

---

Subject: Re: Extracting variables from ascii files that are not in columnar format  
Posted by [Gray](#) on Fri, 09 Apr 2010 19:51:09 GMT

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

---

On Apr 9, 3:21 pm, nata <bernat.puigdomen...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> I'll try something like that
>
> aux=""
> OPENR, un$lun, file, /GET_LUN
>
> WHILE ~EOF(un$lun) DO BEGIN
>
> READF, un$lun, aux
>
> aux_str=STRSPLIT(aux,' ',/EXTRACT)
>
> PRINT, 'label', aux_str[0:1]
> PRINT, 'values', aux_str[2:*]
>
> ;; Then you can concatenate, etc...
>
> ENDWHILE
>
> FREE_LUN, un$lun
```

Or, you can read everything at once with `file_lines` and a string array, then loop through the array and `strsplit`. If you know that every line has the same format, you can use `astrolib`'s `gettok` to pick out the header names. Printing in columns like that is a little more complicated, and requires padding. Example:

```
n = file_lines(file)
data = strarr(n)
heads = strarr(n)
openr, unit, file, /get_lin
readf, unit, data
close, unit & free_lun, unit
heads = gettok(data, '=')
print, heads, format='('+n+'A12)'
lens = intarr(n)
for i=0L,n-1 do lens[i] = n_elements(strsplit(data[i],/regex))
npad = max(lens)
padded_data = strarr(n,npad)
for i=0L,n-1 do padded_data[i,0] = strsplit(data[i],/regex)
print, transpose(padded_data), format='('+n+'A12)'
```

---