Subject: Re: Need help identifying left most zero bit
Posted by TFE on Fri, 05 Apr 2002 19:40:56 GMT
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Phil,

think this is close-

```
x=-8
for i=0,15 do begin
y = UINT(ISHFT(-x-1,i)) ; 2's comp to swap bits, start left shift and check
leftmost bit
if ((y AND '8000'X) EQ '8000'X) then begin
print, 'position =', 16-i
i=15 ; exit loop
endif
endfor
```

"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?