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

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 07 Nov 2007 20:26:06 GMT

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Wayne Landsman writes:

```
> 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'
```

Get out!!

I had a similar question, but I was too embarrassed to ask here.  
But this is WAY too easy. I was hoping to bill about 40 hours  
on this part of the code. :-(

I better go read up on FITS files.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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