
Subject: Read an ASCII file in a table based on delimiter line string

Posted by [burkina](#) on Thu, 21 Jul 2016 15:36:53 GMT

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Hi everyone,

suppose I have a file like this one (there will be no regularity in the real ones!):

```
a 1
b 2
c 3
####
d 4
e 5
f 6
g 7
####
h 8
####
```

I want to read in IDL in separated arrays:

```
x[0]=[a,b,c]
x[1]=[d,e,f,g]
x[2]=[h]
```

```
y[0]=[1,2,3]
y[1]=[4,5,6,7]
y[2]=[8]
```

or a table t[2,8], or something equivalent.

In practice, I would like to use something like readcol but with IDL understanding the reading should stop every time it encounters a delimiter (#### in this case), and then start again separating the arrays for each set.

How can I do that?

Thanks,

Stefano
