
Subject: Re: How to convert text file to fits file
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2010 20:11:45 GMT
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On Apr 22, 7:21 am, sid <gunvicsi...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi,
> I am having text file with two columns one is wavelength and
> intensity, I need to convert this to fits file, please help me out in
> this regard
> regards

A general outline.

First, get the IDL Astronomy Library if you don't already have it.

Next, read your data into IDL variables. It's pretty easy to do something like,

```
OPENR, 50, 'myfile.dat'
```

```
DD = replicate({wavelength: 0d, intensity: 0d}, 100) ;; example;  
assumes 100 data points
```

```
READF, 50, dd ;; Read data into a structure
```

```
CLOSE, 50
```

Finally, write to a FITS binary table. The easiest routine to start with is MWRFITS.

```
MWRFITS, dd, 'myfile.fits'
```

Of course there are endless variations on data and FITS files, but this should get you started. I just did a practice file, and all these steps worked.

Good luck,
Craig
