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CHAPTER – 15

BIT WISE OPERATION

BIT WISE OPERATORS

Computers represent all data internally as sequences of **bits**. Each bit can assume the value 0 or the value 1. On most systems, a sequence of 8 **bits** forms a byte, the standard storage unit for a variable of type char. Other data types are stored in larger number of bytes. The *bit wise operators* are used to manipulate the **bits** of integral operands (**char**, **short**, **int**, and **long**, both **signed** and **unsigned**). Unsigned integers are normally used with the **bit wise operators**.

The bit wise operators are: bit wise AND (&), bit wise inclusive OR (/), bitwise exclusive OR (^), left shift (<<), right shift (>>), and complement (~). The bit wise AND, bit wise inclusive OR, and bit wise exclusive OR operators compare their two operands bit by bit.

The **bit wise AND** operator sets each **bit** in the result to *I* if the corresponding bit in both operands is *I*. The **bit wise inclusive OR** operator sets each **bit** in the result to *I* if the corresponding **bit** in either (or both) operands is *I*. The **bit wise exclusive OR** operator sets each **bit** in the result to *I* if the corresponding **bit** in exactly one operand is *I*. The **left shift** operator shifts the **bits** of its left operand to the left by the number of bits specified in its right operand. The **right shift** operator shifts the bits in its left operand to the right by the number of **bits** specified in its right operand. The **bit wise complement** operator sets all *O* bits its operand to *I* in the result and sets all *I* bits to *O* in the result, otherwise referred to as "taking the one's complement of the value".

Each **bit wise operator** (except the bit wise **complement operator**) has a corresponding assignment operator. These assignment operators are used in a similar manner to the arithmetic assignment operators.