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Wording for fundamental bit manipulation utilities

Note: this is an early draft. It's known to be incomplet and incorrekt, and it has lots of bad fomatting.

1 Bit manipulation library [bit]

1.1 General [bit.general]

1 This Clause describes the contents of the header `<bit>` (1.2) that provides components that C++ programs may use to access, manipulate and process both individual bits and bit sequences.

2 The bit library relies on four main classes `bit_value` (1.4), `bit_reference` (1.5), `bit_pointer` (1.6) and `bit_iterator` (1.7) as well as on a helper class `binary_digits` (1.3). For generic purposes `bit_value` and `bit_reference` exhibit roughly the same interface. Most of the non-member operations on `bit_value` (1.4.9) are provided on `bit_reference` through an implicit conversion to `bit_value`.

3 In all the following, a *bit* refers to an object that can hold one of the two values designated as `0` and `1`. As a part of the C++ memory model, `CHAR_BIT` bits are packed together in *bytes*, with `CHAR_BIT >= 8`. Bytes are themselves packed together to form *machine words*. Because the smallest addressable entity in memory are bytes in the C++ memory model, a bit object is hypothetical. The bit manipulation library provides wrapper classes to mimic the behavior of this hypothetical object.

4 An object of a *word* type refers to an object that provides an access to its underlying bits. An object of a word type shall provide the operators `>>` and `&` such that the expression `(word >> position) & static_cast<decltype(word)>(1)` is a valid expression, with `word` an object of a word type and `position` a value of type `size_t`.

5 The bit library is only compatible with word types `WordType` for which `binary_digits_v<WordType>` is defined and is not null (1.3.3). `binary_digits_v<WordType>` corresponds to the number of individual bits within a word of type `WordType`.

6 The *position* of a bit within a word is the unsigned integral number `n < binary_digits_v<decltype(word)>` such that `(word >> n) & static_cast<decltype(word)>(1)` returns the `n`-th bit of the word `word`. [*Note:* For unsigned integral types, `(word >> n) & static_cast<decltype(word)>(1)` is equivalent to `word & (static_cast<decltype(word)>(1) << n)` for `n < binary_digits_v<decltype(word)>`. — *end note*]

7 The *least significant bit* of a word, or lsb, is the bit at position `0`. The *most significant bit* of a word, or msb, it the bit at position `binary_digits_v<WordType> - 1`.

8 The default direction in which bits are iterated through goes from the least significant bit to the most significant bit of each word. The next bit of the most significant bit of a word is considered to be the least significant bit of the next word. The arithmetic of bit pointers (1.6.1) and bit iterators (1.7.1) is based on this behavior.

1.2 Header <bit> synopsis [bit.syn]

```
namespace std {
  // 1.4, class bit_value
  class bit_value;

  // 1.5, class template bit_reference
  template <class WordType> class bit_reference;

  // 1.6, class template bit_pointer
  template <class WordType> class bit_pointer;

  // 1.7, class template bit_iterator
  template <class Iterator> class bit_iterator;
```

```
// 1.4.9, bit_value operations
constexpr bit_value operator~(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bit_value operator&(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bit_value operator|(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bit_value operator^(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;

// 1.5.9, bit_reference swap
template <class T>
  void swap(bit_reference<T> lhs, bit_reference<T> rhs) noexcept;
template <class T, class U>
  void swap(bit_reference<T> lhs, bit_reference<U> rhs) noexcept;
template <class T>
  void swap(bit_reference<T> lhs, bit_value& rhs) noexcept;
template <class U>
  void swap(bit_value& lhs, bit_reference<U> rhs) noexcept;

// 1.6.7, bit_pointer arithmetic
template <class T>
  constexpr bit_pointer<T> operator+(typename bit_pointer<T>::difference_type n,
                                     bit_pointer<T> x);
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr common_type_t<
    typename bit_pointer<T>::difference_type,
    typename bit_pointer<U>::difference_type
  > operator-(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs);

// 1.7.7, bit_iterator arithmetic
template <class T>
  constexpr bit_iterator<T> operator+(typename bit_iterator<T>::difference_type n,
                                      const bit_iterator<T>& i);
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr common_type_t<
    typename bit_iterator<T>::difference_type,
    typename bit_iterator<U>::difference_type
  > operator-(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);

// 1.4.9, bit_value comparisons
constexpr bool operator==(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bool operator!=(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bool operator<(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bool operator<=(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bool operator>(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
constexpr bool operator>=(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;

// 1.6.7, bit_pointer comparisons
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator==(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator!=(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator<(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator<=(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
template <class T, class U>
```

```
    constexpr bool operator>(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
  template <class T, class U>
    constexpr bool operator>=(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;

  // 1.7.7, bit_iterator comparisons
  template <class T, class U>
    constexpr bool operator==(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
  template <class T, class U>
    constexpr bool operator!=(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
  template <class T, class U>
    constexpr bool operator<(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
  template <class T, class U>
    constexpr bool operator<=(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
  template <class T, class U>
    constexpr bool operator>(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
  template <class T, class U>
    constexpr bool operator>=(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);

  // 1.4.9, bit_value input and output
  template <class CharT, class Traits>
    basic_istream<CharT, Traits>& operator>>(basic_istream<CharT, Traits>& is,
                                             bit_value& x);
  template <class CharT, class Traits>
    basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>& operator<<(basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>& os,
                                             bit_value x);

  // 1.5.9, bit_reference input and output
  template <class CharT, class Traits, class T>
    basic_istream<CharT, Traits>& operator>>(basic_istream<CharT, Traits>& is,
                                             bit_reference<T>& x);
  template <class CharT, class Traits, class T>
    basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>& operator<<(basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>& os,
                                             bit_reference<T> x);

  // 1.3, helper class binary_digits
  template <class T> struct binary_digits;
  template <class T> constexpr binary_digits_v = binary_digits<T>::value;

  // 1.4.10, bit_value objects
  constexpr bit_value bit0(0U);
  constexpr bit_value bit1(1U);
}
```

1.3 Helper class `binary_digits` [bit.helper]

1.3.1 Class `binary_digits` overview [bit.helper.overview]

```
template <class UIntType> struct binary_digits
 : public integral_constant<size_t, numeric_limits<UIntType>::digits> { };
```

1 *Requires:* `UIntType` shall be a possibly cv-qualified unsigned integer type. [*Note:* This excludes possibly cv-qualified `bool`. — *end note*]

2 *Remarks:* Specialization of this helper class for a type `T` informs other library components that this type `T` corresponds to a word type whose bits can be accessed through `bit_value`, `bit_reference`, `bit_pointer` and `bit_iterator`.

