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Subject: Re: Data management... but Execution halts!!! T.T  
Posted by [greg michael](#) on Tue, 14 Nov 2006 15:29:00 GMT  
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The problem with `read_ascii` is the template. If your file has anything other than a trivial format (as this one does) - i.e. a header of some sort, or mixed types, you need to use a template. And you can't (reasonably) generate this programmatically, but only via the `ascii_template` GUI function. Try it, then you'll want to learn the other way...

regards,  
Greg

Jeff N. wrote:

```
> Do people not use READ_ASCII()? Is it really slow, or tempermental or
> something? I saved the original poster's data to a text file, and this
> seemed to work for me:
>
> data = read_ascii('file.txt', delimiter='|')
>
> There's a NaN on the end that I'd have to chop off, but that's easily
> done, but it also makes me wonder if the function doesn't work in a lot
> of cases maybe? I confess i've never used it myself before now, but
> that's b/c i never knew it existed until a few minutes ago :)
>
> Jeff
>
>
>
> kim20026@gmail.com wrote:
>> I requested some meteological data to a governmental institute. To
>> reduce the file size, they sent me this way...
>>
>> 90|2000|1|1|25|25|26|26|26|25|26|28|31|34|36|39|40|38|38|37|
35|33|35|37|34|34|35|29|90|2000|1|2|30|32|29|28|31|33|55|65|
74|68|72|75|71|83|85|77|69|60|51|43|41|34|34|29|90|2000|1|3|
25|20|12|9|8|5|-2|-3|14|27|31|42|51|54|48|51|37|28|15|11|6|-
12|0|-13|90|2000|1|4|-7|-5|-8|-10|-21|-21|-13|-18|-2|23|36|4
0|50|49|42|37|29|22|9|3|0|0|5|4|90|2000|1|5|1|4|12|10|15|15|
9|6|0|-1|1|3|5|4|4|6|8|8|10|9|9|13|13|17|90|2000|1|6|17|18|2
3|23|24|28|28|27|25|26|45|73|87|90|81|72|58|54|39|19|-2|-11|
-17|-26|90|2000|1|7|-31|-39|-43|-55|-67|-77|-85|-86|-78|-71|
-63|-63|-52|-43|-39|-41|-49|-51|-53|-54|-58|-53|-54|-57|90|2
000|1|8|-57|-52|-49|-48|-45|-39|-36|-30|-25|-18|-11|-8|0|2|1 2|7|-3|-7|-7|-7|-6|-16|-15|-17|
>> ...
>>
```

```

>> This is only one line, but contains a matrix of 28 columns * 157824L
>> rows. As you guys may know, Excel can only 65,000 rows approximately,
>> and I need to divide this into three to read this file correctly.
>>
>> I have tried like this so far, but everytime I try, I have the same
>> error message and the program stops.
>>
>>
>> -----
>> Pro temp1
>>
>> ; Main working directory (location of IDL procedures and functions)
>> WorkDir      = 'D:\MODIS_Documents\MetData\IDLPractice'
>>
>> s=""
>> Openr, 1, 'temp1.txt'
>> Readf, 1, s
>> print, strlen(s)
>> close, 1
>>
>> data=fix(strsplit(s, '|', /extract))
>> help, data
>> data=reform(data, 28, 157824L) ; <- Execution halts right here
>> everytime!!!
>> print, data[*, 0]
>> print, data[*, 1]
>>
>> for i=0L, 157824-1 do begin
>>     if i mod 52608L eq 0 then begin
>>         close, /all
>>         file_no=i / 52608L + 1 ; 1, 2, 3
>>         openw, 1, 'out'+string(file_no, format='(I1)')+'.txt'
>> ;ex) out1.txt
>>     endif
>>     printf, 1, strjoin(string(data[*, i], format='(I4)'), ", ")
>>
>> endfor
>> close, /all
>> end
>> -----
>>
>> Please let me know if you have any solutions (or suggestions at least.
>> It's urgent!! T.T)

```

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