

# C - Bit Fields, xv6 Setup, gdb

CS238P: Principles of operating systems - Fall'18

---

Aftab Hussain

(Adapted from Vikram Narayanan's CS143A Fall '17 slides)

October 26, 2018

University of California, Irvine

**Bits**

**A data structure to hold bits**

# Bit fields<sup>1</sup>

```
// Gate descriptors for interrupts and traps
struct gatedesc {
    uint off_15_0 : 16; // low 16 bits of offset in segment
    uint cs : 16; // code segment selector
    uint args : 5; // # args, 0 for interrupt/trap gates
    uint rsv1 : 3; // reserved(should be zero I guess)
    uint type : 4; // type(STS_{TG,IG32,TG32})
    uint s : 1; // must be 0 (system)
    uint dpl : 2; // descriptor(meaning new) privilege level
    uint p : 1; // Present
    uint off_31_16 : 16; // high bits of offset in segment
};
```

```
struct gatedesc d;
d.s = 0; d.args = 0;
```

---

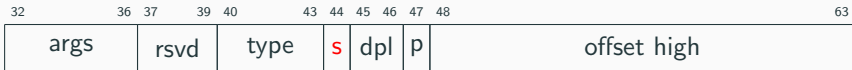
<sup>1</sup>sheet 09 xv6-rev9.pdf

“In C and C++, native implementation-defined bit fields can be created using unsigned int, signed int, or (in C99:) `_Bool`.”<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bit\\_field](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bit_field)

# Access low-level data



- Set bit 44 (s) to 1, without changing anything else.

```
/* on a 64-bit data type */
```

```
data = data | (1 << 44); //the same as under
```

```
data |= (1 << 44);
```

# Access low-level data



- Set bit 44 (s) to 1, without changing anything else.

```
/* on a 64-bit data type */
```

```
data = data | (1 << 44); //the same as under
```

```
data |= (1 << 44);
```

- Clear a bit (s) - And (&) and Not (~)

```
/* on a 64-bit data type */
```

```
data = data & ~(1 << 44);
```

```
data &= ~(1 << 44);
```

**Moving on to xv6 setup and gdb demo.**