
Subject: Re: How to skip some bytes?

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 24 Apr 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Gang Chen (gang@cochise.biosci.arizona.edu) writes:

> I am new to IDL, but I am trying to write a program. I want to read an
> unformatted data into a 3-D array, but I need to skip some bytes at the
> beginning of the data set. How can I do that with READU? Or is there
> another way to do it?

How many bytes to you want to skip?

Suppose you have a 512 byte header and the data was a (30,40,50)
floating point array. You might write something like this:

```
header = BytArr(512)
data = FltArr(30, 40, 50)
OpenR, lun, 'myfile.dat', /Get_Lun
ReadU, lun, header, data
Free_Lun, lun
```

You can find additional information about reading and writing
data as well as many other programming tips on my Coyote's
Guide to IDL Programming web page:

<http://www.dfanning.com/>

Cheers,

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Phone: 970-221-0438
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
