
Subject: Re: Changing variable type

Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Mon, 16 May 2016 11:34:51 GMT

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On Monday, May 16, 2016 at 12:31:45 PM UTC+1, Helder wrote:

> On Monday, May 16, 2016 at 11:43:54 AM UTC+1, Mats Löfdahl wrote:

>> Is there a way in IDL to change the type of an array, specifically a 16-bit integer into a 16 bit unsigned integer?

>>

>> No, I do not mean `b = uint(a)`. This makes a new array and keeps the values. I want to change the variable type of the existing array (from 2 to 12), so the bit values are interpreted differently. Is this possible?

>>

>> /Mats

>

> Hi Mats,

> I think you're looking for the `offset` keyword in the `uint` function, but I'm not 100% sure (because this also makes a copy of the variable... there is no `/temporary` keyword)

>

> IDL> a = -1

> IDL> help, a

> A INT = -1

> IDL> print, uint(a,0)

> 65535

>

> Would this do what you want?

>

> Cheers,

> Helder

Sorry, you wanted an array, so you have to do this:

IDL> a = indgen(20)

IDL> a[10:19] = -indgen(10)

IDL> a

```
  0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   0  -1  -2  -3  -4  -5  -6
-7  -8  -9
```

IDL> print, uint(a,0,20)

```
  0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   0 65535 65534 65533 65532
65531 65530 65529 65528 65527
```

Does it make sense?

Cheers,

Helder
