Subject: Re: problem using strsplit
Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 10 Jan 2003 14:52:55 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Brian (briana@zetica.com) writes:

- > I am relatively new to IDL and am probably missing something very
- > obvious. I am reading in an ascii tab separated file into a string
- > array. I know how many rows the file will contain but not how many
- > columns hence the string array.
- > I then try to use strsplit to separate all the columns but have an
- > error it seems that the columns are not seen as separate.

I think your problem is that StrSplit doesn't work on arrays. It only works on scalars. I would read this tab-separated data with a little routine like this:

```
FUNCTION File_Lines, filename
OPENR, unit, filename, /GET_LUN
str = "
count = 0LL
WHILE NOT EOF(unit) DO BEGIN
READF, unit, str
count = count + 1
ENDWHILE
FREE_LUN, unit
RETURN, count
END

FUNCTION Read_Tab_Data, filename
```

```
; Calculate number of rows.
 IF N_Elements(filename) EQ 0 THEN filename = 'file2.txt'
 numrows = File_Lines(filename)
   : Calculate number of columns.
 oneline = ""
 OpenR, lun, filename, /Get_Lun
 ReadF, lun, oneline
 numcolumns = N_Elements(StrSplit(oneline, /Extract))
  ; Rewind the file and read data.
 Point Lun, lun, 0
 data = LonArr(numcolumns, numrows)
 ReadF, lun, data
 Free_Lun, lun
  ; Return the data.
 RETURN, data
END
```

You won't need File_Lines if you have IDL 5.6, it is built in. Call the Read_Tab_Data function like this:

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155