
Subject: Re: FORMAT codes and tabs

Posted by [ashmall](#) on Mon, 10 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Great minds think alike Pavel - that's just what I've ended up doing
but I have to agree it's not very elegant at all.

Thanks for the response,

Justin

On Mon, 10 May 1999 09:30:55 -0600, Pavel Romashkin

<promashkin@cmdl.noaa.gov> wrote:

> I have to deal with wierd file formats all the time. I found it to be
> often easier to read the entire odd line into a string and then, using
> byte conversion, eliminate unneeded characters and separate the string
> into an array(s) of appropriate format. I have a simple code for
> splitting a string at:

> http://spot.colorado.edu/~romashki/idl/hc_str_to_arr.pro

> It will do just what you want: separate a string at spaces and eliminate
> one extra character of choice (tab in your case). It is not an elegant
> solution but sometimes it was the simplest way to go. You'd have to
> place the output in proper places yourself but that's minor I think.

> Cheers,

> Pavel

>

> Justin Ashmall wrote:

>

>> Dear All,

>>

>> I'm having trouble reading in a text file with dates and times in the
>> form:

>> 11/10/99<tab><sp>16<sp>:<sp>47

>> where <tab> and <sp> represent tabs and spaces.

>> Sometimes the day/months are consist of only 1 char (e.g. 3/4/99). I

>> can write a separate FORMAT statement for each case but when I try to

>> use I0 to deal with both cases it doesn't work and it seems to be due

>> to the TAB char.

>
