

## Bit Twiddling

Kizito NKURIKIYEZU, Ph.D.

### Why bit twiddling?

- When setting PORTs and DDRs, one needs to be careful not to disturb the state of other bits of the register.
- For example, the following code attempts to set pin 2 of PORTD

```
1 DDRD |= 0b00000100;
```

- Unfortunately, this code also clears all other bits of PORTD
- Bit twiddling allows not to set all 8 bits in register PORT without regard for the directions of each individual pin, i.e. all the bits stored in DDR
- For example, the above example could be best solved as follows

```
1 DDRD = DDRD | (1<<2);
2 /*which can also be written as*/
3 DDRD |= (1<<2);
```

- Please read "Programming 101 - By Eric Weddington"<sup>5</sup> for more details.

<sup>5</sup><https://www.avrfreaks.net/forum/tut-c-bit-manipulation-aka-programming-101?page=all>

### Reading material

- 1 Bit manipulation (AKA "Programming 101")<sup>1</sup>
- 2 Chap 4 of Williamson, E. (2014). Make: AVR programming. Maker Media<sup>2</sup>.
- 3 AVR Bit Manipulation in C<sup>3</sup>
- 4 Bitwise Operations in Embedded Programming<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup><https://www.avrfreaks.net/forum/tut-c-bit-manipulation-aka-programming-101?page=all>

<sup>2</sup><https://apprize.best/hardware/avr/5.html>

<sup>3</sup><http://www.rjhcoding.com/avrc-bit-manip.php>

<sup>4</sup><https://binaryupdates.com/bitwise-operations-in-embedded-programming/>

### Bit Shifting

- Bit shifting—a bitwise operator that allows to move (to the left or right) the order of one or several bits
- Bit-shifting is very fast and required fewer CPU operations compared to arithmetic (e.g., multiplication and division) operations.
- Bit shifting uses Bitwise Operators<sup>6</sup>

Operator	Name	Example	Result
&	Bitwise AND	6 & 3	2
	Bitwise OR	10   10	10
^	Bitwise XOR	2^2	0
~	Bitwise 1's complement	~9	-10
<<	Left-Shift	10<<2	40
>>	Right-Shift	10>>2	2

FIG 1. Example of Bitwise operations

<sup>6</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bitwise\\_operation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bitwise_operation)

## Bit Shifting

There are three main types of shifts:

- Left Shifts—When shifting left, the most-significant bit is lost, and a 0 bit is inserted on the other end.

- The left shift operator is usually written as `<<`

```
1 (0010 << 1)=0100 /* (2<<1)=4 */
2 (0010 << 2)=1000 /* (2<<2)=8 */
```

- Right Shifts—When shifting right with an arithmetic right shift, the least-significant bit is lost and the most-significant bit is copied.

- The right shift operator is usually written as `>>`

```
1 (1011 >> 1)=1101 /* (11>>1)=5 */
2 (1011 >> 3)=0001 /* (11>>3)=1 */
```

- Logical Right Shifts—When shifting right with a logical right shift, the least-significant bit is lost and a 00 is inserted on the other end.

```
1 (1011 >>> 1)=0101
2 (1011 >>> 3)=0001
```

## Controlling Memory-Mapped I/O Registers Using Bit Operations

## Setting Bits with the OR operator

Consider the diodes in Figure 4 and Figure 5.

- How would you turn on LED1 while other LEDs are turned off?

```
1 /*set the pin as an
   output*/
2 DDRB |= (1<<PBO);
3 /*set the bit PBO as
   high*/
4 PORTB |= (1<<PBO);
```

- How would you turn on only LED2 and LED3 and leave out other LEDs in their previous state?

```
1 PORTB |= ((1<< PB1) |
            (1<< PB2));
```

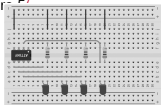


FIG 2

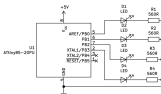


FIG 3

## Clearing a bit with AND and NOT operators

- How to turn OFF LED 1 only

```
1 /*Set PBO to low*/
2 PORTB &=~ (1<<PBO);
```

- How would you turn OFF only LED2 and LED3 and leave out other LEDs in their previous state?

```
1 PORTB &=~ ((1<<PB1) | (1<<
               PB2));
```

NOTE: There is a NOT outside the parentheses in order to have two zeros

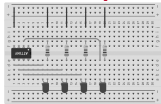


FIG 4

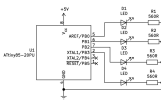


FIG 5

## Toggle Bits with XOR operator

- How to toggle OFF LED 1 only

```
1 PORTB ^= (1<<PB0);
```

- How to toggle only LED2 and LED3 and leave out other LEDs in their previous state?

```
1 PORTB ^= ((1<<PB1) | (1<<PB2));
```

