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Subject: Re: Read large ascii file quickly  
Posted by [Paul Magdon](#) on Fri, 07 Jan 2011 12:01:04 GMT  
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Dear All,  
I tried some of your ideas:

1.) @ pp data=reform((read\_csv('file.dat')).(5),5000,5000)

works fine but takes the same time as with the loop. (David was expecting that :))

2.)@ David ReadF, lun, data, Format='(44x,l0)'

does not work as the dataset also includes negative values where 44x is not correct any longer

3.) @ MC Also, I think you can read the data in one go into a single big array -so no loop needed as EOF stops the read with an error message -you can then catch the EOF error generated

How to do that?

So, still I didn't have a faster solution.

X.) Yeah, people who put big data sets in columns should be shot

I totally agree but since I need to process so called arff files there is no other way to do it. Our does anyone knows an implementation of RandomForest classifiers in IDL?

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