1.3.2 Class `binary_digits` specializations [bit.helper.specializations]

```
template <> struct binary_digits<byte>
 : public integral_constant<size_t, numeric_limits<unsigned char>::digits> { };
template <> struct binary_digits<const byte>
 : public integral_constant<size_t, numeric_limits<const unsigned char>::digits> { };
template <> struct binary_digits<volatile byte>
 : public integral_constant<size_t, numeric_limits<volatile unsigned char>::digits> { };
template <> struct binary_digits<const volatile byte>
 : public integral_constant<size_t, numeric_limits<const volatile unsigned char>::digits> { };
```

1 The specialization of `binary_digits` for possibly cv-qualified `byte` makes `byte` a viable word type to hold bits.

1.3.3 Variable template `binary_digits_v` [bit.helper.variable]

```
template <class T> constexpr binary_digits_v = binary_digits<T>::value;
```

1 The variable template `binary_digits_v` provides an access to the `value` member of `binary_digits` for convenience.

1.4 Class `bit_value` [bit.value]

1.4.1 Class `bit_value` overview [bit.value.overview]

1 A `bit_value` emulates the behavior an independent single bit, with no arithmetic behavior apart from bitwise compound assignment (1.4.5) and bitwise operators (1.4.9). It provides the bit modifier members `set`, `reset` and `flip` (1.4.7). [*Note:* A `bit_value` is typically implemented as a wrapper around `bool`. — *end note*]

2 A `bit_value` is implicitly convertible from a `bit_reference` (1.5), typically to create temporary values from references to bits.

3 To prevent implicit conversions to `bool` and `int` potentially leading to misleading arithmetic behaviors, a `bit_value` is explicitly, and not implicitly, convertible to `bool` (1.4.6).

4 For convenience, two global `bit_value` objects are provided (1.4.10).

```
class bit_value {
public:
  // 1.4.2, types
  using size_type = see below;

  // 1.4.3, constructors
  bit_value() noexcept = default;
  template <class T> constexpr bit_value(bit_reference<T> ref) noexcept;
  template <class WordType> explicit constexpr bit_value(WordType val) noexcept;
  template <class WordType> constexpr bit_value(WordType val, size_type pos);

  // 1.4.4, assignment
  template <class T> bit_value& operator=(bit_reference<T> ref) noexcept;
  template <class WordType> bit_value& assign(WordType val) noexcept;
  template <class WordType> bit_value& assign(WordType val, size_type pos);

  // 1.4.5, compound assignment
  bit_value& operator&=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
  bit_value& operator|=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
  bit_value& operator^=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;

  // 1.4.6, observers
  explicit constexpr operator bool() const noexcept;
```

```
    // 1.4.7, modifiers
    bit_value& set(bool b) noexcept;
    bit_value& set() noexcept;
    bit_value& reset() noexcept;
    bit_value& flip() noexcept;

    // 1.4.8, swap
    void swap(bit_value& rhs) noexcept;
    template <class T> void swap(bit_reference<T> rhs) noexcept;
  };
```

1.4.2 `bit_value` member types [bit.value.types]

```
using size_type = see below;
```

1 *Type:* An implementation-defined unsigned integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `binary_digits_v<word_type>`. Same as `decltype(binary_digits_v<word_type>)` (1.3.3).

1.4.3 `bit_value` constructors [bit.value.cons]

```
bit_value() noexcept = default;
```

1 *Effects:* Constructs an uninitialized object of type `bit_value`.

```
template <class T> constexpr bit_value(bit_reference<T> ref) noexcept;
```

2 *Effects:* Constructs an object of type `bit_value` from the value of the referenced bit `ref`.

```
template <class WordType> explicit constexpr bit_value(WordType val) noexcept;
```

3 *Requires:* `binary_digits_v<WordType>` shall be defined and shall not be null (1.3).

4 *Effects:* Constructs an object of type `bit_value` from the value of the bit at position `0`.

5 *Remarks:* Contrarily to the more generic constructor that takes an arbitrary position as an argument, this constructor is marked `noexcept`.

```
template <class WordType> constexpr bit_value(WordType val, size_type pos);
```

6 *Requires:* `binary_digits_v<WordType>` shall be defined and shall not be null (1.3).

7 *Requires:* `pos < binary_digits_v<WordType>`.

8 *Effects:* Constructs an object of type `bit_value` from the value of the bit in `val` at position `pos`.

1.4.4 `bit_value` assignment [bit.value.assign]

```
template <class T> bit_value& operator=(bit_reference<T> ref) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Assigns the value of the referenced bit `ref` to `*this`.

2 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
template <class WordType> bit_value& assign(WordType val) noexcept;
```

3 *Requires:* `binary_digits_v<WordType>` shall be defined and shall not be null (1.3).

4 *Effects:* Assigns the value of the bit in `val` at position `0` to `*this`.

5 *Returns:* `*this`.

6 *Remarks:* Contrarily to the more generic `assign` member function that takes an arbitrary position as an argument, this member function is marked `noexcept`.

```
template <class WordType> bit_value& assign(WordType val, size_type pos);
```

7 *Requires:* `binary_digits_v<WordType>` shall be defined and shall not be null (1.3).

8 *Requires:* `pos < binary_digits_v<WordType>`.

9 *Effects:* Assigns the value of the bit in `val` at position `pos` to `*this`.

10 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.4.5 `bit_value` compound assignment [bit.value.cassign]

```
bit_value& operator&=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Clears the bit if `rhs` is clear.

2 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_value& operator|=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

3 *Effects:* Sets the bit if `rhs` is set.

4 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_value& operator^=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

5 *Effects:* Toggles the bit if `rhs` is set.

6 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.4.6 `bit_value` observers [bit.value.observers]

```
explicit constexpr operator bool() const noexcept;
```

1 *Returns:* `false` if the bit is cleared, `true` if it is set.

1.4.7 `bit_value` modifiers [bit.value.modifiers]

```
bit_value& set(bool b) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Stores a new value in the bit: one if `b` is `true`, zero otherwise.

2 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_value& set() noexcept;
```

3 *Effects:* Sets the bit to one.

4 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_value& reset() noexcept;
```

5 *Effects:* Resets the bit to zero.

6 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_value& flip() noexcept;
```

7 *Effects:* Toggles the bit.

8 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.4.8 `bit_value` swap [bit.value.swap]

```
void swap(bit_value& rhs) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Toggles the bit stored in `*this` and the bit stored in `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(*this) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
template <class T> void swap(bit_reference<T> rhs) noexcept;
```

2 *Effects:* Toggles the bit stored in `*this` and the bit referenced by `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(*this) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

1.4.9 `bit_value` non-member operations [bit.value.nonmembers]

```
constexpr bit_value operator~(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Constructs an object `x` of class `bit_value` and initializes it with `*this`.