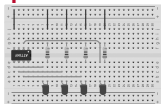


FIG 6

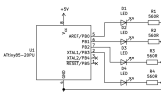


FIG 7

Noted:

- Don't forget to set direction of pins first! else, the pin will not be set
- Remember if pins are configured as inputs (DDRBn bit is 0) then the corresponding

## Testing a Bit

- Suppose we need to know if the switch S1 is pressed
- We use the PIN register to know the content of the PORT

```
1 int status=(PINB & (1<<PB));
2 if(status){
3     // If the switch is pressed
4 }
```

- You can also check multiple switches

```
1 int status=PINB&((1<<PB4) | (1<<PB5));
2 if(status){
3     //If any of the switches is pressed
4 }
```

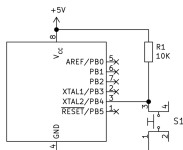


FIG 8

## AVR bit twiddling

TAB 1. Important bit-twiddling operations.

Operation	Implementation in C	Implication
Set a bit	<code>PORTB  = (1&lt;&lt;PB1);</code>	Bit PB1 is set to 1 [other pins are left unchanged]
Clear bit	<code>PORTB &amp;= ~(1&lt;&lt;PB1);</code>	Bit PB1 is set to 0 [other pins are left unchanged]
Toggle a bit	<code>PORTB ^= (1&lt;&lt;PB1);</code>	If Bit PB1 was 1, it is toggled to 0. Otherwise, it is set to 1 [other pins are left unchanged]
Read a value bit	<code>uint8_t bit = PORTB &amp; (1&lt;&lt; PB1);</code>	Read and put the value of bit PB1 of PORTB into the variable bit. This is used to read switches.

Important readings:

- Please read the document—which is uploaded on the course website—entitled 'AVR Bit Twiddling' to better understand this important topic.
- You should also read "Bit manipulation" by By Eric Weddington <sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup><https://www.avrfreaks.net/forum/tut-c-bit-manipulation-aka-programming-101?page=all>

## Special bit twiddling AVR functions

One can use the `_BV(x)` macro defined in `avr/sfr_defs.h` which is included through `avr/io.h` as `#define _BV(x) (1<x)`

```
DDRD &= ~_BV(0); //set PORTD pin0 to zero as
input
PORTD |= _BV(0); //Enable pull up;
DDRD |= _BV(1); //set PORTD pin1 to one as output
PORTD |= _BV(1); //led ON
while (1) {
    if (bit_is_clear(PIND, 0)) {
        //if button is pressed
        while (1) {
            PORTD &= ~_BV(1); //turn the led OFF
            //LED OFF while Button is pressed
            loop_until_bit_is_set(PIND, 0);
            PORTD |= _BV(1); //turn the led ON
        }
    }
}
```

## Software Delay Functions

AVR GCC compiler's util/delay.h defines the `_delay_ms(double ms)` function

- Requires # include `<util/delay.h>`
- `F_CPU` preprocessor symbol should be defined as MCPU frequency in Hz using `#define` or passed through the `-D` compiler option
  - In code: `#define F_CPU 8000000UL //8 MHz clock`
  - Command line option: `-D F_CPU=8000000UL`
- The maximum delay is calculated as

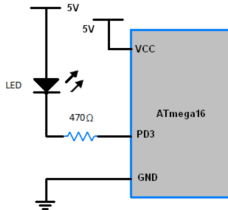
$$\text{delay} = \frac{4294967.295 \cdot 10^6}{F\_CPU} \quad (1)$$

- Thus, for an 8MHz clock, the maximum delay would be

$$\text{delay} = \frac{4294967.295 \cdot 10^6}{8 \cdot 10^6} = 536871 \text{ ms} \quad (2)$$

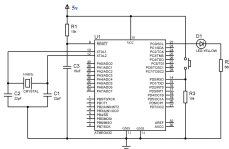
## Example: blink an LED

```
#define F_CPU 8000000UL
#include <avr/io.h>
#include <util/delay.h>
int main(void)
{
    //Set all pins of DDR3 as output
    DDRD = DDRD | (1<<3);
    while(1)
    {
        //Turn on the LED by making pin PD3 high
        PORTD = PORTD | (1<<3);
        // Wait one second
        _delay_ms(1000);
        // Turn off the LED by making pin PD3 low
        PORTD = PORTD & ~(1<<3);
        _delay_ms(1000);
    }
    return 0;
}
```



## Example: Reading switch

```
#include <avr/io.h>
#include <util/delay.h>
int main(void) {
    //Set PC0 as Output
    DDRC |= (1 << PC0);
    //Set PD0 as an input
    DDRD &= ~(1 << PD0);
    while (1) {
        //Turns OFF LED
        PORTC &= ~(1 << PC0);
        //If switch is pressed
        if (PIND & (1 << PD0)) {
            //Turns ON LED for one second
            PORTC |= (1 << PC0);
            _delay_ms(1000);
        }
    }
}
```



The end