Subject: Re: READF data containing numbers and strings
Posted by Doug Rowland on Thu, 30 May 2002 15:24:36 GMT
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You might also try using ASCII_TEMPLATE and READ_ASCII to see if you can interactively develop a template to read your data files.

On 05/30/02 9:51 AM, in article B91BA689.2C20%rowland@fields.space.umn.edu, "Doug Rowland" <rowland@fields.space.umn.edu> wrote:

> I would start with reading the entire line in as a single string, then parse
> it as follows:
>
> First of all, do you expect the text to be a single word, or to have spaces
> in it?
>
> If the text is a single word, then you can use the STRTRIM and STRCOMPRESS
> functions in conjunction with STR_SEP.
> STRTRIM cuts off leading and trailing blanks from a string
> STRCOMPRESS can either compress multiple whitespaces to a single space or
> remove them entirely.
> Then you could use STR_SEP as usual. Or you could use READS if you know the
> format and number of characters in each variable.
>
> But if you are using a recent version of IDL (5.5, though it may be present
> in earlier versions) you should use the STRSPLIT routine instead of STR_SEP.
> It reproduces the functionality of STR_SEP, which is now obsolete, but lets
> you use regular expressions. Those regular expressions might make all this
> even easier.
>
> If your text could have multiple words in it, this might all work if you
> know exactly what format the other variables have (ie if they are all
> four-digit integers or what have you). Then you could still do the
> strcompress and use some strmid routines to extract the string, knowing the
> start and end position of it from your knowledge of the other column widths.
>
> If you can't get this to work, why don't you explicitly post a few lines of
> your data file and tell us exactly what you can count on in the file in
> terms of known formats etc.
>
> Doug Rowland
> School of Physics and Astronomy
> University of Minnesota
> rowland@fields.space.umn.edu
>

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\> On 05/29/02 8:39 PM, in article 3cf5821f$1@nntp.kla-tencor.com, "Eric Vella"

\> <eric.vella.remove@kla-tencor.com> wrote:

\>

\>\> I need to read data from a file which contain lines with mixed variables

\>\> including strings, for example "1 2 text 3". I tried "READF, int1, int2,

\>\> str1, int3", but str1 gobbles up the rest of the line, leaving nothing for

\>\> int3. This happens even if I supply an explicit format like A4 for the

\>\> string. I can read the entire line into a single string, but then how do I

\>\> separate the variables? STR_SEP does not work, since the separation

\>\> character has to be a blank, and there can be multiple blanks between

\>\> variables. I am hoping there is something simple I am missing (as is

\>\> usually the case with IDL, simple only after you know the answer) ....

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