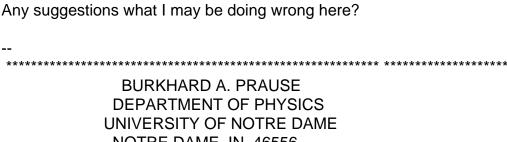## Subject: 32bit signed integer problems
Posted by Burkhard Prause on Mon, 13 Apr 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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I try to read what I believe are 32 bit signed integer binary data
files.

They represent three dimensional data structures of 256 x 128 x 128
pixels. Each file therefore is 16777216 byte long. I read them into IDL
as follows:

> openr, 1, file
> array=lonarr(256,128,128)
> readu, 1, array

Array then turns out to contain sheer noise. If I read the data file
into a one dimesional vector, then extract 16 bit integers by reading
every third and fourth byte into a 256x128x128 integer array, I can
produce the "correct" image. So my data set is not garbage. However, by
doing this I basically limit my contrast, because all values larger than
2^16 are read as 65536.

Any suggestions what I may be doing wrong here?

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