Subject: accessing data from READ_ASCII
Posted by Andreas Ernst on Wed, 26 May 2004 12:59:42 GMT
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Hi,

I am today trying to read a file with formatted data,
which look like this:

```
      0.0 SIGT2:  2.15D-01  1.75D-01  2.15D-01  2.13D-01  2.08D-01
2.10D-01  1.95D-01  2.08D-01  1.83D-01  1.56D-01  9.23D-02  2.08D-01
      1.0 SIGT2:  2.15D-01  2.05D-01  2.18D-01  2.15D-01  2.11D-01
2.18D-01  2.16D-01  1.99D-01  1.91D-01  1.54D-01  9.04D-02  2.09D-01
      2.0 SIGT2:  1.95D-01  2.46D-01  2.10D-01  2.48D-01  2.27D-01
2.17D-01  2.14D-01  2.05D-01  1.88D-01  1.54D-01  8.78D-02  2.33D-01
```

...

So the file contains basically 1500 lines with 14 columns of data,
from which the second column contains strings, which I don't need.
I tried to read it with the READ_ASCII routine, but I did not find
out how to acces the data structure afterwards. My code looks like
this:

```
sigc = FLTARR(till1)
sig=READ_ASCII(file1, num_records=till1)
sigc=REFORM(sig.(3))
PRINT, sigc[0]
```

till1 is 1500 in this case. sigc should contain the third
column of the data file, and as an example I would like to
print out the first datum in this column, which belongs to
the first row of data. I also tried the following expression

```
PRINT, (sig.(3))[0]
```

and

```
PRINT sig(3,0)
```

but neither of these possibilities works.
How to deal with that?

Thanks in advance. Andreas

Subject: Re: accessing data from READ_ASCII

Posted by David Fanning on Wed, 26 May 2004 14:48:35 GMT
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Andreas Ernst writes:

> Thanks a lot, David. I was already trying half of the
> day. The idl documentation is very restricted concerning
> the question of accessing data structures...
> It only has the routines in it.

Yes, that's why it is helpful to know how to use
the HELP command so you can look around a little
bit yourself. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Spend some time studying those keywords, too.
A number of them are essential (DEVICE, STRUCTURE,
SOURCE) and others are helpful.

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