Subject: Re: Assoc and byteorder keywords
Posted by Liam E. Gumley on Thu, 28 Aug 2003 14:43:18 GMT
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"Richard G. French" <rfrench@wellesley.edu> wrote in message
news:BB7363AB.C9D%rfrench@wellesley.edu...
> I have several large binary data sets (image cubes) that I access from
> multiple platforms, using IDL. Typically, I do something like:
>
> Openr,lun,/GET_LUN,'images.bin'
> Images=assoc(lun,fltarr(nx,ny))
>
> I might then want to do something like this:
>
> Norm=(images[5]-images[4])/(images[3]>threshold)
>
> Unfortunately, from some platforms, the images are not in the correct byte
> order. Because byteorder is a procedure and not a function, I am forced
into
> locutions such as:
>
> im5=images[5]
> Byteorder,im5, /SWAP_IF_BIG_ENDIAN
>
> im4=images[4]
> Byteorder,im4, /SWAP_IF_BIG_ENDIAN
>
> im3=images[3]
> Byteorder,im3, /SWAP_IF_BIG_ENDIAN
>
> Nomr=(im5-im4)/(im3>threshold)
>
> This seems to be negating the syntactical efficiency of the ASSOC
function.
> I could wrap all of this into a function, of course, but it seems to me
that
> an easier way would be for ASSOC to have the capability of doing the
> byte-swapping on the fly, by having the same keywords as BYTEORDER. So,
for
> example, I would like to see:
>
>
> Images=ASSOC(lun,fltarr(nx,ny),/SWAP_IF_BIG_ENDIAN)
>
> If RSI could just then call byteorder internally to the ASSOC function
> before delivering the data to the user, it would result in much cleaner
code
> at my end. Does anyone see a way to do something like this already, or see

> any problems with this suggestion?

Why not try this?

openr, lun, /get_lun, 'images.bin', /swap_if_big_endian

Cheers,
Liam.
Practical IDL Programming
http://www.gumley.com/
