C provides an alternative: declaring structures whose members represent bit-fields.

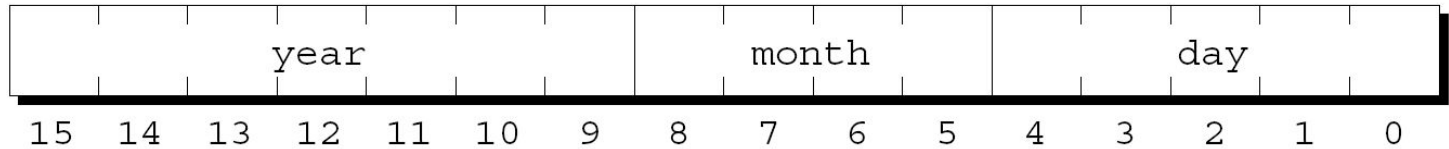
Bit-Fields in Structures

- Example: How MS-DOS stores the date at which a file was created or last modified.
- Since days, months, and years are small numbers, storing them as normal integers would waste space.
- Instead, DOS allocates only 16 bits for a date, with 5 bits for the day, 4 bits for the month, and 7 bits for the year:



Bit-Fields in Structures

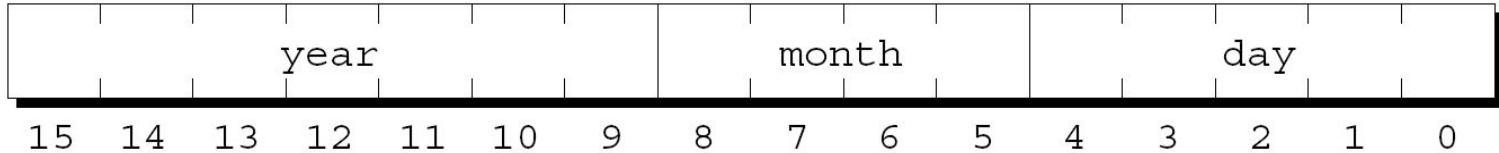
- A C structure that uses bit-fields to create an identical layout
- The type of a bit-field must be either unsigned int, or signed int.



```
struct file_date {  
    unsigned int day: 5;  
    unsigned int month: 4;  
    unsigned int year: 7;  
};
```


Bit-Fields in Structures

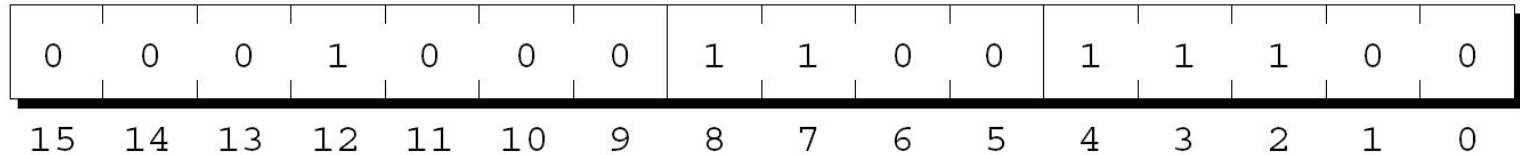
- A bit-field can be used in the same way as any other member of a structure
 - year is stored relative to 1980, the beginning of the world for Microsoft



```
struct file_date fd;  
fd.day = 28;  
fd.month = 12;  
fd.year = 8;      /* represents 1988 */
```

Bit-Fields in Structures

- Appearance of the `fd` variable after these assignments:



```
struct file_date fd;  
fd.day = 28;  
fd.month = 12;  
fd.year = 8;      /* represents 1988 */
```

Bit-Fields in Structures

- One restriction of Bit-field members is that they don't have usual address.
- So, the address operator (&) can't be applied to a bit-field.
- Because of this rule, functions such as `scanf` can't store data directly in a bit-field

```
scanf ("%d", &fd.day);    /** WRONG **/
```

Bit-Fields in Structures

- One restriction of Bit-field members is that they don't have usual address.
- So, the address operator (&) can't be applied to a bit-field.
- Because of this rule, functions such as `scanf` can't store data directly in a bit-field
- We can still use `scanf` to read input into an ordinary variable and then assign it to `fd.day`.

```
scanf("%d", &fd.day);    /*** WRONG ***/  
int n;  
scanf("%d", &n);  
fd.day = n;
```

Summary

- Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bits
 - Common single-bit operations:
 - Setting a bit
 - Clearing a bit
 - Testing a bit
- Using the Bitwise Operators to Access Bit-Fields
 - Modifying a bit-field
 - Retrieving a bit-field
 - Program: XOR Encryption
- Bit-Fields in Structures
 - example of MS-DOS stores the date