2 *Returns:* `x.flip()`.

```
constexpr bit_value operator&(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

3 *Returns:* `bit_value(lhs) &= rhs`.

```
constexpr bit_value operator|(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

4 *Returns:* `bit_value(lhs) |= rhs`.

```
constexpr bit_value operator^(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

5 *Returns:* `bit_value(lhs) ^= rhs`.

```
constexpr bool operator==(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

6 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) == static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
constexpr bool operator!=(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

7 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
constexpr bool operator<(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

8 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) < static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
constexpr bool operator<=(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

9 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) <= static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
constexpr bool operator>(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

10 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) > static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
constexpr bool operator>=(bit_value lhs, bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

11 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) >= static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
template <class CharT, class Traits>
  basic_istream<CharT, Traits>&
    operator>>(basic_istream<CharT, Traits>& is, bit_value& x);
```

12 A formatted input function.

13 *Effects:* A sentry object is first constructed. If the sentry object returns `true`, one character is extracted from `is`. If the character is successfully extracted with no end-of-file encountered, it is compared to `is.widen('0')` and to `is.widen('1')` and a temporary `bit_value` is set accordingly. If the character is neither equal to `is.widen('0')` nor to `is.widen('1')`, the extracted character is put back into the sequence. If the extraction happened without problem, the temporary bit value is assigned to `x`, otherwise `is.setstate(ios_base::failbit)` is called (which may throw `ios_base::failure`).

14 *Returns:* `is`.

```
template <class CharT, class Traits>
```

```
basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>&
  operator<<(basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>& os, bit_value x);
```

15 A formatted output function.

16 *Effects:* Outputs the bit to the stream.

17 *Returns:* `os << os.widen(x ? '1' : '0')`.

1.4.10 `bit_value` objects [bit.value.objects]

```
constexpr bit_value bit0(0U);
```

1 The object `bit0` represents a constant bit of value `0`. [*Note:* This is mostly a convenience feature, for example to make the call of bit manipulation algorithms less verbose and less error-prone as in `count(first_bit, last_bit, bit0)` instead of `count(first_bit, last_bit, bit_value(0U))`. — *end note*]

```
constexpr bit_value bit1(1U);
```

2 The object `bit1` represents a constant bit of value `1`. [*Note:* This is mostly a convenience feature, for example to make the call of bit manipulation algorithms less verbose and less error-prone as in `count(first_bit, last_bit, bit1)` instead of `count(first_bit, last_bit, bit_value(1U))`. — *end note*]

1.5 Class template `bit_reference` [bit.reference]

1.5.1 Class template `bit_reference` overview [bit.reference.overview]

1 A `bit_reference` emulates the behavior of a reference to a bit within an object, with no arithmetic behavior apart from bitwise compound assignment (1.5.5) and bitwise operators provided through implicit conversion to `bit_value` (1.4.9). Comparison operators are provided through implicit conversion to `bit_value` (1.4.9). As for `bit_value` (1.4.7), it provides the bit modifier members `set`, `reset` and `flip` (1.5.7). [*Note:* A `bit_reference` is typically implemented in terms of a bit position or a mask, and in terms of a pointer or a reference to the object in which the bit is referenced. — *end note*]

2 The copy assignment operator `=` is overloaded to assign a new value to the referenced bit without changing the underlying reference itself. Specializations of `swap` are provided for the same reason, typically using a temporary `bit_value` (1.4) to ensure that the referenced values are swapped and not the references themselves.

3 The address-of operator `&` of `bit_reference` (1.5.6) is overloaded to return a `bit_pointer` (1.6) to the referenced bit. [*Note:* A pointer to a `bit_reference` can be obtained through the `addressof` function of the standard library. — *end note*]

4 An access to the underlying representation of a `bit_reference` is provided through the function members `address`, `position` and `mask` (1.5.6).

5 To prevent implicit conversions to `bool` and `int` potentially leading to misleading arithmetic behaviors, a `bit_reference` is explicitly, and not implicitly, convertible to `bool` (1.5.6).

6 The template parameter type `WordType` shall be a type such that `binary_digits_v<WordType>` is defined and is not null (1.3). A reference to a constant bit shall be obtained through `bit_reference<const WordType>`.

7 Concurrently mutating multiple bits belonging to the same underlying word through bit references may result in a data race.

```
template <class WordType>
class bit_reference {
public:
  // 1.5.2, types
```

```
    using word_type = WordType;
    using size_type = see below;

    // 1.5.3, constructors
    template <class T> constexpr bit_reference(const bit_reference<T>& other) noexcept;
    explicit constexpr bit_reference(word_type& ref) noexcept;
    constexpr bit_reference(word_type& ref, size_type pos);

    // 1.5.4, assignment
    bit_reference& operator=(const bit_reference& other) noexcept;
    template <class T> bit_reference& operator=(const bit_reference<T>& other) noexcept;
    bit_reference& operator=(bit_value val) noexcept;
    bit_reference& assign(word_type val) noexcept;
    bit_reference& assign(word_type val, size_type pos);

    // 1.5.5, compound assignment
    bit_reference& operator&=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
    bit_reference& operator|=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
    bit_reference& operator^=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;

    // 1.5.6, observers
    explicit constexpr operator bool() const noexcept;
    constexpr bit_pointer<WordType> operator&() const noexcept;
    constexpr word_type* address() const noexcept;
    constexpr size_type position() const noexcept;
    constexpr word_type mask() const noexcept;

    // 1.5.7, modifiers
    bit_reference& set(bool b) noexcept;
    bit_reference& set() noexcept;
    bit_reference& reset() noexcept;
    bit_reference& flip() noexcept;

    // 1.5.8, swap
    template <class T> void swap(bit_reference<T> rhs) noexcept;
    void swap(bit_value& rhs) noexcept;
  };
```

1.5.2 `bit_reference` member types [bit.reference.types]

`using word_type = WordType;`

1 *Type:* Refers to the underlying word type that is being provided as a template parameter.

`using size_type = see below;`

2 *Type:* An implementation-defined unsigned integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `binary_digits_v<word_type>`. Same as `decltype(binary_digits_v<word_type>)` (1.3.3).

1.5.3 `bit_reference` constructors [bit.reference.cons]

`template <class T> constexpr bit_reference(const bit_reference<T>& other) noexcept;`

1 *Requires:* `is_convertible_v<T&, word_type&> == true`

2 *Effects:* Constructs an object of type `bit_reference` from another referenced bit `other`. [*Note:* This constructor is typically used for implicit conversions of cv-qualified bit references. — *end note*]

```
explicit constexpr bit_reference(word_type& ref) noexcept;
```

3 *Effects:* Constructs a reference to the bit at position `0` of `ref`.

4 *Remarks:* Contrarily to the more generic constructor that takes an arbitrary position as an argument, this constructor is marked `noexcept`.

