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Subject: Re: Ascii-import

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 11:34:09 GMT

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Thomas Jordi wrote:

- > it may sound dumb but i have problems importing ascii.
- > The file I want to import looks like this
- >
- > /path/filename.file
- > /path/filename.file
- > ...
- >
- > when using the toolbar button, I get the desired input, a struct
- > containing a field with as much strings as lines in the file.
- > But i like to use the `ascii_read` function, and this just doesnt work.
- > Well, it does work with a template, but then again I'm using this
- > graphical interface which I dont want to use.
- >
- > There isn't a keyword in the `read_ascii` function, to say only on record
- > per row, each row is a record, at least I dont find it. Perhaps it has
- > something to do with the fact, that I want to import strings and not
- > integers.
- >
- > any help would be appreciated
- >
- > tschordi

Dear Thomas,

you can try my `read_data_file` function.

This function determines itselfs data files.

In this version it's able to read all tabulars where data columns are numbers. If you have strings in your columns I can sent the new version to you. It separates itselfs header comments before the tabular and past the tabular. The type is set to double by default. If you like to have float you can use the `/float` keyword. If you like to see an assistant program you can use `/assist`. More is described in the routine.

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase/download/read\\_data\\_file.tar.gz](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/read_data_file.tar.gz)

or as IDL 5.5 binary

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_source/idl\\_html/dbase/download/read\\_data\\_file.sav](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/read_data_file.sav)

```
x=read_data_file('/path/filename.file')
```

The result is a structure

```
help,x,/str
```

For further routines and licensing please have a look at

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-I)

Forschungszentrum Juelich

email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

-----  
a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)  
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Subject: Re: Ascii-import

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 12:59:57 GMT

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Thomas Jordi (tschordi@giub.unibe.ch) writes:

- > it may sound dumb but i have problems importing ascii.
- > The file I want to import looks like this
- >
- > /path/filename.file
- > /path/filename.file
- > ...
- >
- > when using the toolbar button, I get the desired input, a struct
- > containg a field with as much strings as lines in the file.
- > But i like to use the `ascii_read` function, and this just doesnt work.
- > Well, it does work with a template, but then again I'm using this
- > graphical interface which I dont want to use.
- >
- > There isn't a keyword in the `read_ascii` function, to say only on record
- > per row, each row is a recrod, at least I dont find it. Perhaps it has

- > something to do with the fact, that I want to import strings and not
- > integers.
- >
- > any help would be appreciated

There are much easier ways to read this kind of data than READ\_ASCII. Here is an example using the COUNT\_ROWS program you can find on my web page:

```
num_rows = Count_Rows(filename)
data = StrArr(num_rows)
OpenR, lun, filename, /Get_Lun
ReadF, lun, data
Free_Lun, lun
```

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
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Subject: Re: Ascii-import  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 13:00:48 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

- > Thomas Jordi (tschordi@giub.unibe.ch) writes:
- >
- >
- >> it may sound dumb but i have problems importing ascii.
- >> The file I want to import looks like this
- >>
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- >> /path/filename.file
- >> ...
- >>
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- >> containg a field with as much strings as lines in the file.
- >> But i like to use the ascii\_read function, and this just doesnt work.
- >> Well, it does work with a template, but then again I'm using this
- >> graphical interface which I dont want to use.
- >>
- >> There isn't a keyword in the read\_ascii function, to say only on record

>> per row, each row is a recrod, at least I dont find it. Perhaps it has  
>> something to do with the fact, that I want to import strings and not  
>> integers.  
>>  
>> any help would be appreciated  
>  
>  
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> program you can find on my web page:  
>  
> num\_rows = Count\_Rows(filename)  
> data = StrArr(num\_rows)  
> OpenR, lun, filename, /Get\_Lun  
> ReadF, lun, data  
> Free\_Lun, lun  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David

Dear David,

I believe you are telling from  
[http://www.dfanning.com/tip\\_examples/file\\_line.pro](http://www.dfanning.com/tip_examples/file_line.pro)

or whats the difference.

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-I)  
Forschungszentrum Juelich  
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)  
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Subject: Re: Ascii-import

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 13:31:19 GMT

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Reimar Bauer (R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de) writes:

- > I believe you are telling from
- > [http://www.dfanning.com/tip\\_examples/file\\_line.pro](http://www.dfanning.com/tip_examples/file_line.pro)
- >
- > or whats the difference.

Whoops. Sorry. These files (COUNT\_ROWS and COUNT\_COLUMNS) are so simple I didn't even have them on my web page. I put them over there now.

