
Subject: reading shapefiles & IDL objects

Posted by [desertryad](#) on Tue, 20 Dec 2011 23:48:59 GMT

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I'm trying to write a function that can read GIS shapefiles in IDL.
I'm new to this and to using objects in IDL; but I seem to be stuck
right at the gate for reasons I cannot fathom. Here is the snippet of
code at the beginning of my function:

```
function readshape, filename
```

```
; test script for reading a shapefile into idl and finding data  
contained w/in
```

```
myshape = obj_new('IDLffShape', filename)  
help, myshape
```

Now, I know for certain that the shapefile exists whose name gets
passed as 'filename' and I've specified the path at the command line.
Yet, I get this error:

```
ENVI> testme = readshape('C:\\etotest\\pivot6.shp')
```

```
MYSHAPE      OBJREF  = <NullObject>  
% Stop encountered: READSHAPE      7 C:\\Cyndys\\Default  
\\readshape.pro
```

What on Earth am I doing wrong, here? Please advise.
