
Subject: Re: problem with reading formatted file
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 10 Oct 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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Pavel Eiges wrote:

```
>  
> Hello!  
>  
> i'm new in IDL programming so my question may be very  
> dumb/simple/funny/etc but i cant solve this problem by myself.  
>  
> i have a formatted file like this:  
> =====  
> 1877383765 1.778  
> 1877384765 1.685  
> 1877385765 1.599  
> 1877386765 1.599  
> 1877387765 1.685  
> =====  
> and i need to load it into two arrays. the first array is LONG-type,  
> the second one - FLOAT-type. How i can do this?  
> ("READF, file, Time, Data" does not work).  
>  
> %-\\ HELP!  
>  
> Pavel Eiges
```

You must specify a format='(...)' statement with the READF command. In your case this would be something like

```
READF,file, time, data, format='(3X,i10,f9.3)'
```

Also, because time is a long variable, you may have to assign it to a long value before you call READF, e.g. time=0L (well, you don't have to: IDL converts it into a float if you don't. But this way you can save it as a long variable if you like to).

Cheers,
Martin.

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