Subject: Re: reading in | delimited files into multiple arrays
Posted by Jo Klein on Fri, 09 Jun 2006 16:30:08 GMT

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> How do you read in a | delimited file in to multiple arrays, one for
> each column of the data?

I guess there are many ways to do this - how about splitting each line
using strsplit? Is the number of columns per line fixed? You could for
example first find out the number of lines to process using FILE_LINES,
then provide an array for intermediate storage:

```
number_of_columns=5
myfile='something.txt'
n=file_lines(myfile)
arr=make_array(5,n,/STRING)
openr,unit,myfile,/get_lun

for i=0,n-1 do BEGIN
   readf,unit,line
   arr[*,i]=strsplit(line,'|',/extract)
endfor
close,unit
free_lun,unit
```

Then, you can reform this into individual arrays, eg.:

```
secondcolumn=reform(arr[1,*])
```

Haven't tested this, but give it a try.
Cheers,
Jo