
Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 21 Dec 2010 22:23:04 GMT

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Gray writes:

- > Does anyone have a routine that allows for fuzzy searching of FITS
- > header keywords? For example, I have a header where I want the value
- > of the following keywords:
- >
- > D001DEXP
- > D002DEXP
- > ...
- >
- > I don't know a priori how many of them there are, and it would be nice
- > to be able to have a parsing program that would let me give 'DEXP' as
- > a search string and return all of them. Any suggestions?

StrPos?

- > I know I
- > could construct something that did searches for up to 1000 keywords
- > (000-999) and aborted when it didn't find anything, but that would
- > defeat the purpose of IDL vectorization, wouldn't it?

It's already vectorized! :-)

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.")

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Tue, 21 Dec 2010 22:59:33 GMT

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On Tuesday, December 21, 2010 5:10:27 PM UTC-5, Gray wrote:

- > Hi all,
- >
- > Does anyone have a routine that allows for fuzzy searching of FITS
- > header keywords? For example, I have a header where I want the value
- > of the following keywords:

>
> D001DEXP
> D002DEXP

For quicklook purposes hgrep.pro
(<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/misc/hgrep.pro>)
is a wrapper around STRPOS. There would be a couple of extra lines of code to make
something automated. --Wayne

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header
Posted by [Gray](#) on Tue, 21 Dec 2010 23:00:36 GMT
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On Dec 21, 5:23 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Gray writes:
>> Does anyone have a routine that allows for fuzzy searching of FITS
>> header keywords? For example, I have a header where I want the value
>> of the following keywords:
>
>> D001DEXP
>> D002DEXP
>> ...
>
>> I don't know a priori how many of them there are, and it would be nice
>> to be able to have a parsing program that would let me give 'DEXP' as
>> a search string and return all of them. Any suggestions?
>
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>
>> I know I
>> could construct something that did searches for up to 1000 keywords
>> (000-999) and aborted when it didn't find anything, but that would
>> defeat the purpose of IDL vectorization, wouldn't it?
>
> It's already vectorized! :-)
>
> 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.")

Well, sure. But what I WAS using was SXPARG, which pads the search

string w/ spaces and searches 8 characters.

I'm envisioning a routine that uses lists and hashes to return the keyword and value for all keywords that match any number of search strings... do I have the time/energy to write it?

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 21 Dec 2010 23:38:02 GMT

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Gray writes:

> I'm envisioning a routine that uses lists and hashes to return the
> keyword and value for all keywords that match any number of search
> strings... do I have the time/energy to write it?

I think I would still start with STRPOS and be done in less than a minute. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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

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

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header

Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2010 01:11:20 GMT

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On Dec 21, 9:00 pm, Gray <grayliketheco...@gmail.com> wrote:

> I'm envisioning a routine that uses lists and hashes to return the
> keyword and value for all keywords that match any number of search
> strings... do I have the time/energy to write it?

I was just writing something like that as an example for a class.
Similar to what the new graphics do to find elements by search strings
(like `axes=plot["*axis*"]`). I will post it later.

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header
Posted by [Marc Buie](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2010 03:49:30 GMT
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Wayne -

Why can't this be handled with

```
dexp=sxpar(hdr,'D*DEXP')
```

sxpar already handles

```
naxis=sxpar(hdr,'NAXIS*')
```

It seems to me that this is a simple extension of what sxpar already does. All you have to do is support a regular expression and take the vector result. However, this isn't what I would call a fuzzy search but it would definitely be a handy extension to sxpar.

--Marc

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header
Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2010 04:50:39 GMT
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On Dec 21, 11:11 pm, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Dec 21, 9:00 pm, Gray <grayliketheco...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> I'm envisioning a routine that uses lists and hashes to return the
>> keyword and value for all keywords that match any number of search
>> strings... do I have the time/energy to write it?

>

> I was just writing something like that as an example for a class.

> Similar to what the new graphics do to find elements by search strings

> (like axes=plot['*axis*']). I will post it later.

It is not complete (not even documented), but it already does that:

http://www.ppenteado.net/idl/pp_lib/src/pp_readfits__define.pro

I started this as an example for a class, but due to some recent needs I noticed when using fits files, I intend to give it a more complete functionality, with things like processing coordinates through wcs, calculating wavelengths, and allowing to edit and save files.

An example of how it works now:

```
IDL> fits=pp_readfits('test.fits')
```

```
% READFITS: Now reading 256 by 256 array
IDL> help,fits.data
<Expression>  LONG    = Array[256, 256]
IDL> help,fits.header
<Expression>  STRING   = Array[184]
IDL> help,fits.variables
<Expression>  HASH <ID=746 NELEMENTS=181>
IDL> help,fits.descriptions
<Expression>  HASH <ID=1117 NELEMENTS=181>
IDL> print,(fits.variables)['NAXIS']
2
IDL> print,(fits.descriptions)['NAXIS']
Number of axes
IDL> print,fits['NAXIS']
NAXIS: 2
IDL> print,fits['NAXIS*']
NAXIS2: 256
NAXIS: 2
NAXIS1: 256
```

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header
Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2010 13:06:40 GMT
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On Tuesday, December 21, 2010 10:49:30 PM UTC-5, Marc Buie wrote:

```
> Wayne -
>
> Why can't this be handled with
>
> dexp=sxpar(hdr,'D*DEXP')
>
> sxpar already handles
>
> naxis=sxpar(hdr,'NAXIS*')
>
> It seems to me that this is a simple extension of what sxpar already does.
```

Well, there is a FITS convention for reserved keyword names followed by sequential integers (e.g. NAXIS1, NAXIS2, NAXIS3...), where (with one exception) you can be sure that the returned values will all be of the same type (in this case integers). But for a general wildcard (e.g. 'D*EXP') the returned values might be a mixture of strings, integers and floats. That is why Paulo's list/hash approach seems preferable this case. --Wayne

P.S. The one exception for reserved keyword names is TSCALi for converting 16 bit integers in a binary table to double/float. In some cases TSCALi returns a float and in other cases it returns a double. That is why MRDFITS currently has a limitation of requiring either all conversions to float or all conversions to double. In some other FITS routines I get around this limitation by

using pointers, but it is a pain. It is a nice application for the new LIST datatype.

