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Subject: Antarctic Temperature Data

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 01 May 2007 19:01:56 GMT

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Folks,

OK, since I seem to be on a roll today, how about this.  
Here is a text file containing temperature data from  
an automated Antarctica weather station that I wish to  
plot. I got the data from here:

<http://amrc.ssec.wisc.edu/~amrc/8911.txt>

Here is what the first couple of columns in the file look like.

| ARGOS ID | Date    | Time   | T(C)  |
|----------|---------|--------|-------|
| -----    | ----    | ----   |       |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 5250   | -38.4 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 5250   | -38.4 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 5250   | -38.4 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 32311  | -37.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 50325  | -38.5 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 54332  | -38.5 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 54331  | -38.5 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 54332  | -38.5 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 54331  | -38.5 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 64340  | -39.6 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 83357  | -39.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 83356  | -39.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 83356  | -39.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 83357  | -39.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 83356  | -39.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 83356  | -39.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 92404  | -39.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 93406  | -39.4 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 93406  | -39.4 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 101411 | -39.6 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 101410 | -39.6 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 115425 | -41.2 |
| 8911     | 2007118 | 122430 | -41.4 |

The time values range from 5250 to 225603. They seem to increase  
to the maximum, then fall again to the minimum when the day of  
year changes, say from 118 to 119. Supposedly, these temperature  
readings are suppose to happen every 10 minutes, but as you can  
see from the first three readings above, sometimes that doesn't  
happen, or something... (This is raw data, not processed, and  
I am expecting surprises.)

But, what units do you suppose those time values are in?  
I can't find anything so far on the web page listed above  
to tell me, and they don't seem to correspond to seconds,  
which is what I thought they probably were initially.  
Has anyone worked with data like this?

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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