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Subject: How to load only header of the file with LoadFromFile?

Posted by [White\\_Owl](#) on Thu, 08 Jan 2009 19:22:32 GMT

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I have a pretty big data file with a lot of data.

I need to show list of my data files. So I'd like to read only headers of my data file and ignore actual data.

Right now I see two ways:

1) Modify all LoadFrom\*() functions, to add the third parameter bool header=false. And add to Stream function IsHeader();

That would be pretty universal, but a lot of work.

2) Solution "for right now":

```
class MyData {
public:
    bool header_only;
    String data_description;

    void Serialize(Stream &s) {
        s % data_description;
        if(s.IsLoading() && header_only) return;
        s % data1 % data2 % data3 ;
    }
};
```

.....

```
MyData d;
d.header_only = true;
LoadFromFile(d, file_name);
```

Is there a third more elegant way?

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