
Subject: Reading both strings and floats from an ASCII file
Posted by [Juan Arrieta](#) on Tue, 28 Feb 2006 00:23:47 GMT
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Dear all:

The output of a trajectory optimization routine looks as follows:

COLS: 5

ROWS: 110

NAMES: <U1><U2><STATE 1><STATE 2><FINAL STATE>

6.0000E+00 -3.3333E-01 -1.8329E+00 5.0000E-01

-3.6879E-01

1.2000E+01 -3.3333E-01 -1.1517E+00 5.0000E-01

-2.1062E+00

... (more rows)

I would like to read the NAMES into an array so I can, say, create the plot labels in a more efficient manner. The names can change from a few letters to a few words (i.e. unknown width). Also, the number of columns (thus names) can change drastically.

I know how to read the number of columns, rows, and the data itself. Only the names are giving me a headache. Any pointers, IDL experts?

Thanks a lot!

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