

---

Subject: reading files with date- and time - columns  
Posted by [Zeschke](#) on Mon, 26 Feb 2001 11:09:24 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hallo,

I have files for example in such a format:

```
File : s.log
;DATE      TIME      n x VALUES
23.01.2001 08:39:41 21 21.4 0
23.01.2001 08:40:16 21 21.3 0
23.01.2001 08:40:51 21 21.3 0
23.01.2001 08:41:26 21 21.4 0
```

or such a format:

```
;DATE      TIME      n x VALUES
2/23/2001  08:39:41.643 34.660
2/23/2001  08:49:41.456 34.960
```

I cannot find a solution for reading the date- and timeformat. My best result was this :

```
IDL> openr,1,'s.log'
IDL> readf,1,format='(C(CDI3,".",CMOI3,".",CYI4,"
",CHI2,".",CMI2,".",CSI2))',x
IDL> print,x
  2.45193e+06
IDL> CALDAT, x, Month, Day, Year, Hour, Minute, Second
% Compiled module: CALDAT.
IDL>
IDL> print,Month, Day, Year, Hour, Minute, Second
      1      23      2001      0      0      0.00000000
IDL> print,!version
{ alpha vms vms 5.4 Sep 25 2000   32   32}
IDL> close,1
```

But where are the hours, minutes and seconds.

Thanks in advance  
Thomas Zeschke

---

---

Subject: Re: Reading files

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Sun, 30 Nov 2008 02:13:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Nov 29, 10:30 am, Wolfi <sfsdf.df...@yahoo.com> wrote:

```
> I'm trying to read a file, which is formed by words and numbers are
> follow
>
> name      0.2  4.1  6.0
> othename  1.6  3.2  5.2
> ...
> etc etc ...
>
> Usually I have been using the routine readcol, which works just fine,
> though it's limited at max 25 column (and it's not so fast for very
> large array of data).
>
> I was thinking to use
>
> matrix=fltarr(size)
> openr,1,'myfile'
> readf,1,matrix
> close,1
>
> but of course it get stuck because the first row is actually a string.
> Any idea how to do?
```

You could always use sed or awk or something to get rid of the first column before reading it into idl... something like:

```
matrix = fltarr(ncols,nrows)
spawn, 'sed -e "s/^[^ ]* //" < filename', strippedfile
reads, strippedfile, matrix
```

(of course, that assumes that you're using an OS that has sed)

```
> Question number two. I want to read different files, named
> file1,file2,file3 etc ...
> Is there any way I can use a counter something like
>
> for i=1,3 do begin
>   readcol,'file"$i"'
>
> thanks in advance!
> M.
```

```
string(i, format='("%file%d")')
```

-Jeremy.

---