```
rlayberry@hotmail.com a �crit:
> I am trying to get data out of MS-Excel and into IDL as a float array.
>
  I laboriously save each Excel worksheet as a csv.
>
> I then readf the CSV into a float array.
>
> The problem is that there are some missing data values. for example
> ,10.0,,,0.0,10
> so a missing data value is given by two commas next to each other.
> readf assumes no data is there and all my formatting goes to pot. is
> there anyway of getting either excel to write csvs out with dummy
> values (-99.9 for example) or of getting IDL to read in a missing data
> point as a dummy value?
>
 thanks in advance
> russ
I had the same problem but with ";" instead of ",". Here is an extract
what I am doing:
   file = 'data.csv'
   openr, lun, file, /get lun
   while not eof(lun) do begin
     readf, lun, string
     string = strcompress(string) ;; in case there are some
                        ;; spaces or tabs.
     strings = strsplit(string, ',', /extract, /preserve_null)
     n = n_elements(strings)
     tab = fltarr(n)
     for i = 0, n - 1 do begin
        if (strings[i] eq ") then begin
          tab[i] = -99.9
        endif else begin
           reads, strings[i], value :; we can't use tab[i]
                           ;; directly, IDL needs
                           :: a named variable for reads.
          tab[i] = value
        endelse
     endfor
     help, tab
     print, tab
```

```
endwhile
free_lun, lun

If your file contains this line: ",10.0,,,0.0,10", IDL writes:

TAB FLOAT = Array[6]

-99.9000 10.0000 -99.9000 0.00000 10.0000
```

Subject: Re: question about readf Posted by rlayberry on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 09:46:05 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

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Nicolas Decoster wrote:
> rlayberry@hotmail.com a écrit :
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>> point as a dummy value?
>> thanks in advance
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>> russ
>>
> I had the same problem but with ";" instead of ",". Here is an extract
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     file = 'data.csv'
>
     openr, lun, file, /get_lun
>
     while not eof(lun) do begin
>
        readf, lun, string
>
        string = strcompress(string) ;; in case there are some
>
                           ;; spaces or tabs.
>
        strings = strsplit(string, ',', /extract, /preserve_null)
>
        n = n elements(strings)
>
        tab = fltarr(n)
>
        for i = 0, n - 1 do begin
>
           if (strings[i] eq ") then begin
>
             tab[i] = -99.9
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```
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             reads, strings[i], value ;; we can't use tab[i]
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>
                             ;; a named variable for reads.
             tab[i] = value
>
          endelse
>
        endfor
>
        help, tab
>
        print, tab
>
     endwhile
>
     free_lun, lun
>
> If your file contains this line: ",10.0,,,0.0,10", IDL writes:
> TAB
               FLOAT
                         = Array[6]
> -99.9000 10.0000 -99.9000 -99.9000 0.00000 10.0000
I have just been playing, and it seems to work when I do
line to be read...
10,0,,10,10
a=fltarr(6)
readf,1,format='(5f)',a
print,a
10,0,0,10
I now have the probelm that I have some missing headers
line to be read
head1,head2,,head3
and i want to read this into a strarr which gives head1,head2,0,head3
any ideas?
Subject: Re: question about readf
Posted by rlayberry on Thu, 03 Aug 2006 09:48:23 GMT
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rlaybe...@hotmail.com wrote:
> Nicolas Decoster wrote:
>> rlayberry@hotmail.com a écrit :
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```
>>>
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>>> russ
>>>
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>> what I am doing:
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>>
                            ;; spaces or tabs.
         strings = strsplit(string, ',', /extract, /preserve_null)
>>
          n = n_elements(strings)
>>
         tab = fltarr(n)
         for i = 0, n - 1 do begin
>>
            if (strings[i] eq ") then begin
>>
              tab[i] = -99.9
>>
            endif else begin
>>
               reads, strings[i], value ;; we can't use tab[i]
>>
                               ;; directly, IDL needs
>>
                               ;; a named variable for reads.
>>
              tab[i] = value
            endelse
>>
         endfor
>>
         help, tab
>>
          print, tab
>>
       endwhile
>>
       free_lun, lun
>>
>>
>> If your file contains this line: ",10.0,,,0.0,10", IDL writes:
>> TAB
                           = Array[6]
                 FLOAT
>> -99.9000 10.0000 -99.9000 -99.9000 0.00000 10.0000
> I have just been playing, and it seems to work when I do
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```
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> line to be read...
> 10,0,,10,10
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> readf,1,format='(5f)',a
>
> print,a
> 10,0,0,10
> I now have the probelm that I have some missing headers
>
> line to be read
> head1,head2,,head3
 and i want to read this into a strarr which gives head1,head2,0,head3
> any ideas?
sorry, just rereading your post and it has solved it with the
preserve_null...
thanks
```