Subject: reading an ascii file efficiently
Posted by natha on Fri, 27 Nov 2009 18:11:09 GMT
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Hi guys,

I'm reading an ascii file and I can do that using different methods.
Now, I'm trying to use the most efficiently method. I do something
like this:

```
lines=FILE_LINES(file)
rr=STRARR(lines)
OPENR, lun, file, /GET_LUN
READF, lun, rr
FREE_LUN, lun
```

Now i have all the information in rr variable. Each line have the
following information:
280 , 0 , 280 , 0 , -58.085 , -32.616 , -32.000
or
15 , 1 , 15 , 1 , -60.908 , -32.603 , -32.000

And I need to return only the last value, so -32.000. I can use
STRSPLIT or STRMID with STRPOS but is not efficient so I'm trying to
use READS for each line. Something like this:

```
aux=0.
result=FLTARR(lines)
FOR i=0l, lines-1 DO BEGIN
READS, rr[i], aux, aux, aux, aux, aux, aux, aux,
FORMAT='(F0,",",F0,",",F0,",",F0,",",F0,",",F0,", ",F0,",",)'
result[i]=aux
ENDFOR
```

You can see that I don't know how to use the FORMAT keyword properly
so maybe you have an idea of how to skip the first 6 values.
Using a template, strsplit, etc. I found that this is the most
efficient way to read this *@#$* file.

Thanks if you can help me with this format or if you have a
suggestion.

nata