```
constexpr bit_reference(word_type& ref, size_type pos);
```

5 *Requires:* `pos < binary_digits_v<word_type>`.

6 *Effects:* Constructs a reference to the bit at position `pos` of `ref`.

1.5.4 `bit_reference` assignment [bit.reference.assign]

```
bit_reference& operator=(const bit_reference& other) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Copies the value of the referenced bit `ref` to the bit referenced by `*this`.

2 *Returns:* `*this`.

3 *Remarks:* The copy assignment operator is not implicitly generated in order to ensure that the value of the referenced bit is changed instead of the underlying reference itself.

```
template <class T> bit_reference& operator=(const bit_reference<T>& other) noexcept;
```

4 *Effects:* Assigns the value of the referenced bit `ref` to the bit referenced by `*this`.

5 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_reference& operator=(bit_value val) noexcept;
```

6 *Effects:* Assigns the value of the bit `val` to the bit referenced by `*this`.

7 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_reference& assign(word_type val) noexcept;
```

8 *Effects:* Assigns the value of the bit in `val` at position `0` to the bit referenced by `*this`.

9 *Returns:* `*this`.

10 *Remarks:* Contrarily to the more generic `assign` member function that takes an arbitrary position as an argument, this member function is marked `noexcept`.

```
bit_reference& assign(word_type val, size_type pos);
```

11 *Requires:* `pos < binary_digits_v<word_type>`.

12 *Effects:* Assigns the value of the bit in `val` at position `pos` to the bit referenced by `*this`.

13 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.5.5 `bit_reference` compound assignment [bit.reference.cassign]

```
bit_reference& operator&=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Clears the bit referenced by `*this` if `rhs` is clear.

2 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_reference& operator|=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

3 *Effects:* Sets the bit referenced by `*this` if `rhs` is set.

4 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_reference& operator^=(bit_value rhs) noexcept;
```

5 *Effects:* Toggles the bit referenced by `*this` if `rhs` is set.

6 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.5.6 `bit_reference` observers [bit.reference.observers]

```
explicit constexpr operator bool() const noexcept;
```

1 *Returns:* `false` if the bit referenced by `*this` is cleared, `true` if it is set.

```
constexpr bit_pointer<WordType> operator&() const noexcept;
```

2 *Returns:* A `bit_pointer` (1.6) pointing to the bit referenced by `*this`.

3 *Remarks:* The actual address of a `bit_reference` object can be obtained through the `addressof` function of the standard library.

```
constexpr word_type* address() const noexcept;
```

4 *Returns:* A pointer to the word containing the bit referenced by `*this`.

```
constexpr size_type position() const noexcept;
```

5 *Returns:* The position of the bit referenced by `*this` within the word containing it.

```
constexpr word_type mask() const noexcept;
```

6 *Returns:* A mask of type `word_type` whose only set bit is the bit at the position of the bit referenced by `*this` within the word containing it as in `static_cast<word_type>(1) << position()`.

1.5.7 `bit_reference` modifiers [bit.reference.modifiers]

```
bit_reference& set(bool b) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Stores a new value in the bit referenced by `*this`: one if `b` is `true`, zero otherwise.

2 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_reference& set() noexcept;
```

3 *Effects:* Sets the bit referenced by `*this` to one.

4 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_reference& reset() noexcept;
```

5 *Effects:* Resets the bit referenced by `*this` to zero.

6 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_reference& flip() noexcept;
```

7 *Effects:* Toggles the bit referenced by `*this`.

8 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.5.8 `bit_reference` swap [bit.reference.swap]

```
template <class T> void swap(bit_reference<T> rhs) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Toggles the bit referenced by `*this` and the bit referenced by `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(*this) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
void swap(bit_value& rhs) noexcept;
```

2 *Effects:* Toggles the bit referenced by `*this` and the bit stored in `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(*this) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

1.5.9 `bit_reference` non-member operations [bit.reference.nonmembers]

```
template <class T> void swap(bit_reference<T> lhs, bit_reference<T> rhs) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Toggles the bit referenced by `lhs` and the bit referenced by `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(lhs) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

2 *Remarks:* This overload of `swap` ensures that the values of the referenced bits are swapped instead of the underlying references themselves.

```
template <class T, class U> void swap(bit_reference<T> lhs, bit_reference<U> rhs) noexcept;
```

3 *Effects:* Toggles the bit referenced by `lhs` and the bit referenced by `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(lhs) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
template <class T> void swap(bit_reference<T> lhs, bit_value& rhs) noexcept;
```

4 *Effects:* Toggles the bit referenced by `lhs` and the bit stored in `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(lhs) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
template <class T> void swap(bit_reference<T> lhs, bit_value& rhs) noexcept;
```

5 *Effects:* Toggles the bit stored in `lhs` and the bit referenced by `rhs` if their value differ as in `static_cast<bool>(lhs) != static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

```
template <class CharT, class Traits, class T>
  basic_istream<CharT, Traits>&
    operator>>(basic_istream<CharT, Traits>& is, bit_reference<T>& x);
```

6 A formatted input function.

7 *Effects:* A sentry object is first constructed. If the sentry object returns `true`, one character is extracted from `is`. If the character is successfully extracted with no end-of-file encountered, it is compared to `is.widen('0')` and to `is.widen('1')` and a temporary `bit_value` is set accordingly. If the character is neither equal to `is.widen('0')` nor to `is.widen('1')`, the extracted character is put back into the sequence. If the extraction happened without problem, the temporary bit value is assigned to `x`, otherwise `is.setstate(ios_base::failbit)` is called (which may throw `ios_base::failure`).

8 *Returns:* `is`.

