Subject: Re: handling zero size file Posted by Kenneth Bowman on Mon, 12 Feb 2007 22:27:13 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

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 View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

On Feb 12, 4:03 pm, Spam Bob <spam...@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
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- > 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.

Try FILE_INFO()

Subject: Re: handling zero size file Posted by Spam Bob on Mon, 12 Feb 2007 23:09:44 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

hradily wrote:

- > On Feb 12, 4:03 pm, Spam Bob <spam...@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
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>>

>> I tried the MISSING_VALUE keyword but that didn't change anything.

>

> 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.