
Subject: Re: Help needed: read procedure for SCAN-data (soil climate analysis network)

Posted by peter.albert@gmx.de on Mon, 26 Sep 2005 13:52:04 GMT

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Hi Daniel,

from a quick glance at the website, I'd guess that the files come as plain ASCII files. In that case, you might start with something like

```
openr, lun, filename
line = ""
while not eof(lun) do begin
  readf, lun, line
  print, line
  elements = strsplit(line, /extract)
  help, elements
endwhile
free_lun, lun
```

With the "openr" command you open the file for reading. Each subsequent call to "readf" reads one line into the (string) variable "line" defined in the second line. Most likely you can separate the individual pieces of information contained in this line with the "strsplit" command, if not, you will have to have a close look into the manual and learn something about the "format" keyword to "readf". Each individual element can then be addressed e.g. like

```
data = elements[2]
```

which will give you the third element in that line. (IDL starts counting at zero.)

If you don't have ASCII files but HDF, netcdf or similar, things are different, but easier. Just tell us.

Regards,

Peter
