
Subject: Re: Reading 32-bit complex numbers in IDL (16-bit real / 16-bit imaginary)
Posted by [Carsten Lechte](#) on Sun, 07 Aug 2011 15:52:42 GMT

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On 08/07/2011 02:01 PM, Waqas A. Qazi wrote:

> 32-bit imaginary. How can I read the 16-bit real - 16-bit imaginary
> complex number in IDL?

This looks like half precision floats

< https://secure.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/wiki/Half_precision_floating-point_format>.
However, there are several variants. Do you have any description of your data file that mentions IEEE 754?

I am not aware of any programming language that supports this format natively. Maybe this link in the wikipedia article can help you:

<<http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/23173>>

Else you would have to do the bit fiddling yourself to promote them to 32bit.

chl
