
Subject: Parsing dates (ARGH!)
Posted by [jamiesmyth_uni](#) on Mon, 17 May 2004 16:49:38 GMT
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Can someone please explain how I can parse the year, month, day, hour, minute, and seconds from a timestamp such as '2004-01-01 01:22:15.1234'

```
IDL> print, a
2004-01-01 00:10:22
IDL> print, size(a, /tname)
STRING
IDL> sql_fmt = "(C(CYI4, X, CMol2.2, X, CDI2.2, X, CHI2.2, X," + $
IDL>      " CMI2.2, X, CSF7.4))"
IDL> reads, a, year, format=sql_fmt
IDL> help, year
YEAR      INT      = 28173
IDL> reads, a, year, month, date, hour, minute, seconds,
format=sql_fmt
% READS: End of input data encountered: A
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

Thanks, I've blown most of the morning on this...

Subject: Re: Parsing dates (ARGH!)
Posted by [mperrin+news](#) on Mon, 17 May 2004 17:28:29 GMT
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Jamie Smyth <jamiesmyth_uni@yahoo.ca> wrote:
> Can someone please explain how I can parse the year, month, day, hour,
> minute, and seconds from a timestamp such as '2004-01-01
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>
> IDL> print, a
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Take a look at
http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/astro/date_conv.pro

```
IDL> result = date_conv(a,"V")
IDL> print,result[0]
2004
```

date_conv isn't *exactly* what you want, since result[1] is "day of year (0-366)" as opposed to month and then day, but if you take a look at the code it should be pretty straightforward

to modify for your purposes...

- Marshall
