
Subject: Re: understanding 'fix' command!
Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Fri, 18 Apr 2008 16:32:08 GMT
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On Fri, 18 Apr 2008, vino wrote:

```
> Hi!  
> I was trying out the 'FIX' command and i couldnt understand all the  
> arguments present. Can someone help me please? below is whats i did!  
> IDL> c=[1.2,-3.4,5.]  
> IDL> print,fix(c)  
>      1   -3    5
```

You have converted a float array to int.

FIX converts to IDL int, which is 16 bits wide, is signed and its range is
-32768 <= int <= 32767. I assume you know how numbers are represented in
computers. (The following is valid on little-endian machines only.)

Your float array occupies 12 bytes in memory, namely:

154 153 153 63 154 153 89 192 0 0 160 64 (in decimal)

```
> IDL> print,fix(c,0)  
> -26214
```

reads memory as int from offset 0: the two bytes 154, 153 give -26214
($154+256*153 = 39322 = 65536-26214 = -26214$)

```
> IDL> print,fix(c,1)  
> -26215
```

reads memory as int from offset 1: the two bytes 153, 153 give -26215
($153+256*153 = 39321 = 65536-26215 = -26215$)

```
> IDL> print,fix(c,2)  
> 16281
```

reads memory as int from offset 2: the two bytes 153, 63 give 16281
($153+256*63 = 16281$)

```
> IDL> print,fix(c,0,1)  
> -26214
```

same as first, reads 1 int (from offset 0)

```
> IDL> print,fix(c,0,2)
```

> -26214 16281

>

same as first and third, reads 2 ints (from offset 0 and 2)

regards,
lajos

Subject: Re: understanding 'fix' command!
Posted by [vino](#) on Fri, 18 Apr 2008 19:16:52 GMT
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On 18 Apr, 17:32, FÖLDY Lajos <fo...@rmki.kfki.hu> wrote:

> On Fri, 18 Apr 2008, vino wrote:

>> Hi!

>> I was trying out the 'FIX' command and i couldnt understand all the
>> arguments present. Can someone help me please? below is whats i did!

>> IDL> c=[1.2,-3.4,5.]

>> IDL> print,fix(c)

>> 1 -3 5

>

> You have converted a float array to int.

>

> FIX converts to IDL int, which is 16 bits wide, is signed and its range is

> -32768 <= int <= 32767. I assume you know how numbers are represented in
> computers. (The following is valid on little-endian machines only.)

>

> Your float array occupies 12 bytes in memory, namely:

>

> 154 153 153 63 154 153 89 192 0 0 160 64 (in decimal)

>

>> IDL> print,fix(c,0)

>> -26214

>

> reads memory as int from offset 0: the two bytes 154, 153 give -26214

> $(154 + 256 * 153 = 39322 = 65536 - 26214 = -26214)$

>

>> IDL> print,fix(c,1)

>> -26215

>

> reads memory as int from offset 1: the two bytes 153, 153 give -26215

> $(153 + 256 * 153 = 39321 = 65536 - 26215 = -26215)$

>

>> IDL> print,fix(c,2)

>> 16281

>

> reads memory as int from offset 2: the two bytes 153, 63 give 16281

```
> (153+256*63 = 16281)
>
>> IDL> print,fix(c,0,1)
>> -26214
>
> same as first, reads 1 int (from offset 0)
>
>> IDL> print,fix(c,0,2)
>> -26214 16281
>
> same as first and third, reads 2 ints (from offset 0 and 2)
>
> regards,
> lajos
```

Hi Lajos,
Thank you very much for explaining me. I didnt know how floating point
numbers are represented in binary.
I understand it very well now. thank you very much,#
regards,
vino
