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Subject: Re: reading multiple data types into arrays

Posted by [Josh](#) on Mon, 09 Jul 2007 22:38:42 GMT

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(to clarify: the example data I gave is all on one line. this post makes it look like two lines on my computer) -josh

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Subject: Re: reading multiple data types into arrays

Posted by [greg.addr](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 06:57:47 GMT

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On Jul 10, 12:36 am, Josh <joshuamonta...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi,

>

> I'm trying to read in data from a file that has the following format:

>

> 231359152 09/25/2003 18:38:35.816 20.013574 25.668425

> 626.779 14.396667

>

> I'm having no problems getting the fourth, fifth, and sixth columns of  
> data into double arrays with a statement like this:

>

> readf, lun, recNum, date, time, lat, lon, elev, geoid

>

> and a for loop. But I would like to get the second column in an  
> array, too. My intuition says it should be a string because of the  
> nasty /'s in it (ultimately, I'd like these dates to be the  
> independant axis values).

>

> I tried declaring the variable date as a string beforehand (date = '  
> '), but then that slurps the entire line (all columns) into that  
> variable. If I don't declare it as a string and try to put it into a  
> string array (strArr), it becomes 9.00000.

>

> I'm reading the documentation for explicitly formatted input, but am  
> having trouble figuring out how to apply it here.

>

> As always, all suggestions are greatly appreciated!

> -Josh

I'd probably read the whole line as a string then split it on the spaces with `strsplit()` and convert after. Better still, you might just read the whole file into a string array and chop it up with `strpos()` and `strmid()`.

Greg

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Subject: Re: reading multiple data types into arrays  
Posted by [rkombiyil](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 11:28:18 GMT  
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On Jul 10, 7:36 am, Josh <joshuamonta...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
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> I'm reading the documentation for explicitly formatted input, but am  
> having trouble figuring out how to apply it here.  
>  
> As always, all suggestions are greatly appreciated!  
> -Josh

I usually use structures for my needs. You could just declare them as integers and read with a format specifier for these leaving out the slashes.

Assuming data is like above and with the 'nX' denoting the number of spaces I have between your data (in my file - may be different for you.), you can use:

```
;type declaration
IDL> recnum=0L & day=0 & month=0 & yyyy=0
IDL> hh=0 & mm=0 & ss=0 & dec_sec=0
IDL> lat=0. & lon=0. & elev=0. & geoid=0.
;read data from lun=2
IDL> readf,2,recnum,day,month,yyyy,hh,mm,ss,dec_sec,$
lat,lon,elev,geoid,$
format='(i9,1x,2(i2,1x),i4,1x,3(i2,1x),i3,2(2x,f9.6),$
1x,f7.3,1x,f9.6)'
IDL> print,recnum,day,month,yyyy,hh,mm,ss,dec_sec,lat,lon,$
```

```
elev,geoid
231359152  9  25  2003  18  38  35
816  20.0136  25.6684  626.779  14.3967
```

--  
I suggest using structures. I found them very helpful. And if you have header information that you need to make use of, for your calculations (I do), then open the file, read in those required header info first, and then define structure for the (homogeneous) data part like above, and then use "replicate" to populate.

--  
Hth,  
/rk

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Subject: Re: reading multiple data types into arrays  
Posted by [Gadhavi](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 13:42:10 GMT  
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I also face the same problem as that of Josh. The real problem is to have one column of string type with many columns to read. Currently I handle this problem by either reading whole line as string and later on splitting it, or using explicit format statement as mentioned in previous two posts.

However, I wish there would have been some way to specify multiple delimiter such as ",", "/", tab and spaces in one-go for free format statement, that will make things much easier.

hari

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Subject: Re: reading multiple data types into arrays  
Posted by [Matt\[2\]](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 15:03:07 GMT  
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Josh <joshuamontague@gmail.com> writes:

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```
>  
> readf, lun, recNum, date, time, lat, lon, elev, geoid
```

If you want to read it in one line. I'm going to take a stab.

```
; i_rec_ndx MM/DD/YYYY HH:MM:SS.sss Lat Lon i_elev(meters)  
interpolated(i_gdHt)(meters)  
;  
; format='(% "%11d %2.2d/%2.2d/%4.4d %2.2d:%2.2d:%2.2d.%3.3d %10.6f  
%10.6f %11.3f %15.6f")';
```

I think that should work for your data. Not that I have any knowledge of how it's written....

--

Matthew Savoie - Scientific Programmer  
National Snow and Ice Data Center  
(303) 735-0785 <http://nsidc.org>

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Subject: Re: reading multiple data types into arrays  
Posted by [Josh](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 19:49:14 GMT  
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On Jul 10, 12:57 am, greg.a...@gmail.com wrote:

> On Jul 10, 12:36 am, Josh <joshuamonta...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

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> read the whole file into a string array and chop it up with strpos()
> and strmid().
>
> Greg
```

Thanks, Greg. For me, this turned out to be the easiest way to achieve this task. Much appreciated. -J

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