Posted by joseph.b.gurman on Thu, 09 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <32D58AF7.51A8@cfht.hawaii.edu>, Tim Abbott
<tmca@cfht.hawaii.edu> wrote:

> Can anyone tell me why this doesn't work?
>
> I need to extract the four numbers from the string "[123:456,246:135]"
>
> Here is the code segment I'm trying to use:
> IDL> str = "[123:456,246:135]"
> IDL> reads,str,x1,x2,x3,x4,format='(4(1X,I0))'
>   ^^
> % Unable to apply format code I to input: "]".
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
> IDL> print,x1,x2,x3
>   123.000   246.000   0.00000
> IDL> print,x1,x2,x3,x4
> % PRINT: Variable is undefined: X4.
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$

   Tim -

   It looks like it's trying to read the final "]" because you're using
I0 --- do you need to do that, or do you know that all your integer
strings will be three characters long? If so, of course, you could just
use:

IDL> reads, str , x1, x2, x3, x4, format = '(4(1X, I3))'

which gives:

IDL> print, x1, x2, x3, x4
     123.000   456.000   246.000   135.000

   Sorry if I'm missing the point; I thought it might have to do with the
lack of oxygen at the telescope....

          Joe Gurman

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