
Subject: Re: Reading binary files made by Python
Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2006 13:29:16 GMT
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Sheldon wrote:

> I have created som binary files using python and tried to read them
> with IDL. I used the binary_template as well but IDL completely
> misinterprets the data and returns wrong values and values that were
> never written in the file. Now Matlab is able to read these files
> without problem. My question is why is IDL failing to do this? I know
> that the binaries are Float32 and the dimensions are correct. I am
> doing something wrong?

Without actually seeing the code you used to write the files, it seems a bit hard to answer this question. One obvious issue is the endianness of the data, I don't know what python, IDL or matlab assume about that (I guess you use the same machine to write and read the data).

I would recommend to write out the data in a portable file format, like HDF (pytables is an easy way to do that). You can then use the idl HDF routines to ingest the data, avoiding the larger part of the headaches.

Maarten

pytables: <http://www.pytables.org/>
