
Subject: Problems reading ASCII data

Posted by [rats](#) on Thu, 16 Dec 2004 17:58:10 GMT

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I am trying to read in some large ASCII files. I would like to put these columns into an array, but I am having a problem with the the 5th column (e.g. 1/1). IDL changes this to 1.00, when I want it to be a string "1/1" and the other ones to be formatted as double/integer.

This works well using IDL's read_ascii program, but the headers have a +/- character that makes it 'not a valid ascii file' according to IDL.

Below is a sample of the data file.

```
-----  
X      |Y      |Z      |I |Ret#|D±|Ed|Cla|Ang|Time  
-----  
  
444997.54, 5384000.40, 278.55, 169, 1/1, 0, 0, 2, 0, 588531.995800  
444999.16, 5384001.00, 278.38, 183, 1/1, 0, 0, 2, 0, 588531.995800  
444997.81, 5384000.48, 294.75, 000, 1/2, 0, 0, 1, 0, 588531.996000
```

Is there a quick way to read these data into an array, where it will ignore the header and each column has its own data format?

Subject: Re: Problems reading ASCII data

Posted by [NACH](#) on Wed, 22 Dec 2004 16:51:03 GMT

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Transread.pro from Markwardt IDL Library should solve your problem.

RC

rats@mail.geog.uvic.ca wrote:

```
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