
Subject: Re: BINARY FILES

Posted by [mole6e23](#) on Fri, 13 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Silly me -

Of course, you need to divide by the size of each element when using the fstat function to get the array size:

```
array = fltarr( stat.size / 4 ) ;; 4 bytes to a float
```

Todd

```
> I always use the fstat routine, which gets a bunch of information about
> the file, but the only one I ever use is the size field:
>
> ;-----
> openr,lun,'file.dat',/get_lun
> stat = fstat( lun )
>
> array = fltarr( stat.size )
>
> readu,lun,array
>
> free_lun, lun
> ;----
>
> Alternatively, if you're on UNIX, you can use the /noshdio keyword which
> lets you just read willy nilly until the end of the file, and then get the
> transfer count from the readu procedure. It's not a good way of doing
> things, in my opinion, but it works:
>
> ;; Allocate a much bigger array than you need
> array = fltarr( 1e5 )
> openr,lun,'file.dat',/get_lun,/noshdio
> readu,lun,array,transfer_count=count
> array = temporary(array)[0:count-1]
> free_lun, lun
```
