Subject: Re: Reading in date & time from csv file
Posted by Phillip Bitzer on Mon, 19 May 2014 15:27:32 GMT
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On Sunday, May 18, 2014 3:25:45 PM UTC-5, justinclouds wrote:
>
> Can anybody help with what needs to be changed here to read this correctly or suggest an alternate method.
>
>

So, the problem seems to be READ_CSV doesn't seem to detect the first column is a string, correct?

```
IDL> f = 'test.txt'
IDL> data = READ_CSV(f)

IDL> help, data
** Structure <247e2b8>, 2 tags, length=64, data length=64, refs=1:
   FIELD1          DOUBLE   Array[4]
   FIELD2          DOUBLE   Array[4]
IDL> print, data.field1
     2014.0000     2014.0000     2014.0000     2014.0000
```

Not sure why - but I don't use READ_CSV much.

Using READCOL works just fine, as I can specify the format of each column easily:
```
IDL> READCOL, f, date, val, FORMAT='A, F'

IDL> print, date
2014_05_12_18_39_33.194 2014_05_12_19_39_33.194 2014_05_12_20_39_33.194
2014_05_12_21_39_33.194
```

Then, you can use STR_SPLIT as Matt suggested...if you're on IDL 8. Otherwise, you'll have to get fancy with STREGEX.

Here's the test file I used:

2014_05_12_18_39_33.194, 1.0
2014_05_12_19_39_33.194, 2.0
2014_05_12_20_39_33.194, 3.0
2014_05_12_21_39_33.194, 4.0