Subject: Re: Reading columns of binary data
Posted by news.verizon.net on Mon, 07 Aug 2006 17:41:07 GMT
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> ; openr, 1, ...
> arr=assoc(1, data)
> result=arr[0:*:100]
>
> however, it has a big disadvantage of using huge memory for data. My
> feature request would be an "assoc, unit, type, dimensions, [offset]"
> system function, as the value of data in never used.
>

Yes, I agree with that feature request. But even if it were implemented I'm not sure that it solves my original question. From the documentation for ASSOC about multiple subscripts

"Although the ability to directly refer to array elements within an associated file can be convenient, it can also be very slow because every access to an array element causes the entire array to be transferred to or from memory."

So my impression is that this is not any better than reading the entire array and subscripting a column.

--Wayne

P.S. Anybody know if the V6.3 documentation below from ASSOC() is still valid? I stopped worrying about the block size of file system years ago.

"Arrays are accessed most efficiently if their length is an integer multiple of the block size of the filesystem holding the file. Common values are powers of 2, such as 512, 2K (2048), 4K (4096), or 8K (8192) bytes. For example, on a disk with 512-byte blocks, one benchmark program required approximately one-eighth of the time required to read a 512 x 512-byte image that started and ended on a block boundary, as compared to a similar program that read an image that was not stored on even block boundaries. "