

1. Description of each MysteryFunction

MysteryFunction1: Calculates the power of a number - using two parameters, a base and an exponent. Then, the function will return the base raised to the exponent.

e.g. $\text{MysteryFunction1}(5,3) = 125$ $//5^3 = 125$

MysteryFunction2: Isolates and checks individual bits of an integer to perform bitwise manipulation. It shifts through each bit and combines them in a specific way, ultimately returning the modified value. This can be used to manipulate the bits of the integer in different ways, such as creating a mask or flipping certain bits.

e.g. $\text{MysteryFunction2}(5) = 2684354560$

MysteryFunction3: Finds the maximum value in an array of integers

e.g. $\text{MysteryFunction3}(\text{max in array}) = 7$ $//\text{array: } \{1,3,7,05\}$

MysteryFunction4: Counts the number of 1s in the binary form of an unsigned long integer, using bitwise operations to isolate and count the bits until all bits have been processed.

e.g. $\text{MysteryFunction4}(15) = 4$; $//\text{binary \# } 1111 \text{ has four 1s}$

MysteryFunction5: Computes the number of differing bits between two unsigned integers, using the XOR operation to find bits that differ and counts them until all bits have been processed.

e.g. $\text{MysteryFunction5}(15, 0) = 4$ $//\text{binary \# } 1111 \text{ differs from } 0000 \text{ by 4 bits}$

2. Discussion on the approach I used to figure out what the MysteryFunction was

I carefully studied the assembly code to understand the purpose of

MysteryFunction1. The function initializes the result to 1 and then multiplies it by the base while decreasing the exponent, indicating it calculates the power of a number. Testing the function with various outputs confirmed the correct behavior, and the relationship between the exponent and the number of multiplications performed became clear.

When investigating **MysteryFunction2**, I focused primarily on analyzing the bit manipulation it performs. The function uses **shifts**, along with **AND** and **OR** operations to process the bits of the input integer. For each bit set to 1, it reverses its position, placing a 1 in the matching spot on the opposite end of a 32-bit int. This effectively mirrors the positions of the set bits. This function was the hardest to figure out because its use of bit shifting initially threw me off. Although I had learned about bit manipulation before, I hadn't immediately thought of applying it in this context, which made understanding the function more challenging compared to the others. However, after running several test cases, I observed how different integers resulted in varying output values, helping me conclude that the function transforms the input based on its bit patterns.

For **MysteryFunction3**, I concentrated on the logic for processing arrays. The function checks each element against a stored maximum, iterating through the array to find the largest value. Its purpose is to find the maximum value in an array, which I confirmed through testing with various arrays and verifying the results.

When analyzing **MysteryFunction4**, I discovered it counts the number of set bits in the input number. The repeated **AND** and **shift** operations suggest a systematic approach to isolate each bit, allowing for a count of how many set to 1. I tested this function with different integers and can confirm that it returns the correct number of set bits after processing all bits.

Finally, **MysteryFunction5** directed my attention to focusing on the differing bits between two integers. By examining how it utilizes the XOR function, I recognized that this function identifies which bits differ between two numbers. Testing with various pairs of integers provided clear evidence of how many bits differ, confirming the function's behavior.