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header
Posted by [Gray](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2010 13:40:57 GMT
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On Dec 22, 8:06 am, wlandsman <wlands...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Tuesday, December 21, 2010 10:49:30 PM UTC-5, Marc Buie wrote:

>> Wayne -

>

>> Why can't this be handled with

>

>> dexp=sxpar(hdr,'D*DEXP')

>

>> sxpar already handles

>

>> naxis=sxpar(hdr,'NAXIS*')

>

>> It seems to me that this is a simple extension of what sxpar already does.

>

> Well, there is a FITS convention for reserved keyword names followed by sequential integers (e.g. NAXIS1, NAXIS2, NAXIS3...), where (with one exception) you can be sure that the returned values will all be of the same type (in this case integers). But for a general wildcard (e.g. 'D*EXP') the returned values might be a mixture of strings, integers and floats. That is why Paulo's list/hash approach seems preferable this case. --Wayne

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Here's a very basic writeup using lists and hashes and FXPAR() (since I didn't feel like re-writing the keyword parsing rules).

```
FUNCTION hdregex, header, search
  n = n_elements(search)
  keys = strmid(header,0,8)
  if (n lt 2) then begin
    this = where(stregex(keys,search,/fold,/bool),count)
    if (count eq 0) then return, !null
    out = hash(keys[this])
    for i=0,count-1 do out[keys[this[i]]] = $
      fxpar(header,keys[this[i]],start=this[i],precheck=0)
  endif else begin
    out = list(length=n)
```

```
foreach key,search,i do begin
  this = where(stregex(keys,search,/fold,/bool),count)
  if (count eq 0) then continue
  temp = hash(keys[this])
  for j=0,count-1 do out[keys[this[j]]] = $
    fxpar(header,keys[this[j]],start=this[j],precheck=0)
  out[i] = temp
endforeach
endelse
return, out
end
```

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header
Posted by [Gray](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2010 13:45:44 GMT
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On Dec 22, 8:40 am, Gray <grayliketheco...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Dec 22, 8:06 am, wlandsman <wlands...@gmail.com> wrote:

>
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>

>> On Tuesday, December 21, 2010 10:49:30 PM UTC-5, Marc Buie wrote:
>>> Wayne -

>
>>> Why can't this be handled with

>
>>> dexp=sxpar(hdr,'D*DEXP')

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>> Well, there is a FITS convention for reserved keyword names followed by sequential integers (e.g. NAXIS1, NAXIS2, NAXIS3...), where (with one exception) you can be sure that the returned values will all be of the same type (in this case integers). But for a general wildcard (e.g. 'D*EXP') the returned values might be a mixture of strings, integers and floats. That is why Paulo's list/hash approach seems preferable this case. --Wayne

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in a binary table to double/float. In some cases TSCALi returns a float and in other cases it returns a double. That is why MRDFITS currently has a limitation of requiring either all conversions to float or all conversions to double. In some other FITS routines I get around this limitation by using pointers, but it is a pain. It is a nice application for the new LIST datatype.

```
>
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>     for i=0,count-1 do out[keys[this[i]]] = $
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>         fxpar(header,keys[this[j]],start=this[j],precheck=0)
>       out[i] = temp
>     endforeach
>   endelse
>   return, out
> end
```

Oops, typos (that's what I get for copy/paste):

```
FUNCTION hdregex, header, search
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    for i=0,count-1 do out[keys[this[i]]] = $
      fxpar(header,keys[this[i]],start=this[i],precheck=0)
  endif else begin
    out = list(length=n)
    foreach key,search,i do begin
      this = where(stregex(keys,key,/fold,/bool),count)
      if (count eq 0) then continue
```



```
temp = hash(keys[this])
for j=0,count-1 do temp[keys[this[j]]] = $
  fxpar(header,keys[this[j]],start=this[j],precheck=0)
out[i] = temp
endforeach
endelse
return, out
end
```

Subject: Re: Fuzzy searching of FITS header
Posted by [penteado](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2010 19:44:55 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Dec 22, 2:50 am, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

- > It is not complete (not even documented), but it already does that:
- >
- > http://www.ppenteado.net/idl/pp_lib/src/pp_readfits__define.pro
- >
- > I started this as an example for a class, but due to some recent needs
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- > <Expression> STRING = Array[184]
- > IDL> help,fits.variables
- > <Expression> HASH <ID=746 NELEMENTS=181>
- > IDL> help,fits.descriptions
- > <Expression> HASH <ID=1117 NELEMENTS=181>
- > IDL> print,(fits.variables)['NAXIS']
- > 2
- > IDL> print,(fits.descriptions)['NAXIS']
- > Number of axes
- > IDL> print,fits['NAXIS']
- > NAXIS: 2
- > IDL> print,fits['NAXIS*']
- > NAXIS2: 256
- > NAXIS: 2
- > NAXIS1: 256

Now that I thought more about this, it seems it would be better to not

always return hashes from the brackets overload. If only one element is found, returning directly the value seems more natural and useful than a 1-element hash. And if none is found, returning !null seems better than an empty hash.
