
Subject: Some sort of NULL value in IDL ?

Posted by [deckard_007](#) on Fri, 14 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi,

Is there something like a NULL value available in IDL ? I have some data which I have to export as a HDF file. But not all of my data is good, so I want to export the bad points as NULL values like in a database. Maybe this has more to do with the HDF format than with IDL itself, but maybe someone has encountered this problem before.

Thanks,

Henk

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Subject: Re: Some sort of NULL value in IDL ?

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Tue, 18 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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"Liam E.Gumley" wrote:

>

> deckard_007@my-deja.com wrote:

>> Is there something like a NULL value available in IDL ? I have some data
>> which I have to export as a HDF file. But not all of my data is good,
>> so I want to export the bad points as NULL values like in a database.
>> Maybe this has more to do with the HDF format than with IDL itself, but
>> maybe someone has encountered this problem before.

>

> This issue is handled in HDF Scientific Datasets by attaching standard
> attributes to an SDS variable. The following attributes have been
> established by the HDF and netCDF communities:

>

> long_name

> A text string which describes a variable in detail (e.g. 'Northwards
> velocity component').

>

> units

> A text string which describes the units of a variable (e.g.
> 'meters/second').

>

> valid_range

> A two element array containing the valid minimum and maximum values for

This issue is handled in HDF Scientific Datasets by attaching standard attributes to an SDS variable. The following attributes have been established by the HDF and netCDF communities:

... isn't there yet another standard attribute named missing_value which

would be even more appropriate?

```
I don't know anything about the specific format you are using,
```

```
Best regards.
```

[illegible]