```
template <class CharT, class Traits, class T>
  basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>&
    operator<<(basic_ostream<CharT, Traits>& os, bit_reference<T> x);
```

9 A formatted output function.

10 *Effects:* Outputs the bit to the stream.

11 *Returns:* `os << os.widen(x ? '1' : '0')`.

1.6 Class template `bit_pointer` [bit.pointer]

1.6.1 Class template `bit_pointer` overview [bit.pointer.overview]

1 A `bit_pointer` emulates the behavior of a pointer to a bit within an object. [*Note:* A `bit_pointer` can be implemented in terms of a pointer to a `bit_reference` (1.5). — *end note*]

2 The indirection operator `*` of `bit_pointer` (1.6.5) is overloaded to return a `bit_reference` (1.5) to the pointed bit, while the arrow operator `->` is overloaded to return a pointer to a `bit_reference` (1.5). Bit modifiers (1.5.7) can be accessed through this interface, as well as the underlying representation (1.5.6).

3 A null bit pointer can be created from a `nullptr` (1.6.3). Deferencing a null bit pointer leads to an undefined behavior. The explicit conversion to `bool` (1.6.5) shall return `false` for a null bit pointer, and `true` otherwise.

4 The arithmetic of bit pointers (1.6.6) rely on the ordering described in 1.1: a bit pointer `ptr2` is considered to be the next bit pointer of `ptr1` if both of them are not null and if either of the following is `true`:

(4.1) — `ptr2->address() - ptr1->address() == 0 && ptr2->position() - ptr1->position() == 1`

(4.2) — `ptr2->address() - ptr1->address() == 1 && binary_digits_v<typename decltype(ptr1)::word_type> - ptr1->position() == 1 && ptr2->position() == 0`

Comparison operators for `bit_pointer` (1.6.7) rely on the same ordering, first comparing the addresses of the underlying values and then comparing bit positions in case of equality.

5 The template parameter type `WordType` shall be a type such that `binary_digits_v<WordType>` is defined and is not null (1.3). A pointer to a constant bit shall be obtained through `bit_pointer<const WordType>`. A constant pointer to a mutable bit shall be obtained through `const bit_pointer<WordType>`. A constant pointer to a constant bit shall be obtained through `const bit_pointer<const WordType>`.

6 The return type of the difference between two bit pointers (1.6.2) shall be an implementation-defined signed integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `ptrdiff_t`.

```
template <class WordType>
class bit_pointer {
public:
  // 1.6.2, types
  using word_type = WordType;
  using size_type = see below;
  using difference_type = see below;

  // 1.6.3, constructors
  bit_pointer() noexcept = default;
  template <class T> constexpr bit_pointer(const bit_pointer<T>& other) noexcept;
  constexpr bit_pointer(nullptr_t) noexcept;
  explicit constexpr bit_pointer(word_type* ptr) noexcept;
  constexpr bit_pointer(word_type* ptr, size_type pos);

  // 1.6.4, assignment
  bit_pointer& operator=(nullptr_t) noexcept;
  bit_pointer& operator=(const bit_pointer& other) noexcept;
  template <class T> bit_pointer& operator=(const bit_pointer<T>& other) noexcept;

  // 1.6.5, observers
  explicit constexpr operator bool() const noexcept;
  constexpr bit_reference<WordType> operator*() const noexcept;
  constexpr bit_reference<WordType>* operator->() const noexcept;
  constexpr bit_reference<WordType> operator[](difference_type n) const;

  // 1.6.6, arithmetic
  bit_pointer& operator++();
  bit_pointer& operator--();
  bit_pointer operator++(int);
  bit_pointer operator--(int);
  constexpr bit_pointer operator+(difference_type n) const;
  constexpr bit_pointer operator-(difference_type n) const;
  bit_pointer& operator+=(difference_type n);
```

```
    bit_pointer& operator-=(difference_type n);
  };
```

1.6.2 `bit_pointer` member types [bit.pointer.types]

```
using word_type = WordType;
```

1 *Type:* Refers to the underlying word type that is being provided as a template parameter.

```
using size_type = see below;
```

2 *Type:* An implementation-defined unsigned integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `binary_digits_v<word_type>`. Same as `decltype(binary_digits_v<word_type>)` (1.3.3).

```
using difference_type = see below;
```

3 *Type:* An implementation-defined signed integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `ptrdiff_t`.

1.6.3 `bit_pointer` constructors [bit.pointer.cons]

```
bit_pointer() noexcept = default;
```

1 *Effects:* Constructs an uninitialized object of type `bit_pointer`.

2 *Remarks:* Observing (1.6.5) an uninitialized bit pointer, calling member arithmetic operators (1.6.6) on uninitialized bit pointers or calling non-member arithmetic operators (1.6.7) on uninitialized bit pointers leads to an undefined behavior.

```
template <class T> constexpr bit_pointer(const bit_pointer<T>& other) noexcept;
```

3 *Requires:* `is_convertible_v<T*, word_type*> == true`

4 *Effects:* Constructs an object of type `bit_pointer` from another bit pointer `other`. [*Note:* This constructor is typically used for implicit conversions of cv-qualified bit pointers. — *end note*]

```
constexpr bit_pointer(nullptr_t) noexcept;
```

5 *Effects:* Constructs a null bit pointer.

```
explicit constexpr bit_pointer(word_type* ptr) noexcept;
```

6 *Effects:* Constructs a pointer to the bit at position `0` of the word pointed to by `ptr`.

7 *Remarks:* Contrarily to the more generic constructor that takes an arbitrary position as an argument, this constructor is marked `noexcept`.

```
constexpr bit_pointer(word_type* ptr, size_type pos);
```

8 *Requires:* `pos < binary_digits_v<word_type>`.

9 *Effects:* Constructs a pointer to the bit at position `pos` of the word pointed to by `ptr`.

1.6.4 `bit_pointer` assignment [bit.pointer.assign]

```
bit_pointer& operator=(nullptr_t) noexcept;
```

1 *Effects:* Assigns a null bit pointer to `*this`.

2 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_pointer& operator=(const bit_pointer& other) noexcept;
```

3 *Effects:* Copies the bit pointer `other` to `*this`.

4 *Returns:* `*this`.

5 *Remarks:* The copy assignment operator is not implicitly generated in order to ensure that the pointer itself is changed instead of the value of the bit pointed to by `*this`.

```
template <class T> bit_pointer& operator=(const bit_pointer<T>& other) noexcept;
```

6 *Requires:* `is_convertible_v<T*, word_type*> == true`

7 *Effects:* Assigns the bit pointer `other` to `*this`.

8 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.6.5 `bit_pointer` observers [bit.pointer.observers]

```
explicit constexpr operator bool() const noexcept;
```

1 *Returns:* `false` if `*this` is a null bit pointer, `true` otherwise.

```
constexpr bit_reference<WordType> operator*() const noexcept;
```

2 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

3 *Returns:* A `bit_reference` (1.5) referencing the bit pointed to by `*this`.

```
constexpr bit_reference<WordType>* operator->() const noexcept;
```

4 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

5 *Returns:* A pointer to a `bit_reference` (1.5) referencing the bit pointed to by `*this`.

```
constexpr bit_reference<WordType> operator[](difference_type n) const;
```

6 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

7 *Returns:* A `bit_reference` (1.5) referencing the `n`-th bit after (or before for negative `n`) the bit pointed to by `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1.

