
Subject: Re: read_ascii for many rows / possible to create automatic names for variables

Posted by [britta.mey](#) on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 15:57:23 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Dec 5, 4:40 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Britta writes:

>> The first column are seconds, second column - hour, third - minutes,
>> fourth - seconds (if idl doesn't count column 2 to 4 as one column) ,
>> sixth to tenth - data output from the spectrometer. The result of
>> colMeans(6) should be approximately 136 (more or less :-), in the
>> original file there are a lot more columns and also more rows). For
>> print, colMeans(6) i obtain 1974.44. :-(

>

> Well, if I take the data you sent me, and I run the program

> I sent you, then this is what I get:

>

> IDL> print, colmeans(6)

> 135.808

>

> So, I don't know what the problem might be.

>

> You will have a problem with that first column, since IDL won't

> read a number with two decimal points in it, but that is not

> changing things otherwise, and if you are not using the first

> column, I wouldn't worry about it.

>

>> Is the value 2 in colMeans = Total(data, 2)/rows the number of

>> dimensions? Why do i use 2? To obtain a 1-dimensional array (scalar)

>> as a result?

>

> The two indicates that the total should be obtained over the

> 2nd dimension. That is, over the rows. In other words, add up

> the values in the columns.

>

>> I'm quite sure that these are really stupid questions for you, so

>> thank you for your patience.

>

> No, the stupid questions I refuse to answer. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>

> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Hi,

this really confuses me. Sometimes i think i have a bad aura concerning computers :-). If you agree I would send you the original file for a short test, because at the moment i have no idea what my mistake is.

The syntax I use is the copy of your suggestion (see below):

```
-----  
rows = File_Lines('PATH\FILENAME.dat')  
Openr, lun, 'PATH\FILENAME.dat', /Get_Lun  
line = ""  
ReadF, lun, line  
cols = N_Elements(STRSplit(line, ' ', /Extract))  
Point_lun, lun, 0  
data = FltArr(cols, rows)  
ReadF, lun, data  
Free_Lun, lun  
  
colMeans = Total(data, 2)/rows  
  
print, colMeans(6)  
  
end  
-----
```

Cheers,

Britta
