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Subject: Re: please help with ndvi calculation  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 02 Mar 2007 05:26:31 GMT  
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beardown911@gmail.com writes:

```
> I am new in idl programming, and have been trying to figure out to
> write a simple code to calculate ndvi.
>
> Here is what I've done, but gave weird value.
> -----
> pro ndvi
> image = read_tiff ('/rsi/idl62/training/data/image.tif')
> help, image
>
> sub = float(image[0,*,*]-image[1,*,*])
> sum = float(image[0,*,*]+image[1,*,*])
>
> ndvi_image = sub / sum
>
> write_tiff, '/rsi/idl62/training/data/ndvi_test.tif', ndvi_image
> end
> -----
> The image.tif have three bands(nir, red, green) 8 bit image.
> The resulting ndvi image is still integer and values are totally
> wrong.
> Could anybody help me to fix this?
```

Cast your image to float *before* you do the calculations.  
You are casting the *result* to a float, but the damage  
has already been done when you did the calculations in  
BYTE or INTEGER math.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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