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Subject: Re: Reading large files with restore  
Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Fri, 20 Sep 2013 16:46:42 GMT  
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Let me see if I understand:

- 1) You have a save file with a \*lot\* of data.
- 2) You'd like to restore and work with some of the data.
- 3) It takes a long time to restore everything in the file and extract just what you want.

If this is correct, then the IDLSave\_File object is what you're after.

Consider a save file created with :  
SAVE, var1, var2, file='idl.sav'

Then you can get \*just\* var1 with  
sObj = OBJ\_NEW('IDL\_Savefile', 'idl.sav')  
sObj->RESTORE, 'var1'  
OBJ\_DESTROY, sObj ;when you're done with the file

There are ways to get the variable names if you don't know them a priori. Check out:  
[http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/IDL\\_Savefile.html](http://www.exelisvis.com/docs/IDL_Savefile.html)

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