Subject: Re: reading past leading and training bytes
Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Thu, 06 Jul 2006 18:20:29 GMT
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glaciologist wrote:
> I'm using readu to read a 101 X 55 (2D) binary file
>
> The file has leading and trailing 4 byte tags (00 00 56 CC in
> hexadecimal).
>
> How to skip past these??!
>
> I use this code, which successfully reads in array, but first column
> gets scrambled!~
>
> readu,1,data
> byteorder,data,/xdrtof ; byteswap needed
>
> data are output by Linux Fedora 4 Portland Group FORTRAN executable
> with -byteswapio flag set on compile

Without seeing the actual OPEN() statement in your Fortran code (or your IDL code for that matter), what happens if you use the /f77_unformatted flag in your IDL open? (If you're not doing it already).

I'm guessing that the 4byte "tags" you're seeing are actually the record markers that sequential, unformatted Fortran files generally contain to mark the begin and end of variable length records (with the actual value being the record length).

So try
  OPEN, lun, file, /get_lun, /f77_unformatted

You might also need the /swap_endian keyword as well depending on the platform on which you are reading the byteswapped files. If the linux box that created the files is little-endian, then the PGI -byteswapio option will produce big-endian files (or vice versa).

paulv

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Paul van Delst Ride lots.
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