
Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
Posted by [pfp](#) on Fri, 23 Oct 2009 09:26:08 GMT
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On Oct 23, 4:59 am, Dav_Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Folks
> I want to read some data with *.dat format with unknown number of
> columns and rows. I tried to read with*DDREAD.pro* but it does not
> work. Data for each file is like this:
>
> 260.559844971 4.000000000 0.390625000 0.460937500
> 260.559844971 4.000000000 0.382812500 0.318359375.....
> 260.559844971 4.000000000 0.414062500 0.439453125
>
>
>
> Actually I don't know the number of rows and columns (but definitely
> number of rows is less than columns). Does anyone have experience to
> how read this kind of files?
> Any help highly will be appreciated.
> Cheers

Try something like

```
a=read_ascii('file.dat')
sz=size(a.(0),/dim)
ncols=sz[0]
nrows=sz[1]
```

ddread is not a built-in routine, so when you mention it you should say where it is from. Also, "*.dat format" means nothing.

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
Posted by [d.poreh](#) on Fri, 23 Oct 2009 09:42:23 GMT
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On 23 Okt., 02:26, pfp <pfpente...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Oct 23, 4:59 am, Dav_Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:
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>> Folks
>> I want to read some data with *.dat format with unknown number of
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```

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>> .....
>> .....
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> a=read_ascii('file.dat')
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> ddread is not a built-in routine, so when you mention it you should
> say where it is from. Also, "*.dat format" means nothing.

```

Thank you
that's okay. but is there any way to avoid from loop?

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
 Posted by [penteado](#) on Fri, 23 Oct 2009 14:01:07 GMT
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```

On Oct 23, 7:42 am, Dav_Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On 23 Okt., 02:26, pfp <pfpente...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>
>
>> On Oct 23, 4:59 am, Dav_Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
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>>> .....
>>> .....

```

```

>>> .....
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>> say where it is from. Also, "*.dat format" means nothing.
>
> Thank you
> that's okay. but is there any way to avoid from loop?

```

What loop? I do not see any loops.

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
 Posted by [d.poreh](#) on Mon, 26 Oct 2009 07:02:11 GMT
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```

On 23 Okt., 06:01, pp <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Oct 23, 7:42 am, Dav_Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>
>
>
>
>
>> On 23 Okt., 02:26, pfp <pfpente...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>> On Oct 23, 4:59 am, Dav_Poreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>>> Folks
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>>>> .....
>>>> .....

```

```
>>>> .....
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>
>>> ddread is not a built-in routine, so when you mention it you should
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>
>> Thank you
>> that's okay. but is there any way to avoid from loop?
>
> What loop? I do not see any loops.
```

Just how to speed up reding!!

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
Posted by [jkeller](#) on Mon, 26 Oct 2009 07:44:49 GMT
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```
>>>> a=read_ascii('file.dat')
>>>> sz=size(a(0),/dim)
>>>> ncols=sz[0]
>>>> nrows=sz[1]
>
> Just how to speed up reding!!
```

Just use the quoted code above. This should read the data into variable 'a'. It will be as fast as it could be when reading text files with IDL.

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
Posted by [d.poreh](#) on Mon, 26 Oct 2009 09:47:25 GMT
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On 25 Okt., 23:44, jkeller <jkel...@uni-bonn.de> wrote:
>>>> > a=read_ascii('file.dat')

```
>>>> > sz=size(a.0),/dim)
>>>> > ncols=sz[0]
>>>> > nrows=sz[1]
>
>> Just how to speed up reding!!
>
> Just use the quoted code above. This should read the data into
> variable 'a'. It will be as fast as it could be when reading text
> files with IDL.
```

OKay. thank you very much.

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 26 Oct 2009 11:56:18 GMT

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jkeller writes:

```
> Just use the quoted code above. This should read the data into
> variable 'a'. It will be as fast as it could be when reading text
> files with IDL.
```

Well, not necessarily. READ_ASCII *does*, necessarily, use a FOR loop. If the data were all numerical (no strings), or regularly spaced (so you could use a FORMAT statement), then it would be much faster to allocate an array of floats (or whatever) and read the data all at once in the IDL way.

Of course, if you don't know the number of columns and rows, then you have to allocate time to find those things out. For example, File_Lines has to read the entire file to count the number of EOL markers in the file to determine how many rows there are. But, still, even with this overhead it is often (almost always?) faster to read data the IDL way than to use READ_ASCII. That is the main reason I've never used it. Even taking into account the five lines of code you need to type, doing so was faster than waiting for READ_ASCII to finish!

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
Posted by [jkeller](#) on Tue, 27 Oct 2009 08:35:32 GMT
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On Oct 26, 12:56 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> Well, not necessarily. READ_ASCII *does*, necessarily,
> use a FOR loop. If the data were all numerical (no strings),
> or regularly spaced (so you could use a FORMAT statement),
> then it would be much faster to allocate an array of floats
> (or whatever) and read the data all at once in the IDL way.

Didn't know that. Thanks for the information.

Regards,
Jan

Subject: Re: Problem to read some data.
Posted by [d.poreh](#) on Wed, 28 Oct 2009 08:25:40 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 27 Okt., 00:35, jkeller <jkel...@uni-bonn.de> wrote:
> On Oct 26, 12:56 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>
>> Well, not necessarily. READ_ASCII *does*, necessarily,
>> use a FOR loop. If the data were all numerical (no strings),
>> or regularly spaced (so you could use a FORMAT statement),
>> then it would be much faster to allocate an array of floats
>> (or whatever) and read the data all at once in the IDL way.
>
> Didn't know that. Thanks for the information.
>
> Regards,
> Jan

Thanks guys.
Dave
