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Subject: Re: Group specification of format codes on data of varying dimensions

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 09 Jun 2008 14:33:38 GMT

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cgoethel@igpp.ucla.edu wrote:

> Hi All,  
>  
> I am having trouble figuring out how to use group specification of  
> formats when my data has varying dimensions. For example:  
>  
> for i = 0!, c-1 do begin  
> printf, lun, time\_string, data[i,\*], format='(12a,  
> ncol(2x,e10.15))'  
> endfor  
>  
> I would like to repeat the format (2x,e10.15) for the number of  
> columns in data[i,\*]. However, the number of columns varies. When I  
> use a variable in the format statement, I get the error 'Expected  
> comma or slash'.  
> Any suggestions on how to handle this?

Build your format string using string operations:

```
format = '(12a, ' + strtrim(ncol, 2) + '(2x,e10.15))'  
printf, lun, time_string, data[i,*], format=format
```

If you can construct it outside the loop, even better.

Mike

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