
Subject: Re: Unknown data type
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 29 Dec 2004 13:43:47 GMT
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Julio wrote:

> Hello folks,
>
> I can read byte or integer images using byte or integer arrays, like:
>
> byte_image=bytarr(samples, rows) or
> integer_image=intarr(samples, rows)
>
> In both cases I must know the data type. But, when I don't know the
> data type, how can I do to read the images? Is there some way to
> verify the file format before reading into an array?
>
> Thanks for comments and happy New Year!
>
> Julio

This depends on what else you know about the data.
In your case it's only the type case which you want to determine. If you
probably knows how much lines and columns the image should have then it is
easy to calculate from the file size the length of the type you need for
reading the whole file. If you got 4byte as type it could be long or float.
Both will be able to read the whole file. You could first read it by float
and then test if float is necessary. If not read it a second time by long.

cheers
Reimar

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
