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Subject: Re: Help: Byte-swapping program  
Posted by [thompson](#) on Mon, 12 Dec 1994 16:04:27 GMT  
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grunes@news.nrl.navy.mil (Mitchell R Grunes) writes:

> In article <schaep-1212941334430001@130.60.16.90> schaepe@rsl.geogr.unizh.ch (Michael E. Schaepman) writes:

>> Since we are moving our data from a VAX and a DecStation to Suns and Macs,  
>> I am looking for a program, that converts big <> low-endian byte order and  
>> IEEE <> VAX representation.

> In IDL or PV-Wave, the bytes of each element of array A can be swapped  
> by  
> BYTEORDER,A

> I think IEEE is more difficult.

The above statement is only correct if the array is short integers. For long integers one should use the keyword /LSWAP.

I don't know about PV-Wave, but IDL does contain the options /XDRTOF and /FTOXDR to convert between IEEE and the local host floating point representation. Similarly, one can use /XDRTOD and /DTOXDR for double precision.

The IDL astronomy user's library (anonymous ftp to [idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov](ftp://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov)) routines IEEE\_TO\_HOST and HOST\_TO\_IEEE does the appropriate conversions for all data types.

Bill Thompson

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