
Subject: Re: storing ASCII_TEMPLATE templates for later use

Posted by [Theo Brauers](#) on Fri, 06 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Henk wrote:

>
> Hi,
>
> Is it possible to reuse ASCII_TEMPLATE structures for later use ?
> I find it a very handy tool to describe ascii files, but I don't want to do
> the whole procedure everytime I read a data file. Therefore I would like to
> know how I can store the resulting structure in a file, or type it in in a
> procedure. I will then be able to make a generic file reading routine for
> all my data files.
> Sorry if this is a stupid question, still learning...
>
> Thanks,
>
> Henk

This should work:

```
PRO create_template(file)
mytemplate = ASCII_TEMPLATE(file)
SAVE, mytemplate, FILENAME='/somewhere/mytemplate.sav'
END
```

```
FUNCTION reuse_template(file)
RESTORE, FILENAME='/somewhere/mytemplate.sav'
data = READ_ASCII(file, TEMPLATE=mytemplate)
RETURN, data
END
```

Best Theo

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