Subject: Re: Convert a byte array to a structure?
Posted by sven on Sat, 26 Jan 2002 08:06:37 GMT
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> Problem is this:
> Lets say we have an arbitrary array of bytes, of length n. We also have
> a field, of n bytes length, that needs to be filled with that data as
> the concatenation of those values. As an example:
>
> ['ff'x,'01'x] ->   'ff01'x   -> 65281
>
>   BYTE[2]   -> intermediate step (?) -> FIX[1]
>
> Would it be possible to do this with other size fields (like converting
> 4 bytes to a floating point number etc.)? Simply 'gluing' the elements
> of they byte array together, like 255*byte[0]+ byte[1] won't work with
> floating point numbers (?). I suspect the solution may involve pointers
> somehow, but I'm not sure how it might be done.

I am quite possibly missing something here, but why don't you use the
standard typecasting functions like fix() and float() ?


```
IDL>  b = ['66'xb,'66'xb,'8a'xb,'41'xb]
IDL>  help,b
B           BYTE     = Array[4]
IDL>  print,b
 102 102 138  65
IDL>  print,float(b,0)
     17.3000
IDL>  print,fix(b[0:1],0)
    26214
```


Isn't that what they're there for?