
Subject: Re: idl readf error

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 12 Feb 2009 20:19:48 GMT

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rollo.tomasi@hotmail.com writes:

> I have a file with 5 columns that looks like this (except for the
> column labels):
>
> [/color]
[color=blue]> T/F I/U Time Blocks Volume[/color]
[color=blue]> T I 7.12 227 11145.6[/color]
[color=blue]> F U 16.34 227 10914.9[/color]
[color=blue]> T I 21.43 232 11151.9[/color]
[color=blue]> T U 25.99 224 11364.1[/color]
[color=blue]> F I 37.13 199 7566.9[/color]
[color=blue]> [/color]
>
> Essentially I want to calculate the median for each time, blocks, and
> volume for the entire file, and then depending on T/F and I/U.
>
> I've gotten the script to work with the first three columns, but when
> I add the last two columns (blocks and volume) it returns an error.
> Can anyone tell me what I am doing wrong?

On this line:

```
readf,68, data, x1i, x2i, xxi, x3i, x4i, format='(2A2, G7.2)'
```

You are asking IDL to read five things, but you only told it how to read three of them. When it reads the first three, it then thinks, "Well, he didn't tell me anything, so I'll try to use the format statement over again." Thus, it tries to read a string, but it finds a float.

So, you have to fix your format statement. And I would be careful of this, because even though you said it worked when you had three variables rather than 5, that seems doubtful to me. Make sure you can read the first line properly, then you will be good to go.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)

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