
Subject: Re: Reading in date & time from csv file
Posted by [justinclouds](#) on Mon, 19 May 2014 15:39:00 GMT
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On Monday, May 19, 2014 9:27:32 AM UTC-6, Phillip Bitzer wrote:

> 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.

>
>>
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>>
>
>
>
>
> 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
```

Thanks. I did just what you suggested and we must have been posting this at the same time!
Thanks!
