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Subject: Re: File sizes and the SAVE command  
Posted by [Klaus Scipal](#) on Wed, 22 Mar 2006 11:58:29 GMT  
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The problem is not related to the calculation of the filesize, but the actual amount of memory required

Take two arrays  
a=intarr(100000)  
b=fltarr(100000)

and save them using the save command  
the file for array a takes 402096 bytes disk space  
the file for array b takes 402096 bytes disk space

save them using openw & writeu  
the file for array a takes 200000 bytes disk space  
the file for array b takes 400000 bytes disk space

So the save command seems to waste a lot of disk space, but why? Does the IDL save command convert an integer automatically into a longinteger?

Klaus

"Maarten" <maarten.sneep@knmi.nl> wrote in message  
news:1143025802.678782.180020@i39g2000cwa.googlegroups.com...  
> I don't think you calculated quite what you thought you did.  
>  
> tmp = size(a) & tmp[1]\*tmp[2]  
> for a single dimensional array a will be the length of the array times  
> the \_type\_ of the array, which has nothing to do with the actual  
> byte-size of the elements.  
>  
> The save-sizes seem consistent though: 100000 \* 4 bytes for float and  
> int (long), double that for double precision floating point data.  
>  
> Maarten  
>