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Subject: Re: Format strings with comma separated lists  
Posted by [gurman](#) on Mon, 10 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <3736bb88.14638556@146.80.9.44>, philaldis@geocities.com wrote:

> I hoping that someone else understands format strings better than I  
> do, because I can't get them to work at all. I was wondering if anyone  
> knew how to read a comma delimited list using format strings, such as  
>  
> Readf, lun, variable, FORMAT='(n(F6.6, :, ","))'  
>  
> ...this is the way I would think that you should do it but this just  
> tells me that end of input record encountered.  
>  
> Does anyone know how to do it?#  
>  
> Cheers,  
> Phil Aldis

Phil -

I believe this takes someone old enough to have learned programming first in FORTRAN....

For formatted reads, you basically want to include only variable descriptors and spaces (nX), so the colon and "," are counterproductive.

Have you tried something of the form:

```
IDL> READF, lun, variable, FORMAT = '$(n(f6.6, 2x))
```

That is, you just want to skip the commas and read the floating-point variables.

Hope this is what you're looking for.

Joe Gurman

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