
Subject: need a quicker way to read ascii file w/a structure
Posted by [differentiable](#) on Tue, 05 Jun 2001 22:24:50 GMT
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OK. I've got an ascii file laid out in columns with a string in the first column, like this

```
yyyy-ddd // hh:mm:ss.ms 0 12 -1.00 -1.00 -1.00 -1.00
```

```
.  
.
.
```

(lots and lots of rows)

I defined a structure

```
mystruct = {utctime: ' ', mpos: 0, sector: 0, $  
            arate: 0.0, brate: 0.0, crate: 0.0, drate: 0.0}
```

I know the number of rows so I replicate,
`data = replicate(mystruct, num_of_rows)`

and I read,
`readf, myfilelun, data`

and find out that the entire row is read into my `mystruct.utctime` string variable. I've been hunting the message board and have tried many, many different things. The only thing I can think of doing at this point is reading my file in as a string array, separating it into variables, and feeding it into my structure. (I don't want to use an explicit format statement because the format varies....) This would take a LOT of time, and besides isn't there a more elegant way to do it? I'm looking through a few of the canned routines (Knight's DDREAD.PRO, etc...) that were suggested, but frankly I don't want to use anything I don't understand... please HELP!!

Thanks in advance! Lucas
