
Subject: Re: question on READ_CSV

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 05 Mar 2013 04:20:15 GMT

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andry writes:

> I have a CSV file (example below)

>

> 1,11,06,30,12,57,30,00,,69,39

> 2,11,06,30,13,17,30,00,,68,39

> 3,11,06,30,13,37,30,00,,77,52

> 4,11,06,30,13,57,30,00,,70,44

> 5,11,06,30,14,17,30,00,,72,64

>

> When I read the above file with READ_CSV

> a=READ_CSV(flnm, missing_value=-9999)

>

> I expect the column 9 (starting from 1) to be -9999. However, it skips that column as if there is no column with missing value at all.

>

> Does somebody know how I can force the function to assign the right missing value to that column?

Here is the problem:

```
IDL> str = '1,11,06,30,12,57,30,00,,69,39'
```

```
IDL> parts = StrSplit(str, ',', /Extract)
```

```
IDL> Help, parts
```

```
  PARTS      STRING  = Array[10]
```

```
IDL> FOR j=0,N_Elements(parts)-1 DO Print, parts[j]
```

```
1
```

```
  11
```

```
  06
```

```
  30
```

```
  12
```

```
  57
```

```
  30
```

```
  00
```

```
  69
```

```
  39
```

You see, the column has disappeared.

I don't think whoever wrote this program envisioned an entire COLUMN going missing. They were thinking about specific values in otherwise intact columns going missing.

I think I would try to find a way to stick my -9999 between those two

extra commas in the data file.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
