
Subject: Reading string array

Posted by [Neil Winrow](#) on Thu, 19 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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I have the following problem:

```
openr,10,filnam
dataTitle = make_array(7,/string)
for i=1,30 do readf,10,a ;read the header information
readf,10,dataTitle
close,10
```

The piece of code above is supposed to read over the header information in the data file, and read in the following column titles into dataTitle:

X Y Z FLUX MAXL MAXM IMIN

But this doesn't work, is there some obvious mistake I'm making with my code.

Thanks

Neil

Subject: Re: Reading string array

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 20 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Alex Schuster wrote:

```
>
> Neil Winrow wrote:
>
>> in the data file, and read in the following column titles into
>> dataTitle:
>>
>> X    Y    Z    FLUX  MAXL  MAXM  IMIN
>>
>
> IDL has to know how long the individual strings are. You can use
>   READF, 10, dataTitle, format='(7A7)'
> assuming that each string is seven characters long.
>
```

.. or you can use STR_SEP to get your header "tokens" out of one header line. Your problem sounds to me as if you may want to try my readdata routine which you find on the web page indicated below.

Martin.

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