
Subject: Re: 32-bit Unsigned Integers, Was: Unsigned Integers - How?

Posted by [James Tappin](#) on Tue, 11 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

[SNIP]

```
>
> Now, here is where I start to get unsure of myself. I know
> how to turn *one* unsigned 32-bit integer into its real value.
> You use the BYTE function to individually read the four
> bytes of information in the 32-bit integer and you reconstruct
> those bytes into a DOUBLE-PRECISION value. The code looks
> like this:
>
>   number = data(0)
>   factor = 256.0D
>   realNumber = BYTE(number, 0)*factor^3 + BYTE(number,1)*factor^2 + $
>     BYTE(number,2)*factor^1 + BYTE(number,3)*factor^0
>
> This is for a big endian machine, like most UNIX machines. If
> you are on a little endian machine (like a PC), you will have to
> reverse the order in which the real number is constructed. Your
> code will look like this:
>
>   number = data(0)
>   factor = 256.0D
>   realNumber = BYTE(number, 0)*factor^0 + BYTE(number,1)*factor^1 + $
>     BYTE(number,2)*factor^2 + BYTE(number,3)*factor^3
>
> What I don't know how to do (perhaps Bill Thompson or Mitchell Grunes
> can help us here), is how to do this for the whole array at once in
> an "array" type way. I certainly know how to write a loop! :-)
>
>   realNumbers = DBLARR(N_ELEMENTS(data))
>   factor = 256.0D
>   FOR j=0, N_ELEMENTS(data)-1 DO BEGIN
>     realNumbers(j) = BYTE(data(j), 0)*factor^0 + BYTE(data(j),1)*factor^1 + $
>       BYTE(data(j),2)*factor^2 + BYTE(data(j),3)*factor^3
>   ENDFOR
>
```

Here's my version in vector form

```
IDL> a = '7ffffff0'xI
IDL> print,a$<3>
2147483632
IDL> x = lindgen(32)+a
```

```
IDL> print,x$<3>
 2147483632 2147483633 2147483634 2147483635 2147483636 2147483637
 2147483638 2147483639 2147483640 2147483641 2147483642 2147483643
 2147483644 2147483645 2147483646 2147483647 -2147483648 -2147483647
-2147483646 -2147483645 -2147483644 -2147483643 -2147483642 -2147483641
-2147483640 -2147483639 -2147483638 -2147483637 -2147483636 -2147483635
-2147483634 -2147483633
IDL> bx = byte(x,0,4,n_elements(x))
IDL> factor = 256.0d0^(3-indgen(4))
IDL> xr = total(bx*factor(*,intarr(n_elements(x))),1)
IDL> print,xr
 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09
 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09
 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09
 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474836e+09 2.1474837e+09
 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09
 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09
 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09 2.1474837e+09
```

For a little-endian machine, factor becomes 256.0d0^indgen(4)

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```
