
Subject: Re: reading large multicolumn data file
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 06 Aug 2010 14:46:21 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

bio_amateur writes:

- > Now, plotting is pretty fast. However, data reading is still slow,
- > compared to xmgrace. Is there a better way than using the 2 steps:
- > read the data into a structure, and convert a structure to an array as
- > the way I did.
- >
- > The second question is xmgrace automatically choose one color for each
- > data field (Y1, Y2, ...). However, with direct graphics in IDL, I only
- > get one single color. How could we resolve this in IDL.

I'd try something like this:

```
rows = File_Lines(filename)
data = FltArr(4, rows)
Openr, lun, filename, /Get_Lun
ReadF, lun, data
Free_Lun, data
data = Transpose(data)
```

```
colors = ['black', 'white', 'red', 'green', 'blue']
Plot, data[*],0], data[1,*], Background=FSC_Color(colors[1]), $
    Color=FSC_Color(colors[0]), /NoData
FOR j=1,3 DO OPlot, data[*],0], data[*],j], COLOR=FSC_Color(colors[j+1])
```

You can find FSC_Color in the Coyote Library:

<http://www.dfanning.com/documents/programs.html>

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
