Subject: Re: template for READ_ASCII
Posted by m.hadfield on Mon, 25 Jun 2001 02:23:35 GMT
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From: "Bob Fugate" <rqfugate@mindspring.com>

> My question is, can I save the template somehow so I don't have to
> regenerate it with ASCII_TEMPLATE each time I restart IDL and want to
read
> new tables? I realize I only have to run ASCII_TEMPLATE once each session
> but I would like to make this completely automatic and so I don't have to
> manually go through the GUI each day. It is not a really big deal but I am
> getting greedy.

The template is an IDL structure. You can save it to disk with SAVE and
restore it with RESTORE.

Here's how I would do it:

```
function read_myfile, file
   common myblock, template
   if n_elements(template) eq 0 then begin
      template_file = <specify your template file name here>
      case file_test(template_file, /READ) of
         0: begin
            template = ascii_template(file)
            save, FILENAME=template_file
         end
         1: restore, FILENAME=template_file
      endif
   return, read_ascii(file, TEMPLATE=template)
end
```

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