
Subject: Re: read a multi-line string in IDL? or, read numeric values sequentially without automatic <CR>?

Posted by [Phillip Bitzer](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2014 19:33:14 GMT

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And if you don't know the number of values in the file a priori, you can do this:

```
file = 'test.txt'
nLines = FILE_LINES(file)
strA = STRARR(nLines) ;define an array to hold the "raw" data

OPENR, lun, file, /GET_LUN
READF, lun, strA ;read in the "raw" data, i.e., the data as it is in the file
FREE_LUN, lun

strJ = STRJOIN(strA) ;join all the data to one line

nVal = N_ELEMENTS(STRSPLIT(strJ)) ;number of values

arr = FLTARR(nVal) ;an array to hold the numbers

READS, strJ, arr ;read 'em in

cgPlot, arr ;or whatever
```

Notice that this does not give the same number of elements that you provide. For example, I get 230 values....
