
Subject: Re: Help: C & IDL

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Tri VU KHAC wrote:

> I want to read a binary file created by a C program. This data is a serie of
> unsigned short numbers (unsigned 2-byte) taking values from 0 to 64000.
> The problem is I don't find out the same type in IDL which enables me to
> read the unsigned 2-byte number.

If you are using IDL 5.2, then unsigned short integers are supported by the UINT type, e.g.

help, 0U

help, uint(0)

help, uintarr(256,256)

If you are using IDL 5.1 or earlier, first read the data into an INT (signed short integer) array. Then to extract unsigned short integers, convert to LONG and perform a bitwise AND with the LONG value 65535 (that is, bits 0-15), e.g.

for i = -5, 5 do help, (long(i) and 65535L)

Cheers,
Liam.

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