Subject: Re: Reading 32-bit complex numbers in IDL (16-bit real / 16-bit imaginary)
Posted by Waqas A. Qazi on Fri, 12 Aug 2011 13:15:35 GMT

Hi chl and wox,

Thanks, I took up from the info both of you noted here, and did some reading on my own.

It seems the numbers are indeed half-precision floating point (never knew this was a data-type!), but in the data storage here, they are specified as integers and should be read as such. The data specification document states clearly that "samples are stored as 16 bit / 16 bit complex integer (4 bytes).

Wox, I understand the logic you have presented, and I will follow that, but have one question. After defining an intarr (16 bit) and reading 2-byte integers and later pairing them up for intput into the complex function, why do I have to convert from integer to float first? I think that the complex function should automatically convert them to single-precision float complex??

Thanks,
Waqas.