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Subject: Re: inverse function of binary.pro

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 30 Jun 2004 14:20:53 GMT

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sebinjapan writes:

```
> I am using the function (best_)binary.pro available on David Fanning's web
> page:
> http://www.dfanning.com/misc_tips/binary_hex.html
>
> I would like to know if someone already wrote the inverse function of
> binary (a function that gives you the number corresponding to its binary
> representation)?
> Something like:
> IDL> print, inv_binary(binary(76.12))
>      76.12
```

For something quick and dirty, how about this:

```
FUNCTION Inverse_Binary, binaryNumber

  s = Size(binaryNumber, /Dimensions)
  bn = Reform(Long(binaryNumber), 8*s[1])
  len = N_Elements(bn)

  RETURN, Total(bn*2^Reverse(Indgen(len)))

END
```

Works for the two or three values I've tested. :-)

```
> btw: I think there is a minor error at the end of binary.pro. On little
> endian computer, it doesn't work with scalar of byte type. I think the
> last "if" test should be:
>   if little_endian AND type NE 1 then $
> instead of
>   if little_endian then $
```

Kevin Ivory gave me this little program, but I think you are right about it. I've updated my web page with the change. Thanks.

Cheers,

David

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