
Subject: Re: Reading in a non-rectangular array
Posted by [willett](#) on Wed, 25 Oct 2006 19:42:18 GMT
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Thanks for the tip. I haven't used strmid and strsplit before, but they seem suited to this sort of problem.

On Oct 25, 11:52 am, "Jean H." <jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca> wrote:

```
> Hi,
> Try to read each line as a string, then split this string using strSplit
> with the keyword Preserve_Null set. Then you can build your 6*n array,
> filling the location having a null string value with a flag value...
>
> Jean
>
> wille...@gmail.com wrote:
>> G'day,
>
>> I'm trying to read in a data table to IDL that is (gasp)
>> non-rectangular (thanks very much to the astronomers involved). The
>> data is in an ASCII file, but certain cells will simply be blank if
>> there was no data for that particular value (so out of 6 columns, any
>> given row might have 0-6 actual values). Reading this into IDL, though,
>> doesn't seem to work according to Hoyle. This is what I have tried (and
>> received):
>
>> _____
>
>> fname = 'table1.dat'
>> openr, lun1, fname, /get_lun
>> nlines = file_lines(fname)
>> data = fltarr(6, nlines)
>> readf, lun1, data
>
>> % READF: Input conversion error. Unit: 100
>>      File: /Users/willett/table1
>> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
>> _____
>
>> Any ideas that might help me read the data? Many thanks, if so.
```
