Subject: Re: Formatted read of text file
Posted by Andy Bristow on Thu, 12 Jun 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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Matt Cheselka wrote:
>
> I have a file that contains row and column data like the following:
>
> # I E E_conv E_bl E_saa Resid_RMS
> # 0 3.512799e-05 3.512799e-05 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 3.512799e-05
> 1 1.445887e-05 1.445921e-05 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 1.445921e-05
> 2 7.363944e-06 7.364333e-06 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 7.364333e-06
> .
> .
> .
>
> So my question is a two-parter.
>
> First, how to I skip the first two lines of this file?
>
> Second, what is proper way to do a formatted read of each of the 6 columns in
> the remaining rows? I would like to have each column value put into its
> own array so I can then plot/print out each column individually.
>
> My guess is that I have to use and OPENR first to open the file, but that
> may not even be the best way to do it.
>

Okay. You hit the nail with the OPENR guess. You don't really need a FORMAT statement or anything - the data will read in fine without one as long as there is at least 1 space between each column. Something like this should work.

```
;+++
rubbish=''
; open the file
openr,1,filename
; read the 2 first lines to get to the data
readf,1,rubbish
readf,1,rubbish
; num is number of rows of data
; set up a data array for floating numbers - don't worry about the integer in the
; 1st column, it will work
data=fltarr(6,num)
; read the data
readf,1,data
;close the file
close,1
```

;+++

You would then have a 6 x num array. You could split this up into 6
individual arrays with:

```
array1=reform(data(0,*))
array2=reform(data(1,*))
```

etc

The first column is a integer, so if you want it in integer form just do

```
array1=fix(array1)
```

Hope this helps

Andy

P.S. If you don't know how may rows are in the file (for the num
variable, above), then start the same, declare a temporary array
(temp=fltarr(6)) and a main data array big enough to hold the maximum
amount of data yuo will read in (data(fltarr(6,maxnum)). Then

```
count=0
while NOT(EOF(1)) do begin
  readf,1,temp
  data(*,count)=temp(*)
  count=count+1
endwhile
```

Then reform the data according to how many records there actually were:

```
data=reform(data(*,0:count-1))
```

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