
Subject: Re: -32768

Posted by [chris_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Thu, 20 Mar 2014 23:44:17 GMT

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On Thursday, March 20, 2014 3:30:49 PM UTC-6, Yngvar Larsen wrote:

```
>
>
> IDL> help, -9223372036854775808LL
>
> <Expression>  LONG64  = -9223372036854775808
>
> IDL> help, -9223372036854775809LL
>
> <Expression>  LONG64  =  9223372036854775807
>
>
>
> Thus, we have the same bug for 32-bit integers, but not for 64-bit!!
>
>
```

Not to start a flame war, but I would argue that 64-bit has the bug, and that 16-bit and 32-bit are behaving correctly. It seems bad that the 64-bit case is quietly returning what could arguably be the wrong value.

As an aside, in the original post, the user stated that they want to "set an integer variable..." But in IDL, there is no such thing as an "integer variable" because IDL is loosely typed. There are just variables that happen to have integer type, but only after they've been created.

Jim P. is correct that the minus sign is really an operator. So it really is a runtime error to write "a = 32768s", regardless of whether you are then going to take the negative of it.

Cheers,
Chris
ExelisVIS
