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Subject: Re: FITS IO Problem

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sat, 24 Apr 2010 20:08:28 GMT

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On Apr 24, 9:18 am, John B <bochan...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Apr 24, 8:09 am, wlandsman <wlands...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>>> Readfits.pro is choking since this isn't a standard fits file (NAXIS

>>> isn't defined). Is there another one I can use?

>

>> There is a nice (non-IDL) program FITSVerify (

[http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/software/ftools/fitsverify /](http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/software/ftools/fitsverify/)) to

>> check the validity of a FITS file. You can also upload your FITS

>> file to the online verifier.

>

> Cool. I submitted it and got this error:

>

> File name: test.fits

> Run Number 8232

>

> fitsverify 4.15 (CFITSIO V3.181)

>

>

> 2 Header-Data Units in this file.

>

> ===== HDU 1: Primary Array =====

>

> 1 | SIMPLE = T /Dummy Created by MWRFITS v1.4a

> 2 | BITPIX = 8 /Dummy primary header created by

> MWRFITS

> 3 | NAXIS = 0 /No data is associated with this

> header

> 4 | EXTEND = T /Extensions may (will!) be

> present

> 5 | END

>

> 5 header keywords

>

> Null data array; NAXIS = 0

>

> ===== HDU 2: BINARY Table =====

>

> \*\*\* Error: checking data fill: tried to move past end of file

> \*\*\* Error: String in row #3, column #3 contains non-ASCII text.

> (Other rows may have errors).

>

> I don't know entirely how to interpret this.

>

>  
>  
>> Does MWRFITS work with the simple examples provided in the  
>> documentation?  
>  
> Yes, MWRFITS is working for other applications on my system.  
>  
>  
>  
>> You wouldn't be using GDL (the free IDL clone) rather than IDL, would  
>> you? I recently discovered that GDL has a slightly different  
>> treatment of nested loops than IDL, that led to disastrous  
>> consequences for a different set of FITS I/O routines.  
>  
> Nope... I am using IDL.  
>  
> --Wayne

Are you by any chance overwriting an existing file? To me it looks like you attempted to write a file, but it got stopped after writing the primary extension. If the bits from the previous existing file are still there, then it would look like a bogus 2nd FITS extension.

Craig

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