Subject: problem converting FORTRAN to IDL Posted by brooker on Thu, 13 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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This is an observation I have just made about IDL.

When you compile a FORTRAN program, you can specify G_floating implementations of REAL*8. This extends the range of numbers to +-0.56D308. (For default D_floating, the maximum number allowed is 0.29D38.)

On the other hand, IDL has no option for the larger G_floating numbers. This makes for problems when you convert a "G_floating REAL*8" FORTRAN program to IDL.

Peter Brooker

Subject: Re: problem converting FORTRAN to IDL Posted by rivers on Sat, 15 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <3mlnpd\$qnd@reznor.larc.nasa.gov>, zawodny@arbd0.larc.nasa.gov (Joseph M Zawodny) writes:

- > In article <D6zHn2.LyF@ireq.hydro.qc.ca> brooker@toka.ireq-ccfm.hydro.qc.ca writes:
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>>

>> Peter Brooker

>

> Gee, maybe I do not understand your problem, but I did this quick test.

>

- > IDL> a=.5d308
- > IDL> print,a
- > 5.0000000e+307

>

- > Therefor you should be able to use the IDL DOUBLE to implement FORTRAN
- > G_floating calculations.

I belive the original post was probably referring to a DEC Alpha machine. On the Alpha one can compile double precision code to be D_FLOAT, G_FLOAT or IEEE_FLOAT. The default for the DEC C compiler is G_FLOAT. IDL is clearly compiled with D_FLOAT, presumably so that the Alpha version is compatible with old VAX binary files, where D_FLOAT is the default. It would be possible and perhaps nice if RSI would provide 3 different versions (D_FLOAT, G_FLOAT and IEEE_FLOAT) of IDL for the Alpha platform. If you use CALL_EXTERNAL on the Alpha you need to make sure any routines you call are compiled with the same floating point format used for IDL.

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Subject: Re: problem converting FORTRAN to IDL Posted by thompson on Mon, 17 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu (Mark Rivers) writes:

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- > floating point format used for IDL.

Actually, the only thing that can be said for certain is that the original post referred to a machine running VMS. You can't tell whether that's VMS on the VAX or on the Alpha/AXP platform.

When running IDL under OSF/1, DEC's implementation of Unix for the Alpha, the floating point format used is IEEE.

Bill Thompson