
Subject: Re: reading in | delimited files into multiple arrays
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 09 Jun 2006 16:29:14 GMT
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johnadams_1980@yahoo.com writes:

> How do you read in a | delimited file in to multiple arrays, one for
> each column of the data?

```
data = FltArr(numCol, numRows)
OpenR, lun, theFile, /Get_Lun
ReadF, lun, data
Free_Lun, data
```

```
col_1 = Reform(data[0,*])
col_2 = Reform(data[1,*])
```

etc.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: reading in | delimited files into multiple arrays
Posted by [Jo Klein](#) on Fri, 09 Jun 2006 16:30:08 GMT
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> How do you read in a | delimited file in to multiple arrays, one for
> each column of the data?

I guess there are many ways to do this - how about splitting each line using strsplit? Is the number of columns per line fixed? You could for example first find out the number of lines to process using FILE_LINES, then provide an array for intermediate storage:

```
number_of_columns=5
myfile='something.txt'
n=file_lines(myfile)
arr=make_array(5,n,/STRING)
openr,unit,myfile,/get_lun
```

```
for i=0,n-1 do BEGIN
```

```
readf,unit,line
arr[* ,i]=strsplit(line,'|',/extract)
endfor
close,unit
free_lun,unit
```

Then, you can reform this into individual arrays, eg.:

```
secondcolumn=reform(arr[1,*])
```

Haven't tested this, but give it a try.

Cheers,
Jo

Subject: Re: reading in | delimited files into multiple arrays
Posted by [Marshall Perrin](#) on Sat, 10 Jun 2006 17:45:05 GMT
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johnadams_1980@yahoo.com <johnadams_1980@yahoo.com> wrote:

> Hi All,
>
> How do you read in a | delimited file in to multiple arrays, one for
> each column of the data?

'readcol' from the Goddard IDL astronomy library does just this:

```
readcol,'filename.txt', delim='|', a1, a2 , a3 ,a4
```

- Marshall