
Subject: Re: Help! G4 problem reading ascii data
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 06 Oct 2003 15:10:37 GMT
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David writes:

> During the
> `ascii_template` command, I choose "fixed width" on step one and the
> defaults for everything else.

Does the same thing happen if you choose "white space", rather than "fixed width" on your template?

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Help! G4 problem reading ascii data
Posted by [David](#) on Mon, 06 Oct 2003 15:28:01 GMT
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Hi all,

It appears as though I'm an idiot. Looking at the data below, I saw that the integer data in column 3 was not quite random, but was related to the inconsistencies in the data in column 2. I tried the same routine, but did not use the "fixed width" option and everything worked fine. I don't know why I didn't try this earlier. I guess I was lulled into believing the fixed width option was what I wanted because it says in parentheses (data is in columns) next to it. Well, my data is in columns and this seemed like the appropriate option. Anyway, it works fine with the "delimited" option.

Sorry to have wasted your time.

Perhaps you got a chuckle out of this as you recalled "I remember when I was that inexperienced with IDL"

David

"David" <dpjackson@yahoo.com> wrote in message

news:A4fgb.214\$Yj.177490@monger.newsread.com...

> Hi all,

>

> I am quite new to IDL and I am having what appears to be a serious
> problem with IDL on a G4 Mac. I could really use some help. I read
> the thread about the known G4 problem and it is not clear to me whether
> this problem is related or not. I hope I am doing something stupid and
> someone can point this out to me, but the code is very simple and I am
> stumped.

> I am running IDL 6.0 on a Mac G4 running 10.2.6.

>

> The problem is that when I read ascii data from a file that has more
> than 2 columns, the data does not read properly in columns beyond 1 and
> 2. The data is fine up to array item 255, but after that I get random
> integer data. This sounds somewhat similar to the G4 problem discussed
> earlier so I am wondering if it is the same issue and what I can do about
> it.

>

> Here is the code that I am using:

>

> datatemplate=ascii_template('~jacksond/testdata.txt')

>

> data=read_ascii(filepath('testdata.txt',root_dir='~jacksond'),template=datat
> emplate)

> for i=250,260 do begin

> print, data.field1[i], data.field2[i], data.field3[i], data.field4[i]

> endfor

> END

>

> I have included the data file that I am using. It is simple 4 columns
> of tab delimited floating point data with 512 entries. During the
> ascii_template command, I choose "fixed width" on step one and the
> defaults for everything else. The output of this program looks like
> the following:

>

> -0.996365 0.0734110 2.00308 0.0737210

> -0.997232 0.0611700 2.00226 0.0614770

> -0.997951 0.0489190 2.00159 0.0492240

> -0.998521 0.0366610 2.00107 0.0369630

> -0.998941 0.0243960 2.00070 0.0246970

> -0.999212 0.0121280 2.00048 0.0124270

> -0.999334 -0.000140000 3.00000 4.00000

> -0.999306 -0.0124100 5.00000 6.00000

> -0.999128 -0.0246800 6.00000 9.00000

> -0.998800 -0.0369500 3.00000 1.00000

> -0.998322 -0.0492100 5.00000 4.00000

>

> while the output of the command head -n 260 testdata.txt | tail -n 10

```
>
> -0.996365  0.073411  2.003076  0.073721
> -0.997232  0.061170  2.002258  0.061477
> -0.997951  0.048919  2.001589  0.049224
> -0.998521  0.036661  2.001069  0.036963
> -0.998941  0.024396  2.000701  0.024697
> -0.999212  0.012128  2.000482  0.012427
> -0.999334 -0.000143  2.000414  0.000155
> -0.999306 -0.012415  2.000496 -0.012116
> -0.999128 -0.024686  2.000729 -0.024386
> -0.998800 -0.036953  2.001111 -0.036652
```

```
>
> As you can see, the IDL data in columns 3 and 4 "go bad" at array
> element 256. In fact, I just noticed that in column 2, the data beginning
> ast element 256 is no longer exactly the same as the original. Weird.
```

```
>
> I'd appreciate any help/advice I can get on this problem.
```

```
>
> David
```

```
>
> --
> David P. Jackson
> Associate Professor
> Dept. of Physics & Astronomy
> Dickinson College
> Carlisle, PA 17013
> (717) 245-1073
```

Subject: Re: Help! G4 problem reading ascii data
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Mon, 06 Oct 2003 15:50:43 GMT
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This looks like a problem with READ_ASCII (or how it is used). If I read the file myself (code below), everything looks OK.

This does not appear to be related to the "G4 problem".

Ken

```
250 -0.996365  0.073411  2.003076  0.073721
251 -0.997232  0.061170  2.002258  0.061477
252 -0.997951  0.048919  2.001589  0.049224
253 -0.998521  0.036661  2.001069  0.036963
254 -0.998941  0.024396  2.000701  0.024697
255 -0.999212  0.012128  2.000482  0.012427
```

```
256 -0.999334 -0.000143 2.000414 0.000155
257 -0.999306 -0.012415 2.000496 -0.012116
258 -0.999128 -0.024686 2.000729 -0.024386
259 -0.998800 -0.036953 2.001111 -0.036652
```

```
> -0.996365 0.073411 2.003076 0.073721
> -0.997232 0.061170 2.002258 0.061477
> -0.997951 0.048919 2.001589 0.049224
> -0.998521 0.036661 2.001069 0.036963
> -0.998941 0.024396 2.000701 0.024697
> -0.999212 0.012128 2.000482 0.012427
> -0.999334 -0.000143 2.000414 0.000155
> -0.999306 -0.012415 2.000496 -0.012116
> -0.999128 -0.024686 2.000729 -0.024386
> -0.998800 -0.036953 2.001111 -0.036652
```

PRO TESTDATA

```
infile = '~/testdata.txt'      ;Input file
n      = FILE_LINES(infile)    ;Number of lines

x      = FLTARR(4, n)          ;Data array
x0     = FLTARR(4)             ;Data buffer

OPENR, iunit, infile, /GET_LUN ;Open file
FOR i = 0, n-1 DO BEGIN
  READF, iunit, x0            ;Read one line
  x[* ,i] = x0                ;Store in x
ENDFOR
FREE_LUN, iunit               ;Close file

FOR i = 0, n-1 DO PRINT, i, x[* ,i], $ ;Print x
  FORMAT = "(I4,4F12.6)"
```

END

Subject: Re: Help! G4 problem reading ascii data
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 06 Oct 2003 16:26:07 GMT
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David writes:

```
> Perhaps you got a chuckle out of this as you recalled "I remember when I was
> that inexperienced with IDL"
```

The mistakes you make from inexperience aren't nearly as embarrassing as the mistakes you make when you are suppose to be an "expert". :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say if I spend half a day tracking down memory leaks in objects only to discover that I haven't called a superclass CLEANUP method again, I'm **definitely** going to retire. :-(

--

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Subject: Re: Help! G4 problem reading ascii data
Posted by [Pavel Romashkin](#) on Tue, 07 Oct 2003 17:00:32 GMT
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> P.S. Let's just say if I spend half a day tracking
> down memory leaks in objects only to discover that
> I haven't called a superclass CLEANUP method again,
> I'm **definitely** going to retire. :-(

Yeah, we heard that before :-)

Pavel
