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Subject: Reading non-standard variable sizes

Posted by [Brian Daniel](#) on Fri, 07 Sep 2012 20:44:21 GMT

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I'm attempting to read values from a binary file with some strange variable formats. Specifically, I have a field of data that uses 9 bytes. No IDL data format has 9 bytes. I can do the following:

```
data = bytarr(9)
ReadU, lun, data
```

And lun will be ready to read the next variable, but how do I convert the 9 byte variable into a single 8-byte double number?

Unfortunately, I can't change the format of this data because its a standard. Thanks for your interest.

-Brian

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