
Subject: Re: handling zero size file

Posted by [Kenneth Bowman](#) on Mon, 12 Feb 2007 22:27:13 GMT

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In article <eqqo6t\$7u0\$1@news.nems.noaa.gov>,
Spam Bob <spambob@bikinibottom.net> wrote:

> I have an idl program that I call from perl. I send the idl program two
> files (file1 and file2).
>
> PRO mentor_nf, file1, file2, loc
>
> If both files are nonzero size it runs fine plotting both (this is a two
> panel plotting program). If I'm missing some data and either file1 or
> file2 is zero size, the program bombs. I would like it to go ahead and
> plot the nonzero sized file and just leave the other panel blank.
>
> Here is where the program fails:
> DATA1 = READ_ASCII(file1, TEMPLATE=PLOTTEMPLATE)
>
> and this is the error:
> % READ_ASCII: File "/data/file1_20060322.dat" is not a valid ASCII file.
>
> I tried the MISSING_VALUE keyword but that didn't change anything.

Use FILE_INFO to check the file size before opening it.

Ken Bowman

Subject: Re: handling zero size file

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Mon, 12 Feb 2007 22:33:07 GMT

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On Feb 12, 4:03 pm, Spam Bob <spam...@bikinibottom.net> wrote:

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Try FILE_INFO()

Subject: Re: handling zero size file
Posted by [Spam Bob](#) on Mon, 12 Feb 2007 23:09:44 GMT
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hradilv wrote:

> On Feb 12, 4:03 pm, Spam Bob <spam...@bikinibottom.net> wrote:
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>
> Try FILE_INFO()

Thanks for the reply. I looked up FILE_INFO but I think you meant FILE_TEST. I actually came up with a workaround after I posted my question (put some dummy data in "file" if it is empty), but I can come up with a better solution with FILE_TEST. I'd like the empty panel to display something like "No data for this day" if the file is zero size.
