
Subject: Unix to Vax floating point conversion

Posted by [R. David Baker](#) on Tue, 15 Aug 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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We are using PVWave Version 5.0 on a VMS Vax, and need to read in IEEE binary from a Sun Sparc2. We tried to use the CONV_UNIX_VAX procedure from the IDL Astronomy User's Library (<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/contents.html>), but didn't get it to work correctly. Here's what we did:

```
get_lun,unit
openr,unit,filename
readu,unit,i,t      ; i is an integer to read the Sun Fortran
                    ; header and t is a floating point array
free_lun,unit
print,t            ---> show unconverted numbers
CONV_UNIX_VAX,t,source_arch='sparc'
print,t            ---> show converted numbers
```

The array t should be a 100 element array with floating values from 1.0 to 100.0. When we 'print,t', things look good except for numbers of even powers of two, i.e. 0,4,16,64. These values are set to 0.0 instead of the appropriate power of two. Any suggestions?

Dave
