
Subject: Re: reading unformatted data into a structure

Posted by [ignore_this_adress](#) on Tue, 19 Mar 2002 08:38:09 GMT

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

Rick Towler wrote:

> I have an unformatted data file which I am trying to read and I am having
> only limited success. The data file was created on a Sun machine and it is
> being read on a win32 machine (I have set the `swap_if_little_endian` keyword
> on the open statement). As for the file format, all I have to go on is the
> C header file that describes the records in the file.

>
> Am I doing this correctly? I know I am close because I get what seems like
> a valid time and I know I get a valid datum. But my data doesn't seem
> right. I just want to check that I am using the correct types in my IDL
> struct and that I am reading in the data correctly.

Most compilers have switches to set memory alignment. This has of course to match the way the IDL structure is aligned in memory for IDL to read in the struct properly. Without other tools, I would try the following :

count the total number of allocated bytes in the header, and compare it to the raw data filesize. If the sizes don't match, you'll know you have run into problems. Alternatively, you can count the number of elements in the IDL struct :-). If the size match, you'll probably have the right data.

Using a hexeditor may be informative when looking at your raw data format.
