Subject: Fortran unformatted data: Big or little endian
Posted by Michael Schroeter on Wed, 30 Apr 2003 12:37:06 GMT
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Hello Newsgroup,

I have a problem reading Fortran unformatted data in IDL. I have a file containing data of well known size (e.g., an array of 100 x 100 single precision floating point values). Unfortunately, I don't know something about the machine (big or little endian machine) on which the file has been produced. Is there a way to get this information on the fly by IDL in order to open the file automatically in the correctly (using the /SWAP_ENDIAN option or not). The way I used so far was trial and error. But since I have many of those files I'm searching for a solution without recompiling my source code.

Do you have any ideas?

Thanks in advance.

Regards

Michael

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Subject: Re: Fortran unformatted data: Big or little endian
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 05 May 2003 12:37:27 GMT
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Michael Schroeter (schroeter@muk.uni-hannover.de) writes:

> On my machines (IDL5.6, Red Hat Linux and hpux10.20) "readu" returns an
> error ("Corrupted f77 unformatted file detected") if I swap to the wrong
> endian-ness at the opening procedure.

Looks like RSI has built the magic number into
the F77 reading code already. :-)

Cheers,

David
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David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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