1.6.6 `bit_pointer` arithmetic [bit.pointer.arithmetic]

```
bit_pointer& operator++();
```

1 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

2 *Effects:* Increments `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1.

3 *Returns:* `*this`

```
bit_pointer& operator--();
```

4 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

5 *Effects:* Decrements `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1.

6 *Returns:* `*this`

```
bit_pointer operator++(int);
```

7 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

8 *Effects:* Makes a copy of `*this`, increments `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1, and returns the original copy.

9 *Returns:* A copy of `*this` made before the increment.

```
bit_pointer operator--(int);
```

10 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

11 *Effects:* Makes a copy of `*this`, decrements `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1, and returns the original copy.

12 *Returns:* A copy of `*this` made before the decrement.

```
constexpr bit_pointer operator+(difference_type n) const;
```

13 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

14 *Returns:* A `bit_pointer` pointing to the `n`-th bit after (or before for negative `n`) the bit pointed to by `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1.

```
constexpr bit_pointer operator-(difference_type n) const;
```

15 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

16 *Returns:* A `bit_pointer` pointing to the `n`-th bit before (or after for negative `n`) the bit pointed to by `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1.

```
bit_pointer& operator+=(difference_type n);
```

17 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

18 *Effects:* Increments `*this` (or decrements for negative `n`) `n` times according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1.

19 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_pointer& operator-=(difference_type n);
```

20 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(*this) == true`.

21 *Effects:* Decrements `*this` (or increments for negative `n`) `n` times according to the arithmetic of bit pointers described in 1.6.1.

22 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.6.7 `bit_pointer` non-member operations [bit.pointer.nonmembers]

```
template <class T>
  constexpr bit_pointer<T>
    operator+(typename bit_pointer<T>::difference_type n, bit_pointer<T> x);
```

1 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(x) == true`.

2 *Returns:* `x + n`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr common_type_t<
    typename bit_pointer<T>::difference_type,
    typename bit_pointer<U>::difference_type
  > operator-(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs);
```

3 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) == static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

4 *Returns:* The number of bits `n` such that `lhs + n == rhs`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator==(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
```

5 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) == static_cast<bool>(rhs) && (!static_cast<bool>(lhs) || (lhs->address() == rhs->address() && lhs->position() == rhs->position()))`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator!=(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
```

6 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) != static_cast<bool>(rhs) || (static_cast<bool>(lhs) && (lhs->address() != rhs->address() || lhs->position() != rhs->position()))`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator<(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
```

7 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) == static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

8 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) && (lhs->address() < rhs->address() || (lhs->address() == rhs->address() && lhs->position() < rhs->position()))`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator<=(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
```

9 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) == static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

10 *Returns:* `!static_cast<bool>(lhs) || (lhs->address() < rhs->address() || (lhs->address() == rhs->address() && lhs->position() <= rhs->position()))`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator>(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
```

11 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) == static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

12 *Returns:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) && (lhs->address() > rhs->address() || (lhs->address() == rhs->address() && lhs->position() > rhs->position()))`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator>=(bit_pointer<T> lhs, bit_pointer<U> rhs) noexcept;
```

13 *Requires:* `static_cast<bool>(lhs) == static_cast<bool>(rhs)`.

14 *Returns:* `!static_cast<bool>(lhs) || (lhs->address() > rhs->address() || (lhs->address() == rhs->address() && lhs->position() >= rhs->position()))`.

1.7 Class template `bit_iterator` [bit.iterator]

1.7.1 Class template `bit_iterator` overview [bit.iterator.overview]

1 A `bit_iterator` is an iterator adaptor to iterate over the bits of a range of underlying words. The `value_type` (1.7.2) of a `bit_iterator` is defined as a `bit_value` (1.4), the `reference` type (1.7.2) is defined as a `bit_reference` (1.5) and the `pointer` type (1.7.2) is defined as a `bit_pointer` (1.6). [*Note:* A `bit_iterator` is typically implemented in terms of a bit position or a mask, and in terms of an underlying iterator. — *end note*]

2 The arithmetic of bit iterators (1.7.6) rely on the ordering described in 1.1: a bit iterator `it2` is considered to be the next bit iterator of `it1` if either of the following is `true`:

(2.1) — `it2.base() == it1.base() && it2.position() - it1.position() == 1`

(2.2) — `it2.base() == next(it1.base()) && binary_digits_v<typename decltype(it1)::word_type> - it1.position() == 1 && it2.position() == 0`

Comparison operators for `bit_iterator` (1.7.7) rely on the same ordering, first comparing the underlying iterator and then comparing bit positions in case of equality.

3 The template parameter type `Iterator` shall be an iterator such that the following types are the same:

(3.1) — `iterator_traits<Iterator>::value_type`

(3.2) — `remove_cv_t<remove_reference_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::reference>>`

(3.3) — `remove_cv_t<remove_pointer_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::pointer>>`

, such that the following types are the same:

(3.4) — `remove_reference_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::reference>>`

(3.5) — `remove_pointer_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::pointer>>`

and such that:

(3.6) — `bit_reference<remove_reference_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::reference>>`

(3.7) — `bit_pointer<remove_pointer_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::pointer>>`

can be instantiated. The member type `word_type` (1.7.2) keeps track of the cv-qualification of the underlying word type. [*Note:* For this reason, the types of `iterator_traits<Iterator>::value_type` and `bit_iterator<Iterator>::word_type` may have different cv-qualifiers. Implementations may use `remove_reference_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::reference>` to propagate cv-qualifiers instead of `iterator_traits<Iterator>::value_type`. — *end note*]

4 An access to the underlying representation of a `bit_iterator` is provided through the function members `base`, `position` and `mask` (1.7.5).

