
Subject: Re: 4-bit words

Posted by [David S. Foster/Admin](#) on Thu, 21 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT

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David Foster <foster@bial6.ucsd.edu> wrote:

In the code that I sent previously, you have to add a byte conversion to the lines that increment LO and HI; change the lines to be something like:

```
lo = lo + byte(2L ^ long(i))
```

If speed is critical then you could leave this out and convert to byte at the end (probably the way to go).

Dave Foster
foster@bial6.ucsd.edu

Subject: Re: 4-bit words

Posted by [David S. Foster/Admin](#) on Thu, 21 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT

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orbach@rockvax.rockefeller.edu (Darren Orbach) wrote:

```
>  
> I have a file that consists of a 256*256 array of 4-bit  
> words created in another application, written as a binary  
> file. I need to manipulate this array by shifting these  
> 4-bit elements to the right by various amounts, and wrapping  
> around to the other side of the array. However, since the  
> smallest data type in WAVE or IDL is a full byte, I don't see  
> a straightforward way to do this. Any suggestions?
```

I think I would write a routine that reads in the data two elements (8 bits) at a time, then extract the two elements from the byte, and puts these two bytes into a corresponding 256x256 array of bytes; then manipulate this byte array.

Given a byte of data stored in 'value':

```
val = value  
lo = 0B  
for i = 0, 3 do begin  
  higher_bit = 2L ^ long(i+1)  
  rem = val mod higher_bit  
  if (rem ne 0) then begin
```

```

lo = lo + 2L ^ long(i)
val = val - rem
endif
endfor

hi = 0B
for i = 4, 7 do begin
  higher_bit = 2L ^ long(i+1)
  rem = val mod higher_bit
  if (rem ne 0) then begin
    hi = hi + 2L ^ long(i-4)
    val = val - rem
  endif
endfor

```

This *should* give the lower and upper halves of the original byte, as two byte values, 'lo' and 'hi'. I've tested this and it seems to work. But hey, my job description says that my programming only has to be 90% accurate!

Wouldn't it be nice if IDL had bitwise operators!

Dave Foster
 foster@bial6.ucsd.edu

Subject: Re: 4-bit words
 Posted by [rivers](#) on Thu, 21 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <DJw3nF.D8n@rockyd.rockefeller.edu>, orbach@rockvax.rockefeller.edu (Darren Orbach) writes:

```

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> words created in another application, written as a binary
> file. I need to manipulate this array by shifting these
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> smallest data type in WAVE or IDL is a full byte, I don't see
> a straightforward way to do this. Any suggestions?

```

I am assuming that your data files have the 4-bit values packed together. If so then the following should create the array you want:

```

; Make a 1-D byte array big enough to hold image from disk
IDL> temp = bytarr(2L^15)
; Read in the data
IDL> readu, lun, temp
; Make new array to hold decomposed data

```

```
IDL> data = bytarr(2, 2L^15)
; Low order 4 bits in even elements
IDL> data(0,*) = (temp and '00FF'X)
; High order 4 bits in odd elements
IDL> data(1,*) = (temp/16 and '00FF'X)
; Reform into 256x256 array
IDL> data = reform(data, 256, 256)
```

Mark Rivers	(312) 702-2279 (office)
CARS	(312) 702-9951 (secretary)
Univ. of Chicago	(312) 702-5454 (FAX)
5640 S. Ellis Ave.	(708) 922-0499 (home)
Chicago, IL 60637	rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu (Internet)

Subject: Re: 4-bit words
Posted by [orbach](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT
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In message <DJxwrH.ou@midway.uchicago.edu> - rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu (Mark Rivers) writes:

```
:>
:>In article <DJw3nF.D8n@rockyd.rockefeller.edu>, orbach@rockvax.rockefeller.edu (Darren
Orbach) writes:
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```
:>
:>
:>Mark Rivers          (312) 702-2279 (office)
:>CARS                 (312) 702-9951 (secretary)
:>Univ. of Chicago     (312) 702-5454 (FAX)
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:>Chicago, IL 60637    rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu (Internet)
:>
```

Mark's suggestion worked nicely, with the proviso that the hex number to use is '000F'x. The rest of the procedure involved bit-shifting to the right, keeping proper account of where high bits are so formed & moving them separately, and then re-packing the data(2, 2L^15) array back into a temp(1, 2L^15) array with the operation `temp = (data(0,*) or data(1,*))`. Thanks to all.

-Darren Orbach
