
Subject: Re: Reading tab delimited string data
Posted by [Ivan Zimine](#) on Fri, 13 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Andy Loughe wrote:

>
> Hello,
>
> I have some output from a MySQL dump that looks like this...
>
> id date height coverage yy yn ny nn
> 1388 2000-07-01 all all 114 404 240 28452
> 1388 2000-07-01 all low 114 404 240 28452
> 1388 2000-07-01 high all 114 404 240 28452
> 1388 2000-07-01 all all 114 404 240 28452
>
> I get the data into IDL via this command...
>
> spawn, 'mysql < sql_script.sql', data
> IDL> help, data
> DATA STRING = Array[5] ; 5 rows of string data (tabs inserted).
>
> Basically, I am working with tab delimited data with a varying number
> of columns and a varying number of rows, depending upon the sql query.
>
> I am able to store the data from each column into a separate IDL vector,
> id=[] date=[] height=[], etc. but the approach is to LOOP
> through all rows, do a str_sep(row, string(9B)), and then direct the
> result into the proper index of the IDL vector.
>
> Looping through all the rows and manipulating each line of string data
> can't be the fastest approach. Can someone suggest a faster method?
>
> I thought of ASSOC, and also wondered about str_sep on arrays,
> or maybe some of the new str routines. Any thoughts?
>
> Your kind suggestions are appreciated.
>

Just a thought...

If you have many rows and not so many cols make MySQL do the work

```
IDL> spawn, 'mysql < get_id.sql', id  
IDL> spawn, 'mysql < get_date.sql', date
```

...

--

Ivan Zimine | ivan.zimine@physics.unige.ch
Dpt. of Radiology | (+41 22) 372 70 70

Subject: Re: Reading tab delimited string data
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 13 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Andy Loughe wrote:

>
> Hello,
>
> I have some output from a MySQL dump that looks like this...
>
> id date height coverage yy yn ny nn
> 1388 2000-07-01 all all 114 404 240 28452
> 1388 2000-07-01 all low 114 404 240 28452
> 1388 2000-07-01 high all 114 404 240 28452
> 1388 2000-07-01 all all 114 404 240 28452
>
> I get the data into IDL via this command...
>
> spawn, 'mysql < sql_script.sql', data
> IDL> help, data
> DATA STRING = Array ; 5 rows of string data (tabs inserted).
>
> Basically, I am working with tab delimited data with a varying number
> of columns and a varying number of rows, depending upon the sql query.
>
> I am able to store the data from each column into a separate IDL vector,
> id=[] date=[] height=[], etc. but the approach is to LOOP
> through all rows, do a str_sep(row, string(9B)), and then direct the
> result into the proper index of the IDL vector.
>
> Looping through all the rows and manipulating each line of string data
> can't be the fastest approach. Can someone suggest a faster method?
>
> I thought of ASSOC, and also wondered about str_sep on arrays,
> or maybe some of the new str routines. Any thoughts?
>
> Your kind suggestions are appreciated.
>
> --
> Andrew Loughe =====
> NOAA/OAR/FSL/AD R/FS5 | email: loughe@fsl.noaa.gov
> 325 Broadway | wwwweb: www-ad.fsl.noaa.gov/users/loughe
> Boulder, CO 80305-3328 | phone: 303-497-6211 fax: 303-497-6301

off the top of my head I can only think of using structures. You can dynamically create a template structure (just as you set up your column vectors) with Create_Struct, e.g. template = Create_Struct(id:0L, 'date',", 'height',", 'coverage',", '\$ 'yy',0L, 'yn',0L, 'ny',0L, 'nn',0L)

Then you have two options:

(1) if you don't know the number of rows coming out of your query (well, this applies more to results stored in a file), you can either use a linecount program and use approach 2 afterwards, or you still loop line by line and use a "block data" technique to enlarge your structure array by e.g. 100 elements at a time.

(2) if you know how many lines to expect, you should be able to "read" your data as

```
result = replicate(template, 5)
reads, data, result
```

Hope this helps,
Martin

```
--
[[ Dr. Martin Schultz  Max-Planck-Institut fuer Meteorologie  [[
[[           Bundesstr. 55, 20146 Hamburg           [[
[[           phone: +49 40 41173-308           [[
[[           fax: +49 40 41173-298           [[
[[ martin.schultz@dkrz.de           [[
[[           [[           [[           [[           [[
```