5 The return type of the difference between two bit iterator (1.6.2) shall be an implementation-defined signed integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `ptrdiff_t`.

```
template <class Iterator>
class bit_iterator {
public:
  // 1.7.2, types
  using iterator_type = Iterator;
  using word_type = see below;
  using iterator_category = typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::iterator_category;
  using value_type = bit_value;
  using difference_type = see below;
  using pointer = bit_pointer<word_type>;
  using reference = bit_reference<word_type>;
  using size_type = see below;

  // 1.7.3, constructors
  constexpr bit_iterator();
  template <class T> constexpr bit_iterator(const bit_iterator<T>& other);
  explicit constexpr bit_iterator(iterator_type i);
  constexpr bit_iterator(iterator_type i, size_type pos);

  // 1.7.4, assignment
  template <class T> bit_iterator& operator=(const bit_iterator<T>& other);

  // 1.7.5, observers
  constexpr reference operator*() const noexcept;
  constexpr pointer operator->() const noexcept;
  constexpr reference operator[](difference_type n) const;
  constexpr iterator_type base() const;
  constexpr size_type position() const noexcept;
  constexpr word_type mask() const noexcept;

  // 1.7.6, arithmetic
  bit_iterator& operator++();
  bit_iterator& operator--();
  bit_iterator operator++(int);
```

```
    bit_iterator operator--(int);
    constexpr bit_iterator operator+(difference_type n) const;
    constexpr bit_iterator operator-(difference_type n) const;
    bit_iterator& operator+=(difference_type n);
    bit_iterator& operator-=(difference_type n);
  };
```

1.7.2 `bit_iterator` member types [bit.iterator.types]

```
using iterator_type = Iterator;
```

1 *Type:* Refers to the `Iterator` template type parameter that is being adapted.

```
using word_type = see below;
```

2 *Type:* Refers to the cv-qualified type on which the underlying iterator is iterating, which is equivalent to `remove_reference_t<typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::reference>` according to 1.7.1.

```
using iterator_category = typename iterator_traits<Iterator>::iterator_category;
```

3 *Type:* Refers to the same iterator category as the one of the underlying iterator.

```
using value_type = bit_value;
```

4 *Type:* `bit_value`.

```
using difference_type = see below;
```

5 *Type:* An implementation-defined signed integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `ptrdiff_t`. Same as `bit_pointer<word_type>::difference_type` (1.6.2).

```
using pointer = bit_pointer<word_type>;
```

6 *Type:* `bit_pointer<word_type>`.

```
using reference = bit_reference<word_type>;
```

7 *Type:* `bit_reference<word_type>`.

```
using size_type = see below;
```

8 *Type:* An implementation-defined unsigned integer type capable of holding at least as many values as `binary_digits_v<word_type>`. Same as `decltype(binary_digits_v<word_type>)` (1.3.3).

1.7.3 `bit_iterator` constructors [bit.iterator.cons]

```
constexpr bit_iterator();
```

1 *Effects:* Value-initializes the underlying word iterator and the underlying bit position. Iterator operations applied to the resulting iterator have defined behavior if and only if the corresponding operations are defined on a value-initialized iterator of type `iterator_type`.

```
template <class T> constexpr bit_iterator(const bit_iterator<T>& other);
```

2 *Requires:* `is_constructible_v<iterator_type, T> == true`

3 *Effects:* Constructs an object of type `bit_iterator` from another bit iterator `other`, initializing the underlying word iterator from `other.base()` and initializing the underlying bit position from `other.position()`.

```
explicit constexpr bit_iterator(iterator_type i);
```

4 *Effects:* Constructs an iterator over the bit at position `0` of the word iterated over by `it`.

```
constexpr bit_iterator(iterator_type i, size_type pos);
```

Requires: `pos < binary_digits_v<word_type>`.

Effects: Constructs an iterator over the bit at position `pos` of the word iterated over by `it`.

1.7.4 `bit_iterator` assignment [bit.iterator.assign]

```
template <class T> bit_iterator& operator=(const bit_iterator<T>& other);
```

Requires: `is_assignable_v<iterator_type, T> == true`

Effects: Assigns the bit iterator `other` to `*this`, assigning `other.base()` to the underlying word iterator of `*this` and assigning `other.position()` to the underlying bit position of `*this`.

Returns: `*this`.

1.7.5 `bit_iterator` observers [bit.iterator.observers]

```
constexpr reference operator*() const noexcept;
```

Returns: A `bit_reference` (1.5) referencing the bit iterated over by `*this`.

```
constexpr pointer operator->() const noexcept;
```

Returns: A `bit_pointer` (1.6) pointing to the bit iterated over by `*this`.

```
constexpr reference operator[](difference_type n) const;
```

Returns: A `bit_reference` (1.5) referencing the `n`-th bit after (or before for negative `n`) the bit iterated over by `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1.

```
constexpr iterator_type base() const;
```

Returns: An iterator over the word containing the bit iterated over by `*this`.

```
constexpr size_type position() const noexcept;
```

Returns: The position of the bit iterated over by `*this` within the word containing it.

```
constexpr word_type mask() const noexcept;
```

Returns: A mask of type `word_type` whose only set bit is the bit at the position of the bit iterated over by `*this` within the word containing it as in `static_cast<word_type>(1) << position()`.

1.7.6 `bit_iterator` arithmetic [bit.iterator.arithmetic]

```
bit_iterator& operator++();
```

Effects: Increments `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1.

Returns: `*this`

```
bit_iterator& operator--();
```

Effects: Decrements `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1.

Returns: `*this`

```
bit_iterator operator++(int);
```

Effects: Makes a copy of `*this`, increments `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1, and returns the original copy.

Returns: A copy of `*this` made before the increment.

```
bit_iterator operator--(int);
```

7 *Effects:* Makes a copy of `*this`, decrements `*this` according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1, and returns the original copy.

8 *Returns:* A copy of `*this` made before the decrement.

```
constexpr bit_iterator operator+(difference_type n) const;
```

9 *Returns:* A `bit_iterator` over the `n`-th bit after (or before for negative `n`) the bit over which `*this` iterates according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1.

```
constexpr bit_iterator operator-(difference_type n) const;
```

10 *Returns:* A `bit_iterator` over the `n`-th bit before (or after for negative `n`) the bit over which `*this` iterates according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1.

```
bit_iterator& operator+=(difference_type n);
```

11 *Effects:* Increments `*this` (or decrements for negative `n`) `n` times according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1.

12 *Returns:* `*this`.

```
bit_iterator& operator-=(difference_type n);
```

13 *Effects:* Decrements `*this` (or increments for negative `n`) `n` times according to the arithmetic of bit iterators described in 1.7.1.

14 *Returns:* `*this`.

1.7.7 `bit_iterator` non-member operations [bit.iterator.nonmembers]

```
template <class T>
  constexpr bit_iterator<T>
    operator+(typename bit_iterator<T>::difference_type n, const bit_iterator<T>& i);
```

1 *Returns:* `i + n`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr common_type_t<
    typename bit_iterator<T>::difference_type,
    typename bit_iterator<U>::difference_type
  > operator-(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
```

2 *Returns:* The number of bits `n` such that `lhs + n == rhs`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator==(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
```

3 *Returns:* `lhs.base() == rhs.base() && lhs.position() == rhs.position()`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator!=(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
```

4 *Returns:* `lhs.base() != rhs.base() || lhs.position() != rhs.position()`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator<(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
```

5 *Returns:* `lhs.base() < rhs.base() || (lhs.base() == rhs.base()`
`&& lhs.position() < rhs.position())`.

```
template <class T, class U>
```

```
  constexpr bool operator<=(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
```

6 *Returns:* `lhs.base() < rhs.base() || (lhs.base() == rhs.base() && lhs.position() <= rhs.position())`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator>(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
```

7 *Returns:* `lhs.base() > rhs.base() || (lhs.base() == rhs.base() && lhs.position() > rhs.position())`.

