
Subject: Re: How to read data with format codes?

Posted by [penteado](#) on Sun, 14 Mar 2010 01:45:52 GMT

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On Mar 13, 10:20 pm, Adam Solomon <rampa...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Thanks! I was going to do that but I read on this website - dfanning
> something or other - to avoid for loops in IDL :) Figured a format
> code would save time since there's on the order of 10^6 data points
> here, but I guess that's nothing compared to all the time I'm spending
> writing the damn code!

In this case, it is too awkward to avoid a loop. It would be easy if
strpos accepted an array as its pos argument (which it really should,
to work nicely with strmid):

```
nlines=file_lines(file)
a=strarr(nlines)
openr,unit,file,/get_lun
readf,unit,a
free_lun,unit
;Get rid of the initial |
pos=transpose(strpos(a,'|'))
a=strmid(a,pos+1)
;Extract the first column
pos=transpose(strpos(a,'|'))
col1=double(strmid(a,0,pos))
a=strmid(a,pos+1)
;Extract the second column
pos=transpose(strpos(a,'|'))
col2=double(strmid(a,0,pos))
a=strmid(a,pos+1)
;Extract the third column
pos=transpose(strpos(a,'|'))
col3=double(strmid(a,0,pos))
```
