
Subject: converting strings to float

Posted by [Krishnakumar M.A](#) on Fri, 13 Jun 2014 10:38:35 GMT

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Hi All,

I have a huge data file of two columns and a '# header' line in between. I used grep in idl to remove the '# lines'. The resulting output is written as a string, which is actually of 2 columns. I only require the second column for doing a surface plot. 1st column is just integer numbers. As i split the string by giving

```
h=strmid(b,3,10)
```

It will give me the second column but, rows from 0-9 will have huge -ve values. If I do the same with `h=strmid(b,2,10)`, columns ≥ 100 will give junk values. I'm kind of stuck with this.

Is there a better way to split the string and copy to a fltarr than defining the position to read from, as like one can do in C, Fortran etc?

Thanks,
Krishnakumar
