sampton writes:

> Yes I know that I'm missing a lot it's my first steeps with IDL ;)

OK, then. Expected. :-)

> As of the file name no I just want to mention that there is a binary
> data file and the real name is: gpcp_v2.1_psg.1979
> and the year extension changes from 1979 to 2009.

I don't know what you mean by 'changing the year extension',
since there is nothing like that in your code. Your code opens
the file you supply it and reads a structure out of it. If this
is what you have in mind, then the command you would use is:

   IDL> read_v2_1, 'gpcp_v2.1_psg.1979', struct

This *assumes* the file is located in your current IDL directory.
Almost always a *bad* assumption, as it turns out. But we will
save that for a future lesson.

Your code then goes to a lot of trouble to do some byte swapping,
in needed. This can be MUCH more easily done by using the
SWAP_IF_*** keywords on the OPENR command. Look up the OPENR
statement in the on-line help.

> you suggested: .COMPILE do I have to include the file name in the
> path or just the command ?

If your file is named correctly, and is located somewhere in
your IDL path, then you just have to supply the "root" name
of the file:

   IDL> .compile tvimage

Cheers,

David
--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")