Subject: Re: Importing Binary Images
Posted by Craig Markwardt on Fri, 18 Jan 2002 18:53:53 GMT
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rschick@neaq.org (rob schick) writes:

> I'm new to idl, and am trying to import a binary grid that was created
> on a windows machine into idl on a linux machine. It's least
> significant byte first, 1561 rows, 2041 cols.
>
> I searched the archives and found a thread that suggested used the
> following syntax:
>
> IDL> openr, 1, 'gom15dd.dat'
> IDL> ms = bytarr(1561, 2041)
> IDL> readu, 1, ms
> IDL> tv, ms

Question: If the data is formatted "least significant byte first,"
usually that means there is more than one byte per grid cell. That
implies that using a BYTARR is too small. So presumably you want to
use INTARR(1561,2041) instead? That is not clear from your note.

Second, in general, the byte ordering of the data may have to be dealt
with. This is usually easiest accomplished with one of the ENDIAN
keywords to the OPENR procedure. If you are on an Wintel machine,
then the processor is already little-endian, and so is your data
(according to you), so this should not be an issue.

> While this 'works', the image displayed is incorrect - sort of looks
> like speckled white noise. Any thoughts on what I may be doing wrong.
> For a newbie, what's the difference between using readu, and
> read_binary? The online help didn't help. Thanks.

For reading a bulk data array, READU is appropriate. READ_BINARY is
most useful when reading structures of data.

Craig

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