David Fanning wrote:
>
> Peter Berdeklis <peter@atmosp.physics.utoronto.ca> writes:
>
>> I'm trying to read a binary data file into IDL. Included in the data
>> headers are several unsigned integers for dates and times. Some of the
>> unsinged integers are overflowing, giving me negative integers. How do I
>> specify a variable as an unsinged integer in IDL?
>
> It's deja vu all over again, as one of our famous baseball players once
> said. :-)
>
> Read the unsigned integers into *signed* 16-bit integers in IDL.
> (You are already doing this, apparently).
>
>   date = 0L
>   time = 0L
>   READU, lun, datafile, date, time
>
> Convert them to the correct *unsigned* values, like this:
>
>   date = LONG(date) AND 'FFFF'x
>   time = LONG(time) AND 'FFFF'x
>

Oops! If you specify LONG then you get 32-bit integers. So:

 date = fix(0)
 time = fix(0)
 readu, lun, datafile, date, time

 date = date AND 'FFFF'x
 time = time AND 'FFFF'x

Of course, if you want 32-bit integers, use LONG like Dave suggested.

Dave
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