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Subject: Re: reading header and manipulating according to the header information  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sat, 15 May 2010 16:02:40 GMT

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On May 15, 10:21 am, sid <gunvicsi...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi,  
> Since I am using huge data of several years, different kind of  
> ccds are used on different days. I need to trim the data to a size  
> which depends on ccd size, is there any method to read the header  
> information and take the ccd size from there and then to proceed  
> further, instead of giving the ccd size manually. Because it is really  
> very tedious to check for the ccd size each time and then to proceed.  
> Please help out.  
> For example,  
> in one of my data the ccd size that is 1K by 1k is given in header as,  
...

Anything you can do "manually," you can do in a program. The hard part is usually to make it robust.

Based on the headers you provided, it looks like you have FITS image files. If you don't already have it, get the IDL Astronomy Library. It has many routines for reading FITS images and tables. The easiest one to use is MRDFITS(). MRDFITS() returns the image array which you can query using SIZE() and then trim as needed.

Simple example:

```
filename = 'myfile.fits'  
img = mrdfits(filename) ;; Read image  
sz = size(img, /dim) ;; Determine size of image  
szx = sz(0) ;; Number of columns  
szy = sz(1) ;; Number of rows  
img = img( (0+2):(szx-3) , (0+2):(szy-3) ) ;; Remove outermost two  
rows and columns
```

Good luck,  
Craig

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