Subject: READCOL compilation error
Posted by newbie16 on Tue, 07 Dec 2004 18:54:49 GMT
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Hi there,

I hope someone can help me out here. First off, I am an IDL virgin, and making my first plots as of today...So I apologize if my question is trivial, but there doesn;t seem to be an answer posted for the compliation error i get.

Presently, I am trying to contour up some data [x,y,z] and have it stored in an ASCII file xyz.dat.

I am intend to use the READCOL function to open and read the data, but I can't seem to compile the READCOL program. (I assumed I have to compile READCOL first before i can call it in my own procedure.) Anyways, I get the following error:

```
================================ SNIP
==================================

[thayes@somemachine ~virIDL]$ idl
IDL Version 6.0 (linux x86 m32). (c) 2003, Research Systems, Inc.

IDL> .compile READCOL

          tst = strnumber(var[i],val,hex=hex[i])          ;Valid
number?
                                    ^
% Syntax error.
  At: /home/thayes/virIDL/READCOL.pro, Line 244
% 1 Compilation error(s) in module READCOL.
IDL>
================================ SNIP
==================================
```

I have absolutely NO IDEA what is wrong here....Have I downloaded the wrong version? The one I have was last modified in May 2002.

Cheers and thanks in advance for any help or advice you may have.

Tyler

PS - My actual procedure to create the contoured data set, which calls READCOL is also given at the end of the posting. Any suggestions are greatly appreciated!

---===<<0>>===---

```
pro grvcontour

; This is a preliminary attempt at creating a contoured data set
; of the gravity values from GRAV.f. The data output was formatted
; by a simple shell script called datacut.sh.

; DATACUT.SH produces output as a ".dat" file:
;-----------------------------------
;col 1    |col 2   |  col  3       |
;-----------------------------------
; <x[km]>  <y[km]>  <grav[microGal]>|
;-----------------------------------
; Moreover, the data output by DATACUT is space delimited with varying
; number lengths. As such it is not totally "formatted" in a regular
; way. Therefore use READCOL
 ;------------------------------------------------------------ ----------

; Set the printing device to "ps" output
set_plot,'PS'
device,/color,bits=8
device, filename='xyz.ps'

; First we must open and read the data file using the READCOL.pro
; program. See the notes in the READCOL comments for usage
; READCOL is from
; http://www.astro.washington.edu/deutsch-bin/ $
;       getpro/library01.html?READCOL
FMT = 'F,F,F'
READCOL, 'xyz.dat',F=FMT,xlong,ylat,grav

; Now we must smooth the data using an interpolation scheme.
; There is some documentation (old) which suggests that triangulate
; doesn't work well with large datasets and thus congrid should be
; used instead, which effectively resamples the data set...but let's
; try this anyways.
triangulate,xlong,ylat,grvtri

; Below are some extra vectors which may be used to make a finer mesh
; for the resampling of the gravity data. Uncomment later
;spacing = [1.0, 1.0]
;limits = [0.0, 0.0, 600.0, 600.0]
grvgrid = trigrid(xlong,ylat,grav,grvtri,xgrid=xgrid, $
                ygrid=ygrid,/quintic)

; Below is the contour plot of the data with filled spaces between the
; contours.
```

```
contour,grvgrid,xgrid,ygrid,/cell_fill

; Alternatively, uncomment to make a surface plot of the data
;surface,grvgrid,xgrid,ygrid

; Must close the "PS" file to get proper output
device,/close_file
end
```