

---

Subject: Re: BYTES to LONG

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2000 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Kelly Dean <[krdean@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:krdean@lamar.colostate.edu)> writes:

> Thanks Paul,  
>  
> Your suggestion solved my problem.  
>  
> long\_x = TOTAL( ISHFT( LONG(x), [24,16,8,0] ) )

Hi Kelly--

While this may seem to work, I agree with JD that this is a bit dangerous since it converts to floating point. The expression

long\_x = long(x, 0, 1)

should produce the same, and correct, result, without invoking any floating point conversions. However you may have to worry about so-called "endian" issues, that is byte ordering differences between machines. A routine in the IDL Astronomy Library like IEEE\_TO\_HOST should be able to help you there.

Craig

--

-----  
Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL: [craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu)  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
-----

---