
Subject: Need help identifying left most zero bit
Posted by [plmcelwee](#) on Fri, 05 Apr 2002 18:07:23 GMT
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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?
