
Subject: Re: raw contents of data memory
Posted by [Russell\[1\]](#) on Wed, 18 Feb 2015 21:14:31 GMT
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Ah... Ok David this definitely smells like the right track... It's certainly the case that the data that your pack float tutorial makes is similar to the data that writeu sends out. But now I'm curious about strings, arrays, and so on.

So, I can create a byte datatype like you said... well, sorta...

```
img=dist(50)
```

```
img=reform(img,50*50,/overwrite)
```

```
dat=byte(img,0,4,50*50)
```

```
dat=string(dat)
```

Now, dat is the string encoded, binary data of the image. Do you have any idea of how to send that through stdin of another program? I guess it might depend on the details of the other program, but I guess I mean more like the datatype and/or commands to use... I was trying to do something like

```
spawn,'echo '+dat+' | some_other_program '
```

but dat is an array... I guess I'm sorta confused here. I know what I want to do, but I'm not sure the right language or jargon to use when googling this or even asking you all.

Thanks a million,
Russell

On Wednesday, February 18, 2015 at 3:24:34 PM UTC-5, David Fanning wrote:

```
>  
>> Thanks for the response... but I'm not quite sure I understand. To be a bit more concrete, I  
have a 2-d floating point array that I want to convert using this type of thing. I can certainly write  
the data out using writeu, but I didn't know if there was a way to convert the data in IDL. I'm trying  
to pass the data into another program's stdin, and using byte or string or some such then that  
doesn't seem quite right...  
>  
> Maybe this is what you are looking for:  
>  
> http://www.idlcoyote.com/code\_tips/packfloat.php  
>  
> Cheers,
```

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