



MAKE  
SCHOOL

# BIT MANIPULATION

*Twiddling, Fiddling, Befuddling Bits*

# BITWISE OPERATIONS

AND	&	NOT	~
OR		LEFT SHIFT	<<
XOR	^	RIGHT SHIFT	>>

# AND

Only true if both  
input bits are true

$$0 \ \& \ 0 \ = \ 0$$

$$1 \ \& \ 0 \ = \ 0$$

$$0 \ \& \ 1 \ = \ 0$$

$$1 \ \& \ 1 \ = \ 1$$

10010110

&

00110010

---

00010010

# OR

True if any input bit is  
true (either or both)

$$0 \mid 0 = 0$$

$$1 \mid 0 = 1$$

$$0 \mid 1 = 1$$

$$1 \mid 1 = 1$$

10010110

|

00110010

---

10110110

# XOR

True if one and only  
one input bit is true

$$0 \mid 0 = 0$$

$$1 \mid 0 = 1$$

$$0 \mid 1 = 1$$

$$1 \mid 1 = 0$$



10010110



00110010

---

10100100

# NOT

Ones' complement  
operator

Flips the input bit

$$\sim 0 = 1$$

$$\sim 1 = 0$$

~

00110010

---

11001101

# LEFT SHIFT

Shift the binary digits  
by n, pad 0's on the  
right

Each shift is a  
multiply by 2 (unless  
there's overflow)

	00010110
<<	
	00000010
	<hr/>
	01011000

# RIGHT SHIFT

Shift the binary digits  
by n, pad 0's on the  
right

Each shift is a divide by  
2 with round towards  
negative infinity

00010110  
>>  
00000010  
-----  
00000101

# BIT MANIPULATION BASICS

*Bit Manipulation Basics*

# SET BIT

```
int setBit(int x, unsigned char position) {  
    int mask = 1 << position;  
    return x | mask;  
}
```

x	00000110		00000110
position	00000101		00100000
mask	00100000		00100110

# CLEAR BIT

```
int clearBit(int x, unsigned char position) {  
    int mask = 1 << position;  
    return x & ~mask;  
}
```

x	00000110		00000110	x
position	00000010		& 11111011	~mask
mask	00000100			
~mask	11111011		00000010	



# FLIP BIT

```
int flipBit(int x, unsigned char position) {  
    int mask = 1 << position;  
    return x ^ mask;  
}
```

x	01100110		01100110	x
position	00000010		00000100	mask
mask	00000100		01100010	

# IS BIT SET

```
bool isBitSet(int x, unsigned char position) {  
    int shifted = x >> position  
    return shifted & 1  
}
```

x	01100110		00000011	shifted
position	00000101	&	00000001	1
shifted	00000011		00000001	

# MODIFY BIT

*SET*

```
int modifyBit(int x, unsigned char position, int state) {  
    int mask = 1 << position;  
    return (x & ~mask) | (-state & mask);  
}
```

x	00000110	~mask	11011111	00000110	x & ~mask
position	00000101	-state	11111111	00100000	-state & mask
state	00000001	x & ~mask	00000110		
mask	00100000	-state & mask	00100000		
				<hr/>	
				00100110	

# MODIFY BIT

CLEAR

```
int modifyBit(int x, unsigned char position, int state) {  
    int mask = 1 << position;  
    return (x & ~mask) | (-state & mask);  
}
```

x	00000110	~mask	11111011	00000010	x & ~mask
position	00000010	-state	00000000	00000000	-state & mask
state	00000000	x & ~mask	00000010		
mask	00000100	-state & mask	00000000		
				<hr/>	
				00000010	

# BIT TRICKS

# CHECK IF EVEN

$((x \& 1) == 0)$

$\&$

0110

0001

---

0000

# CHECK IF POWER OF TWO

$$((x \& (x-1)) == 0)$$

$\begin{array}{r} 1000 \\ \& \\ 0111 \\ \hline 0000 \end{array}$

# EXERCISE

Write a function to count the number of bits that are different between two numbers