
Subject: Re: accessing data from READ_ASCII

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 26 May 2004 13:53:48 GMT

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Andreas Ernst writes:

```
> So the file contains basically 1500 lines with 14 columns of data,
> from which the second column contains strings, which I don't need.
> I tried to read it with the READ_ASCII routine, but I did not find
> out how to access the data structure afterwards. My code looks like
> this:
>
> sigc = FLTARR(till1)
> sig=READ_ASCII(file1, num_records=till1)
> sigc=REFORM(sig.(3))
> PRINT, sigc[0]
>
> till1 is 1500 in this case. sigc should contain the third
> column of the data file, and as an example I would like to
> print out the first datum in this column, which belongs to
> the first row of data. I also tried the following expression
>
> PRINT, (sig.(3))[0]
>
> and
>
> PRINT sig(3,0)
>
> but neither of these possibilities works.
> How to deal with that?
```

When I read your example data with the code you supply above the variable "sig" is a structure containing one field, FIELD01, which is a 14 by 3 float array. The third column would then be:

```
col3 = reform((sig.(0))[2,*])
```

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
