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Subject: Re: Use IDL6.0 to read gcc3.4(Mingw32) written data  
Posted by [badjelly.witch](#) on Wed, 08 Aug 2007 21:29:50 GMT  
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I don't know if the following is the cause of your problem, but in the following code snippet...

```
cmat = fltarr(8,4)
openr, lun, "cmat.dat",/GET_LUN,/swap_endian
```

```
readu, lun, ii
readu, lun, cmat
readu, lun, jj
```

```
print, "ii", ii
print, "cmat", cmat
print, "jj", jj
```

...I see no sign that you have created the variables ii and jj before reading them. In this case the variables will be created as scalars of type float, which will not do what you intend.

On another tack, I suggest you download and install Hedit (it's free)

<http://www.yurisw.com/HEdit.htm>

With this tool you can look at the contents of your binary file. It has a handy display at the top: you move the cursor to any position and it shows the value that the 1, 2, 4 or 8 bytes starting at that position will have if interpreted as a binary, byte, short, long, float or double scalar. It should help you work out why one of your files is 2 bytes longer than you expected.

On yet another tack, I don't understand why you would have to open your files with SWAP\_ENDIAN if they are being written on the same platform as they are being read.

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