
Subject: Re: Reading FITS files with the Mac version of IDL

Posted by [agrap](#) on Wed, 03 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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Glenn J White <G.J.White@qmw.ac.uk> writes:

> I have been trying to import FITS files into IDL 4.01
> for a Mac PowerPC, and hit problems with the apparent
> non-standard system parameters !TEXTOUT and !textunit,
> when using the various FITS reader .pro files in the
> IDL Astronomy users library. Has anyone else
> encountered this problem and worked around it ?
> Thanks for any help you can give

I spent a day or so in October tracking down FITS readers for Mac IDL for my Quadra 700. I remember having several choices of FITS readers from the Goddard Astronomy IDL library. I kept finding out that I didn't have the auxiliary programs that I needed, so more effort was spent in actually tracking down all of the routines than learning to use the FITS read and write programs.

To read a fits file I used: 'mrdfits.pro' For example:

```
IDL>fl = 'N50356.fits'
```

```
IDL>image = MRDFITS(fl, 0, header)
```

To write a fits file I used: 'writefits.pro', For example:

```
IDL>WRITEFITS, 'N50356_final.fits', finalimg, header
```

And I believe the auxiliary programs I needed were:

```
check_fits.pro  
fdecomp.pro  
fxpar.pro  
fxposit.pro  
gettok.pro  
host_to_ieee.pro  
ieee_to_host.pro  
mrd_hread.pro  
mrd_struct.pro  
mrdfits.pro  
readfits.pro  
strnumber.pro  
sxaddpar.pro  
sxdelpar.pro  
sxpar.pro  
valid_num.pro
```

wherenan.pro
writefits.pro

I have a different Mac than you, but there shouldn't be problems. You can email me if you get stuck.

Amara

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"Time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening all at once." -- Anonymous
