
Subject: Re: Reading in a string file

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Tue, 27 Apr 2004 23:32:51 GMT

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Jonathan Greenberg wrote:

> Any hints on how to read a file which is in CSV form where each entry is a
> text string:

[snip]

> For numerical data I usually do a array = READ_ASCII(filename,delimiter=",")
> And then array=array.(0) so I can have it in a normal array format. For
> this data, however, I get an array of NaN

How about creating a template and then using the template along with
READ_ASCII?

```
IDL> template = ASCII_Template()  
IDL> Read_ASCII(filename, TEMPLATE=template)
```

If you need to reuse the template, just Save it off somewhere and
Restore it in your program. I have a directory full of IDL Save files
each of which is a single template for the specific file types I work with.

-Mike

Subject: Re: Reading in a string file

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Tue, 27 Apr 2004 23:38:01 GMT

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> IDL> template = ASCII_Template()
> IDL> Read_ASCII(filename, TEMPLATE=template)

Oops. I meant...

```
IDL> data = Read_ASCII(filename, TEMPLATE=template)
```

Subject: Re: Reading in a string file

Posted by [Ken Knapp](#) on Wed, 28 Apr 2004 14:24:34 GMT

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Jonathan Greenberg wrote:

> Any hints on how to read a file which is in CSV form where each entry is a
> text string:
>

SNIP

> For numerical data I usually do a array = READ_ASCII(filename,delimiter=",")
> And then array=array.(0) so I can have it in a normal array format. For
> this data, however, I get an array of NaN

How about:

```
s=' '  
readf,unit,s  
array = strsplit(s,',',/extr)
```

maybe?

-Ken

--

***** to reply remove the _REMOVE_ *****

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