
Subject: Re: Need help identifying left most zero bit
Posted by [Pavel Romashkin](#) on Sat, 06 Apr 2002 20:43:27 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Phil,
Download the last function from David's page here:
http://www.dfanning.com/misc_tips/binary_hex.html
Then try:

```
print, (where(binary(-15s) eq 0))[0]
```

Cheers,
Pavel

"Phil" <plmcelwee@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:a3589d11.0204051007.10df5da6@posting.google.com...
> I'm working with negative (two's complement) 16-bit numbers and could
> use some help. What I'd like to do is have a function that will tell
> me the location of the left-most zero bit for any given negative
> 16-bit number. Here are some examples to illustrate my goal.
>
> if x = -2, which is 1111 1111 1111 1110, then return 1
> if x = -5, which is 1111 1111 1111 1011, then return 3
> if x = -15, which is 1111 1111 1111 0111, then return 4
> if x = -8, which is 1111 1111 1111 1000, then return 3
>
> Is there something built-in to IDL that will accomplish this? Or does
> anyone have any other suggestions?
