Subject: Re: Reading in a non-rectangular array Posted by Jean H. on Wed, 25 Oct 2006 17:52:11 GMT

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Hi,

Try to read each line as a string, then split this string using strSplit with the keywork Preserve Null set. Then you can build your 6*n array. filling the location having a null string value with a flag value...

```
Jean
willettk@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/willettk/table1
>
  % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
>
> Any ideas that might help me read the data? Many thanks, if so.
```