
Subject: plotting free form ascii data
Posted by [patrick](#) on Mon, 02 Jul 2001 21:11:03 GMT
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Greetings-

I'm attempting to write a gui script to plot free form ascii data.
I've utilized the ascii_template and read_ascii functions but the
program hangs after hitting finished on the ascii_template gui and
returns an error:

```
% READ_ASCII: File name must be a string.
% Execution halted at: READ_ASCII      792
/auto/soft/idl/idl_5.4/lib/read_ascii.pro
%          PLOTINTERACTIVE_READ  31
/home/swifs/training/idlinterm/interplot2.pro
%          XMANAGER_EVLOOP_STANDARD 478
/auto/soft/idl/idl_5.4/lib/xmanager.pro
%          XMANAGER      708
/auto/soft/idl/idl_5.4/lib/xmanager.pro
%          PLOTINTERACTIVE  209
/home/swifs/training/idlinterm/interplot2.pro
%          $MAIN$
```

I'm using a variable name xdata, very simple and yes, a string. What gives?

Also, I'm curious as to the best way to pass this to the PLOT function?

Any suggestions welcome,

Patrick
