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Subject: Re: linfit with string time array (x)  
Posted by [lbnc](#) on Tue, 11 Nov 2008 05:45:01 GMT  
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On 10 Nov, 16:43, Reimar Bauer <R.Ba...@fz-juelich.de> wrote:

>  
> if the numbers are written in a time format it is better to show an  
> example. Those need to be converted into a number. I would suggest to  
> use julian seconds (seconds since 2000-01-01 00:00:00 UTC)

But why?! Why go through the bother when IDL has JULDAY and CALDAT?  
With the LABEL\_DATE function you get nice annotations of axes and you  
don't need to worry about whether the routines you download somewhere  
of the web are actually right.

To answer the original question, as Reimar already said, you need to  
convert the strings to some sort of numeric value, for example julian  
day. For that you need to parse the year, month, day, hour, minute,  
second from your string and pass the to, for example, JULDAY. The IDL  
documentation knows more about how to use JULDAY and LABEL\_DATE.

Cheers  
Lasse Clausen

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