
Subject: Re: Unknown data type

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Dec 2004 14:19:05 GMT

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Julio writes:

> The files I want to read haven't any typical format. Each file has
> information in the first line (like number of rows and columns), but

>

>
> Data_type=integer ; I assume all the files are integer
> ON_IOERROR, bad
> OPENR,lun, arq, /GET_lun
> test = make_array(nc, nl,/integer)
> READU, lun, test ; reading the file into an integer array
> GOTO, Ok
> bad: data_type=byte ; if the file couldn't be read into an integer
> array
> Ok: FREE_LUN, lun
>
> As I told you first, I have only two possible data types: byte and
> integer. So, using it, I could solve the problem.

Oh, golly, if you know how *much* data is suppose to be in the file even I could tell you whether your file contains bytes or integers, all the way from Colorado!

And I wouldn't have to read the file to know. Just compare the product of rows and columns to the size of the file (obtained with FSTAT). If there is little or no difference, you have bytes. If there is a big difference, you have integers. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: Unknown data type

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sat, 01 Jan 2005 10:25:17 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

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> Julio writes:
>
>> The files I want to read haven't any typical format. Each file has
>> information in the first line (like number of rows and columns), but
>> anything about data type.
>>
>> So, I followed the tips of David. I carried out a "trial read" using
>>
>> Data_type=integer ; I assume all the files are integer
>> ON_IOERROR, bad
>> OPENR,lun, arq, /GET_lun
>> test = make_array(nc, nl,/integer)
>> READU, lun, test ; reading the file into an integer array
>> GOTO, Ok
>> bad: data_type=byte ; if the file couldn't be read into an integer
>> array
>> Ok: FREE_LUN, lun
>>
>> As I told you first, I have only two possible data types: byte and
>> integer. So, using it, I could solve the problem.
>
> Oh, golly, if you know how *much* data is suppose to
> be in the file even I could tell you whether your file
> contains bytes or integers, all the way from Colorado!
>
> And I wouldn't have to read the file to know. Just
> compare the product of rows and columns to the size
> of the file (obtained with FSTAT). If there is little
> or no difference, you have bytes. If there is a big
> difference, you have integers. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
```

Happy new year

I thought I have told Julio this too some days ago. I did the mistake to explain it for float and long determinations. By the way do you have on your great site an explanation a table or something else which shows the range, precision of each datatype and the the byte size in memory. It hink this would help here too.

cheers
Reimar

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email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/>

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
