
Subject: Re: Skipping a line while reading a file.
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 20 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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David Borland (dborland@egi.com) writes:

> Is there any way to have idl skip a line while reading a
> file?

```
blank_line = ""  
ReadF, lun, blank_line
```

To skip three lines, for example:

```
blank_lines = StrArr(3)  
Readf, lun, blank_lines
```

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Skipping a line while reading a file.
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 21 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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DBorland wrote:

>
> Greetings,
> I am trying to read in some data from a file, and there is a blank line in
> the file. This would not be a problem if the next line I needed to read was
> not a string. Is there any way to have idl skip a line while reading a
> file?
> Here is an example of the data file:
> [... snipped]

> and I am reading it in with the following:
> for i = 0, n-1 do begin
> readf,lun,index,hex_address,angle,magnitude,potential,area
> readf,lun,location
> readf,lun,outward_normal

```
> readf,lun,address
> : : :
> endfor
>
```

apparently you don't assign any variable type before you read them. This can cause all sorts of trouble. As David suggested, you can (only !) read a string variable if you let IDL know beforehand that it has to expect a string:

```
line = "
readf,lun,line
```

Careful also with long integers! It never hurts to write

```
number = 0L
readf,lun,number
```

... maybe IDL should have an IMPLICIT NONE option ??

Regards,
Martin

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