
Subject: Re: Reading multiple ASCII files in as 2d arrays and putting them into a 3d array

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 15 Feb 2009 18:27:25 GMT

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polystethylene writes:

```
> I've tried two approaches. First of all, I've tried reading each file
> into the array 'framearray', and then subsequently (within the loop)
> placing the 2-d array (framearray) into the 3-d array (data), with
> something like this:
>
> data[:,*,i] = framearray
>
> but this complains that array is the wrong size. (I assume its
> possible to put a smaller array into a larger array without IDL
> complaining - I figured it would fill the rest of the space with
> zeros?).
```

Well, sorta. :-)

The * indicates a data range, (eg, 0:sizeofX-1). Your data is, occasionally, smaller than that. And the array on the left hand side will have to equal the size of the array on the right hand side, or IDL will complain like this.

There is a trick, though. If you specified only the *first* value of the data range, IDL will try to fit your array into the larger "space" on the left hand side. Try this:

```
data[0,0,i] = framearray
```

I think there is a good chance you will get away with that. :-)

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.")
