
Subject: Re: readcol procedure
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 11 Sep 2002 06:33:24 GMT
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Don J Lindler wrote:

```
> "shih I Chun" <icshih@astro.soton.ac.uk> wrote in message
> news:all9bs$9pp$1@aspen.sucs.soton.ac.uk...
>
>> Hi,
>>
>> READCOL is a procedure in the IDL Astronomy Library. I usually use it to
>> read ASCII files for further analysis.
>>
>> The program also indicates the amount of lines in the file. My question
>> then is how to retrieve this information so that I can use it in my
>> own program?
>>
>
>
>
> If you are only interested in how many valid lines are read, try:
>
>   readcol, 'filename', var1, ...
>   nlines = n_elements(var1)
>
> Good luck,
> Don
>
>
```

Dear all

this routine is platform dependent because it uses a unix shell command.
I like unix but it's not a problem for idl to determine this itselfs.

Perhaps you can try the routine file_line I have defined in 1996 and
which was improved later by Paul Krummel. You can find this routine by
David at http://www.dfanning.com/tip_examples/file_line.pro

Or the master one at our icg library.
The improvements are different. (Paul has added a lot of comments)

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/fileline.tar.gz
or as idl 5.5 binary
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/fileline.sav

If you have a look at the actual Ascii import thread you get much more

diskussions about this theme.

regards

Reimar

--

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html