Subject: Re: Reading complicated ASCII data
Posted by Tone M R on Wed, 30 Jun 2010 08:34:52 GMT
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On Jun 29, 8:36 pm, Chris W <cwood1...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Jun 29, 8:05 am, Tone M R <tone...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>
>
>
>
>> Hi!
>
>> I've been racking my brains and the web for the best part of a day,
>> but have not managed to find anything useful to solve my problem,
>> which is this:
>
>> I've got an automatically generated .txt file of rainfall measurements
>> which I need to read. I'm having trouble with the format of the file,
>> which looks more or less like this:
>> --- -----
>> [block of not-so-interesting information]
>
>>   Date Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep
>> Oct   Nov Dec
>>   1   0.5 1.4   . 4.7   .   .
>> 0.1   .   .   .   .
>>   2   0.6 0.3 3.9   .   .   .   .   .
>> 4.0   .   .
>>   3   5.8 1.6 4.9 0.1 3.1 3.4 4.4 0.2 0.9
>> 1.4   .
>>   4   2.0 5.1 1.9 0.2 0.5 6.7 3.3   . 1.1
>> 0.1   .
>>   5   6.8 0.6 9.7   . 2.7 0.8 1.6 2.4
>> 0.7   .   .
>> ... and so forth, for an entire year. - a 13x31 table of floats.
>
>> [new block of non-helpful stuff]
>
>> [new block of data for another year]
>> --- -----------
>> etc..., for a total of ten years.
>
>> The table of figures is actually in straight columns, a column per
>> month, with a dot wherever a measurement is zero. (There are also
>> blank spaces at the bottom of each table, for dates such as feb 30th.)
>> I've managed to work around the headers and identify where a table
>> starts, and what I wanted to do was to read the entire thing into a

>> nice structure array I've prepared. However, when using READF, IDL
>> stops when trying to convert a dot to a float (understandably), and I
>> haven't managed to solve it with a format code. I have thought about
>> using STRSPLIT and WHERE to replace them, but then I have to go one
>> line at a time, and I was rather hoping to make something a little
>> more elegant.
>
>> Does anyone see a way around these dots?
>
> How about reading the whole file into one string,
> Use strsplit and split at " . " (assuming those are spaces not tabs)
> then strjoin with " 0 "
>
> Chris- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

Everyone, thanks a lot! Now I know which way to go, which is
reassuring, even though this might get messy;)

Tone