Subject: Re: Writing CSV files?

Posted by David Fanning on Tue, 06 Jan 2004 22:12:30 GMT

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Jonathan Greenberg writes:

- > Is there an easy way to write an array to an ASCII comma deliminated file
- > (CSV)? I see a READ_ASCII command but no WRITE_ASCII. Thanks!

Here is an article that discusses one way to do this:

http://www.dfanning.com/tips/csv file.html

You will find a reference there to a program named WRITE_CSV_DATA that will write a 2D array and an optional vector of column headers to a CSV file.

You might also think about WRITE_SYLK if you are trying to write a file that can be opened in a spreadsheet.

Cheers,

David

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

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

Subject: Re: Writing CSV files?

Posted by Timm Weitkamp on Thu, 08 Jan 2004 09:46:05 GMT

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Format codes provide a convenient way of bringing numbers in IDL into shape for output to screen or files (see also "Format Codes" in the online help). Why not use them in a WRITE_CSV routine, like this simple one:

PRO write csv, fileName, data

nColumns = (SIZE(data))[1]
formatStr = '(' + STRTRIM(nColumns,2) + '(F, :,", "))'

OPENW, u, fileName, /GET_LUN, WIDTH=1000 PRINTF, u, data, FORMAT=formatStr FREE LUN, u

END

If the data arrays you want to write are very large, then you may want to replace the single "PRINTF, ..." line above by a FOR loop to avoid memory problems:

```
[...]
 OPENW, u, fileName, /GET_LUN, WIDTH=1000
 nRows = (SIZE(data))[2]
 FOR iRow = 0, nRows-1 DO BEGIN
   thisRow = STRING(data[*,iRow], FORMAT=formatStr)
   PRINTF, u, thisRow
 ENDFOR
 FREE_LUN, u
 [...]
Hope this helps,
Timm
Timm Weitkamp <a href="http://people.web.psi.ch/weitkamp">http://people.web.psi.ch/weitkamp</a>
On 06.01.04 at 15:12 -0700, David Fanning wrote:
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```