[http://www.dfanning.com/programs/count\\_rows.pro](http://www.dfanning.com/programs/count_rows.pro)

The program FILE\_LINE is one that was sent to me by Paul Krummel. It does the same thing, no doubt more elegantly than my simple program, which simply counts. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Ascii-import

Posted by [Thomas Jordi](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 13:40:37 GMT

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- > There are much easier ways to read this kind of data
- > than READ\_ASCII. Here is an example using the COUNT\_ROWS
- > program you can find on my web page:
- >
- > num\_rows = Count\_Rows(filename)
- > data = StrArr(num\_rows)
- > OpenR, lun, filename, /Get\_Lun
- > ReadF, lun, data
- > Free\_Lun, lun
- >

Thanks to both of you. As the ascii\_read didn't work I first posted, then thought.

This is how i finally resolved it (with w eq filename):

```
OPENR, unit10, w, /GET_LUN
buf=""
count=0
WHILE (NOT EOF(unit10)) DO BEGIN
    READF, unit10, buf
    count=count+1
ENDWHILE
CLOSE, unit10 & FREE_LUN, unit10
img=STRARR(count)
OPENR, unit9, w, /GET_LUN
READF, unit9, img
CLOSE, unit9 & FREE_LUN, unit9
```

some sort of countrows...

tnx again

Thomas

> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
> --  
> David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
> Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com  
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--

Thomas Jordi

Geographisches Institut  
Universitaet Bern  
Hallerstrasse 12  
3012 Bern

tschordi@giub.unibe.ch

Thomas Jordi

---

Subject: Re: Ascii-import  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 13:58:22 GMT

Thomas Jordi (tschordi@giub.unibe.ch) writes:

```
> Thanks to both of you. As the ascii_read didn't work I first posted,  
> then thought.  
> This is how i finally resolved it (with w eq filename):  
>  
> OPENR, unit10, w, /GET_LUN  
> buf=""  
> count=0  
> WHILE (NOT EOF(unit10)) DO BEGIN  
>     READF, unit10, buf  
>     count=count+1  
> ENDWHILE  
> CLOSE, unit10 & FREE_LUN, unit10  
> img=STRARR(count)  
> OPENR, unit9, w, /GET_LUN  
> READF, unit9, img  
> CLOSE, unit9 & FREE_LUN, unit9  
>  
> some sort of countrows...
```

That's pretty much it. :-)

You don't need to use the CLOSE statement, by the way. FREE\_LUN will both close and free the logical unit number. CLOSE is only required for those logical unit numbers you assign directly, not those you obtain with GET\_LUN or the GET\_LUN keyword.

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Ascii-import  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 14:20:58 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

> Reimar Bauer (R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de) writes:  
>  
>  
>> I believe you are telling from  
>> [http://www.dfanning.com/tip\\_examples/file\\_line.pro](http://www.dfanning.com/tip_examples/file_line.pro)  
>>  
>> or whats the difference.  
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> Whoops. Sorry. These files (COUNT\_ROWS and COUNT\_COLUMNS)  
> are so simple I didn't even have them on my web page.  
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> The program FILE\_LINE is one that was sent to me by Paul  
> Krummel. It does the same thing, no doubt more elegantly  
> than my simple program, which simply counts. :-)

I know, I was the author, long time ago.

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-I)  
Forschungszentrum Juelich  
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

-----  
a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich  
[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)  
=====

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Subject: Re: Ascii-import  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 10 Sep 2002 14:38:27 GMT  
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---

Reimar Bauer (R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de) writes:

> I know, I was the author, long time ago.

Well, there you go. Even then your programs had the  
stamp of timeless elegance. :-)

I'll be recommending this in the future, rather than

my bone-headed, brute-force method. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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---

Subject: Re: Ascii-import

Posted by [thompson](#) on Thu, 12 Sep 2002 15:06:29 GMT

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---

Thomas Jordi <tschordi@giub.unibe.ch> writes:

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>>  ReadF, lun, data  
>>  Free_Lun, lun  
>>
```

> Thanks to both of you. As the ascii\_read didn't work I first posted,  
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> This is how i finally resolved it (with w eq filename):

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> count=0  
> WHILE (NOT EOF(unit10)) DO BEGIN  
>   READF, unit10, buf  
>   count=count+1  
> ENDWHILE  
> CLOSE, unit10 & FREE_LUN, unit10  
> img=STRARR(count)  
> OPENR, unit9, w, /GET_LUN  
> READF, unit9, img  
> CLOSE, unit9 & FREE_LUN, unit9
```

> some sort of countrows...

> tnx again

> Thomas

You can also do this in one pass through the file with something like the following.

```
OPENR, unit10, w, /GET_LUN
buf=""
count=0
WHILE (NOT EOF(unit10)) DO BEGIN
    READF, unit10, buf
    count=count+1
    if count eq 1 then img = buf else img = [img, buf]
ENDWHILE
FREE_LUN, unit10
```

William Thompson

---