
Subject: Has anyone worked with ARF files and brought them into IDL successfully?

Posted by [Duppy](#) on Thu, 05 Feb 2009 16:36:43 GMT

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I'm looking to write a program in IDL to parse a header so I can read an ARF file into IDL. I'd also like to create an ENVI header somehow. I was told I could use the Data Viewer in ENVI to see the code, but I did it....wasn't sure exactly what I was supposed to look for.

I'm very new at this and need a layman's perspective. I'm sort of being thrown into programming at my job and I'm not a programmer at all. Whatever help anyone could give would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

D.

Subject: Re: Has anyone worked with ARF files and brought them into IDL successfully?

Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Sat, 07 Feb 2009 22:03:26 GMT

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On Feb 7, 3:56 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Duppy writes:

>> Smarmy, arrogant comments are not necessary.

>

> Sorry, you thought these fell into that category. It's

> just that after 20 some years of answering IDL questions

> whenever I get one that I think "I don't have any IDEA

> how to do that!", it is from an IDL newbie. I don't

> know why that is, but it is almost always the case.

> I always feel just about the opposite of arrogant

> when that happens. :-)

Hi,

I don't think David's reply was all that off-base. Your questions are hard to answer. There are a lot of people on this list, and the ImageJ list you posted to, that are quite prepared to voluntarily assist you. But it seems to me that you are not really helping us help you. Perhaps if you could pose "crisp" questions. Start by explaining what you know about .arf files, what you have tried, how you know it doesn't work, etc. Sometimes, the answer comes to you *before* you ever have to post! Woohoooo!

Given your most recent post, I suggest that you first contact your data vendor for assistance - you are a paying customer after all.

Cheers,
Ben

P.S. I am sure David can find lots of old emails from me that posed "fuzzy" rather than "crisp" questions. We have all been there and share your frustration.

Subject: Re: Has anyone worked with ARF files and brought them into IDL successfully?

Posted by [Duppy](#) on Mon, 09 Feb 2009 02:35:11 GMT

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On Feb 7, 5:03 pm, "ben.bighair" <ben.bigh...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Feb 7, 3:56 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

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>> Duppy writes:

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> share your frustration.

Okay, so I guess the answer is 'no'. Nobody can help.

I can't wait until I can become proficient in programming so I can
talk down to everyone. It will be GREAT! I'm looking forward to that
day. Woo wee!!

Subject: Re: Has anyone worked with ARF files and brought them into IDL
successfully?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 09 Feb 2009 03:46:04 GMT

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Duppy writes:

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>
> I can't wait until I can become proficient in programming so I can
> talk down to everyone. It will be GREAT! I'm looking forward to that
> day. Woo wee!!

Look, I'm sorry you have had a poor experience here.
It has been my personal mission for a long time to make
sure this newsgroup was the most civil, friendly, and
helpful newsgroup on the Internet. Not to mention interesting
and funny, on the odd occasions.

I don't believe anyone has talked down to you. I was sorry
you thought I did, and I have apologized to you. You asked
a very hard question, and you provided almost no information
to go with it. No one is withholding information from you.
It is not our job to do your research for you. It is not
even our job to answer your questions. We do it, when we do
it, because it is part of what it means to be a community of
users who look out for and help one another.

You are free to join our community if you wish. But, speaking
personally, you are getting dangerously close to a line here.
Perhaps your attitude would be more appreciated somewhere else.
If you continue in this vein, the answer will not just be "no",
it will soon be "Hell, no!"

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
