# Computer Labs: C Topics for Lab 2 $2^{\circ}$ MIEIC 

Pedro F. Souto (pfs@fe.up.pt)

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## Contents

Bitwise and Shift Operators

## C Unions

## Bitwise Operations

- Bitwise operations
- are boolean operations, either binary or unary
- take integral operands, i.e. one of the following types char, short, int, long, whether signed or unsigned
- apply the operation on every bit of these operands

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## Bitwise Operators

- Bitwise operators:
\& bitwise AND
| bitwise inclusive OR
^ bitwise exclusive OR
~ one's complement (unary)
- Do not confuse them with the logical operators which evaluate the truth value of an expression:
$\& \&$ logical and
| | logical or
! negation


## Bitwise Operators: Application

- Use with bit masks:

```
uchar mask = 0x80; // 10000000b
if ( flags & mask ) // test value of flags MS bit
flags = flags | mask; // set flags MS bit
flags ^= mask; // toggle flags MS bit
mask = ~mask; // mask becomes 01111111b
flags &= mask; // reset flags MS bit
```

- In Lab 2, you can use the | operator to select a graphics mode using the linear memory model

```
#define LINEAR_MODEL_BIT 0x40
mode |= LINEAR_MODEL_BIT;
```


## Shift Operators

- Similar to corresponding assembly language shift operations
$\gg$ left shift of left hand side (LHS) operand by the number of bits positions given by the RHS operand
- Vacated bits on the left are filled with:

0 if the LHS is unsigned (logical shift) either 0 or 1 (machine/compiler dependent] if the LHS operand is signed
\ll right shift

- Vacated bits on the right are always filled with 0's
- LHS operand must be of an integral type
- RHS operand must be non-negative


## Shift Operators: Application

- Integer multiplication/division by a power of 2:

```
unsigned int n;
```

```
n <<= 4; // multiply n by 16 (2^4)
n >>= 3; // divide n by 8 (2^3)
```

- Flags definitions (to avoid mistakes)

```
#define LINEAR_MODEL_BIT 14
```

\#define BIT(n) (0x1 << (n))
mode |= BIT(LINEAR_MODEL_BIT);

## Contents

## Bitwise and Shift Operators

C Unions

## C Unions

- Syntatically, a union data type appears like a struct:

```
union reg_a {
    unsigned char a; // 8080 A register
    unsigned short ax; // 8086 AX register
    unsigned long eax; // 80386 EAX register
} xax;
```

- Access to a union's members is via the dot operator
- However semantically, there is a big difference:

Union contains space to store any of its members, but not all of its members simultaneously

- The name union stems from the fact that a variable of this type can take any of the types of its members
Struct contains space to store all of its members simultaneously

Question What are unions good for?

## C Union and Type Conversion

```
union reg_a {
    struct {
        unsigned char al, ah, _eax[2]; // access as 8-bit r
    } b;
    struct {
            unsigned short ax, _eax; // access as 16-bit regis
    } w;
    struct {
            unsigned long eax; // access as 32-bit register
    } 1;
} ia32_a;
```

- This allows us to initialize the union as a 32-bit register
ia32_a.l.eax = 0xDODODEAD;
- And later access any of the smaller registers available in the IA 32 architecture

```
printf("EAX = 0x%p \t AX = 0x%x \t AH = 0x%x \t AL = 0x%x \n",
    ia32_a.l.eax, ia32_a.w.ax, ia32_a.b.ah, ia32_a.b.al);
```

