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Subject: Re: Reading FITS files with the Mac version of IDL

Posted by [agrap](#) on Wed, 03 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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Glenn J White <G.J.White@qmw.ac.uk> writes:

> I have been trying to import FITS files into IDL 4.01  
> for a Mac PowerPC, and hit problems with the apparent  
> non-standard system parameters !TEXTOUT and !textunit,  
> when using the various FITS reader .pro files in the  
> IDL Astronomy users library. Has anyone else  
> encountered this problem and worked around it ?  
> Thanks for any help you can give

I spent a day or so in October tracking down FITS readers for Mac IDL for my Quadra 700. I remember having several choices of FITS readers from the Goddard Astronomy IDL library. I kept finding out that I didn't have the auxiliary programs that I needed, so more effort was spent in actually tracking down all of the routines than learning to use the FITS read and write programs.

To read a fits file I used: 'mrdfits.pro' For example:

```
IDL>fl = 'N50356.fits'  
IDL>image = MRDFITS(fl, 0, header)
```

To write a fits file I used: 'writefits.pro', For example:

```
IDL>WRITEFITS, 'N50356_final.fits', finalimg, header
```

And I believe the auxiliary programs I needed were:

```
check_fits.pro  
fdecomp.pro  
fxpar.pro  
fxposit.pro  
gettok.pro  
host_to_ieee.pro  
ieee_to_host.pro  
mrd_hread.pro  
mrd_struct.pro  
mrdfits.pro  
readfits.pro  
strnumber.pro  
sxaddpar.pro  
sxdelpar.pro  
sxpar.pro  
valid_num.pro
```

wherenan.pro  
writefits.pro

I have a different Mac than you, but there shouldn't be problems. You can email me if you get stuck.

Amara

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\*\*\*\*\*

"Time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening all at once."      -- Anonymous

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Subject: Re: Reading FITS files with the Mac version of IDL  
Posted by [thompson](#) on Thu, 04 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT  
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Glenn J White <G.J.White@qmw.ac.uk> writes:

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> encountered this problem and worked around it ?  
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You need to define these environment variables before running the software.  
The routine astrolib.pro will do this for you. Simply put the command

astrolib

in your IDL startup procedure.

Bill Thompson

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