```
template <class T, class U>
  constexpr bool operator>=(const bit_iterator<T>& lhs, const bit_iterator<U>& rhs);
```

8 *Returns:* `lhs.base() > rhs.base() || (lhs.base() == rhs.base() && lhs.position() >= rhs.position())`.

Annex A Comments & remarks [bit.annex]

1 This annex is not a part of the wording, but comments and remarks on D0237R7.

2 History of the proposal includes the original motivating and design review paper P0237R0 (pre-Jacksonville), the wording explorations P0237R1 (pre-Oulu), P0237R2 (post-Oulu), P0237R3 (pre-Issaquah), P0237R4 (post-Issaquah), P0237R5 (pre-Kona), P0237R6 (post-Kona), and the formal wording P0237R7 (pre-Toronto). The proposal has also been presented at CppCon2016. The Bit Library provides a working implementation [*Note:* The implementation at a given time t may differ from the proposal by few minor details. — *end note*] that has been in use at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign since late 2015 with applications in high performance tree data structures, arbitrary precision arithmetic, machine learning and bioinformatics.

3 Throughout the history of the proposal, most design questions have been debated and answered through discussions and polls as reported in the first part of P0237R6. The paper has been presented to LEWG since its first version. The early design has been reviewed by SG14. The paper has been approved by SG6 in Kona.

4 The feedback from users of The Bit Library the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign since late 2015 has been very positive, especially regarding to design and performances. The authors have had no problem teaching the library to students, some of whom have contributed to the implementation of bit manipulation algorithms.

5 Long term plans for the standard library based on the bit utilities described in this proposal include high performance overloads of the standard algorithms for bit iterators and a bit container adapter to replace `vector<bool>` and `bitset`. Future arbitrary precision numeric types may also benefit from bit utilities to provide an interface to access the underlying representation.

6 The motivations behind `bit_value` against `bool` are explained in great depth in P0237R0. Discussions during the Jacksonville meeting favored `bit_value` against `bool`. The authors of the paper strongly support the introduction of `bit_value` in order to avoid some of the misleading behavior users have experienced during the last decades with `vector<bool>`. Some of the advantages of `bit_value` over `bool` can be summarized as follow:

(6.1) — A `bit` refers to memory while a `bool` refers to boolean logic, `true`, `false` and `conditions`, in the same way a `byte` differs from `unsigned char` even though both of them have 256 possible values. If a `bit` and a `bool` were the same, one could wonder why `vector<bool>` has been considered to be such a problem. A `bit` is to a `bool` what `byte` is to an `unsigned char`.

(6.2) — Using `bool` instead of `bit_value` would allow all the implicit conversions of `bool`, enabling unintuitive behaviors. `bit_value` provides additional type safety.

(6.3) — LEWG has given guidance in Oulu to favor the use of member functions for `set`, `reset` and `flip`. The design presented in this proposal allows `bit_value` and `bit_reference` to provide a similar interface. `bit_value` also provides a 2-argument constructor taking a word and a position as arguments, contrarily to `bool`. Removing `bit_value` and replacing it by `bool` would make the writing generic code more difficult.

The name `bit_value` has been chosen instead of `bit` to follow the same convention as in `bit_reference`, `bit_pointer` and `bit_iterator`. It also highlights the fact that the class is a wrapper with `sizeof(bit_value) >= 1` as any other object in the C++ memory model, the size being expressed as a number of bytes. Feedback from users of The Bit Library regarding `bit_value` has been very positive. As an additional remark, high-level code often does not use `bit_value` directly since manipulating bit sequences is achieved through `bit_iterator`, `bit_value` only serving as a helper class for `bit_iterator::value_type`. Since this proposal is targeting a Technical Specification, the Technical Specification could gather more feedback

on the use of `bit_value` instead of `bool`.

7 The following points still need to be discussed:

(7.1) — Should the wording specify `sizeof(bit_value) == 1`?

(7.2) — Should mutating functions of the bit library be marked `constexpr`? What about `swap` overloads and input/output operators (1.2)?

(7.3) — Is `size_type` (1.4.2, 1.5.2, 1.6.2, 1.7.2) the right member type name to specify the position of a bit within a word? If not, how should this type relate to `decltype(binary_digits_v<WordType>)` (1.3)? Alternatives suggested in small group discussions in Kona include `position_type`.

(7.4) — How should the `bit_value` objects (1.4.10) be named? Contradictory guidance has been given on this topic over the last meetings. The main options include `zero_bit`/`one_bit`, `bit_zero`/`bit_one`, `false_bit`/`true_bit`, `bit_false`/`bit_true`, `bit_0`/`bit_1` and `bit0`/`bit1`. Typical uses include bit manipulation algorithms:

```
// Example of a call to std::count on bit sequences
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_value(0U)); // default version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_value(1U)); // default version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::zero_bit);      // zero_bit/one_bit version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::one_bit);       // zero_bit/one_bit version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_zero);      // bit_zero/bit_one version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_one);       // bit_zero/bit_one version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::false_bit);     // false_bit/true_bit version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::true_bit);      // false_bit/true_bit version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_false);     // bit_false/bit_true version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_true);      // bit_false/bit_true version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_0);         // bit_0/bit_1 version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit_1);         // bit_0/bit_1 version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit0);          // bit0/bit1 version
std::count(first_bit, last_bit, std::bit1);          // bit0/bit1 version
```

In Kona, SG6 favored the `bit_zero`/`bit_one` option, while discussions in small groups in LEWG led to no conclusion apart the conclusion that the issue should be solved by a full LEWG poll. The authors of the proposal would discourage the use of `false_bit`/`true_bit` and `bit_false`/`bit_true` to avoid the confusion between `bit_value` and `bool`, as well as the `zero_bit`/`one_bit` option since it breaks the uniform naming convention of the library and since `one_bit` can lead to ambiguity between a bit count of 1 and a bit value of `1`. Over the remaining options, the authors would slightly favor `bit0`/`bit1` for code brevity, code alignment (which is not provided by the `bit_zero`/`bit_one` option), similarity with math functions such as `log2`, `log10`, `log1p`, and existing naming practices for bit manipulation functions such as the ones suggested in N3864. Regardless of the result, consistency with P0553R1 would be a plus.