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Subject: Re: TRICKY TASK USING AWK

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Tue, 01 Mar 2016 15:39:33 GMT

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On Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 1:08:03 AM UTC-5, Sapna Mishra wrote:

> Hi wlandsman ,

> Is this code reads the contents of columns or it returns the no. of columns to be read???

Why don't you try it and find out yourself? (It does the same thing as your spawn to "awk".)

> If it is the case then my problem remains unsolved because i want to READ columns from a file without knowing how much column does this file has. Say If I have infinite number of columns And I want to read 100th column how would I do that, shall I need to give 100 parameters in Readcol?? This seems tough to me.

If your data is all numeric then the easiest thing is to use READ\_ASCII

```
output = read_ascii('myfile.dat')
```

the output array will contain all the data. Then just select the column of the array you want.

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