
Subject: Re: reading slices of FITS files

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Wed, 19 Nov 2008 15:30:08 GMT

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I want something

> that is functionally equivalent to:

>

> dataslice = (readfits(filename))[xslice,*,*]

>

> but faster.

I am not aware of any IDL FITS readers that can do this. The closest is probably `fxread.pro` which can read specified columns from a 2-d array, but isn't setup to do 3 dimensions. Note that your speed improvement may not be large because each pixel requires a separate I/O operation when the data is non-contiguous. However, it would certainly help with memory management, and some techniques discussed here might improve the speed (<http://tinyurl.com/6l6kmw>). --Wayne
