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Subject: Re: howto make a fits cube in IDL?

Posted by [Tigran Khanzadyan](#) on Thu, 08 Nov 2007 06:24:33 GMT

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On Nov 7, 7:54 pm, wlandsman <wlands...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Nov 7, 10:45 am, Tigran Khanzadyan <khanzad...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> Dear All,

>

>> I wish to create a FITS-CUBE from a model outcome in order to directly

>> compare with the radio observations. So the task is to actually write

>> on disk a Fits file which would have x,y and a spectra on each x,y

>> position. A spectra itself has two dimensions - temperature and

>> velocity.

>

>> I was wondering if someone could point me to the right direction. I

>> know that there is a "writefits" in NASA IDL ASTRO LIBRARY, but I cant

>> quite find a task or routine to write FITS-CUBE.

>

> This looks like a case for using the "Binary table" FITS format.

> The routines MWRFITS and MRDFITS give a nice mapping between IDL

> structures and FITS binary tables. So say you have 200 X,Y points and

> that at each X,Y you have a temperature and velocity spectrum with 60

> points.

>

> IDL> str = {x:0, y:0, temperature:fltarr(60), velocity:fltarr(60) }

> IDL> str = replicate(str, 200)

>

> (If the number of points are not all the same in each spectra then you

> could use pointers rather than fixed arrays.)

>

> Then you fill the structure with the actual values, and finally write

> the structure to a FITS file

>

> IDL> mwrfits,str,'myfile.fits'

>

> --Wayne

Wow! that was quick.

They say if you don't know you better ask:)

Thanks Wayne, I think this will do the job.

Tigran

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