

Exercise: for input integer  $n$ , compute how many times it is divisible by two.

E.g. if  $n = 40 = 2^3 \cdot 5$ , then the answer would be 3.

Warm up: how to tell if  $n$  is even or odd? (i.e., if answer  $> 0$  or not).

Answer: use  $\%$  operator, which gives the remainder: if  $(n \% 2 == 0)$  //  $n$  is even.

Idea: keep dividing  $n$  by 2 until it's odd. the count will be the answer.

```
int n;  
cin >> n;  
int count = 0;  
while (n % 2 == 0) {  
    n = n / 2; // shorthand: n /= 2;  
    count++;  
}  
cout << count;
```

Question: if  $n \% 2 == 0$  was replaced by  $n > 0$ , what (approximately) would we get?  
 $\approx \log_2 n$ .

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Example: compute the gcd of two integers.

("greatest common divisor")

Let's "brute force" it.

Let's assume  $a \leq b$ . What are the possible values for  $\gcd(a, b)$ ?  
 $\{1, 2, \dots, a\}$ .

Some building blocks:

How to tell if  $d$  is a common divisor (in C++)?

$(a \% d == 0 \ \&\& \ b \% d == 0)$  ←

Idea: run through candidates backwards & output the first one that passes the test.

```
int a, b; // inputs.
```

```
cin >> a >> b;
```

```
// make sure  $a \leq b$ :
```

```
if (a > b) {
```

```
    int temp = a; // save a.
```

```
    a = b;
```

```
    b = temp;
```

```
}
```

```
// now for sure  $a \leq b$ .
```

```
- for (int d = a; !(a % d == 0 && b % d == 0); d--) {
```

once                      boolean                      update

```
- } ←
```

```
    cout << d;
```

Note: this won't compile unless you declare  $d$  outside the for loop.