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

Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Sun, 14 Mar 2010 17:23:59 GMT

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In article

<e5bdbfda-121a-41fb-8204-57764e0cc70d@g10g2000yqh.googlegroups.com>, Adam Solomon <ramparts@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!

When you are doing I/O, the slow parts of the operation are most likely to be getting the data from the disk and converting ASCII numerals to their internal binary representation. Using a loop should have little impact on the time required.

Ken Bowman
