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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL  
Posted by [penteado](#) on Sat, 17 Apr 2010 01:35:07 GMT  
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On Apr 16, 10:17 pm, fgg <fabioгуimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> ... and I'd like to add it to the variables view. When I type @'path/  
> batchfilename.pro' at the IDL prompt, I get the following message: "%  
> Program code area full". Any suggestions?

Do not write large literals, like that one. You just demonstrated one of the several reasons not to do it. Put those numbers into a file, then read it into the variable.

There are many ways to read those values from a file, depending on how you write them into the file. If all you do is strip the "a =" and the "]" from the ends of that file, you could read it as

```
nl=file_lines('file.txt')
a=strarr(nl)
openr,unit,'file.txt',/get_lun
readf,unit,a
free_lun,unit
a=strjoin(a)
a=strsplit(a,',',/extract)
a=fix(a)
```

There are much simpler ways to read it, if the file is written a little differently.

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL  
Posted by [penteado](#) on Sat, 17 Apr 2010 01:48:30 GMT  
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On Apr 16, 10:35 pm, pp <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> Do not write large literals, like that one. You just demonstrated one  
> of the several reasons not to do it. Put those numbers into a file,  
> then read it into the variable.

More generally, and more importantly, never write a line of code anywhere near that long. If a line starts to become too long, it usually means something should be done differently. It is one example of what I call the awkwardness principle: if any code starts to get too awkward, something probably is not being done the proper way.

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Sat, 17 Apr 2010 03:47:10 GMT

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On Apr 16, 9:17 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> Hi there,  
>  
> I have this vector written in a batch file (*.pro):  
>  
> a = [28, 29, 28, 28, 29, 29, 29, 27, 28, 28, 28, 28, 31, 31, 29, 27,  
> 29, 29, 30, 28]  
>  
> ... and I'd like to add it to the variables view. When I type '@path/  
> batchfilename.pro' at the IDL prompt, I get the following message: "%  
> Program code area full". Any suggestions?
```

Here's another suggestion. For medium sized vectors, you can do something like this,

```
a = [1,2,3,4]  
a = [a,5,6,7,8]  
a = [a,9,10,11,12]  
a = [a,13,14,15,16]  
... and so on
```

This won't work for large vectors since A gets redefined each line of the script, and will start to thrash memory. For large vectors you will want to use OPENR/READF as shown by 'pp'

Craig

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL

Posted by [fgg](#) on Sat, 17 Apr 2010 08:02:32 GMT

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On Apr 16, 6:35 pm, pp <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> On Apr 16, 10:17 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:  
>  
>> ... and I'd like to add it to the variables view. When I type '@path/  
>> batchfilename.pro' at the IDL prompt, I get the following message: "%  
>> Program code area full". Any suggestions?  
>  
> Do not write large literals, like that one. You just demonstrated one  
> of the several reasons not to do it. Put those numbers into a file,  
> then read it into the variable.  
>  
> There are many ways to read those values from a file, depending on how  
> you write them into the file. If all you do is strip the "a = [" and
```

```
> the "]" from the ends of that file, you could read it as
>
> nl=file_lines('file.txt')
> a=strarr(nl)
> openr,unit,'file.txt',/get_lun
> readf,unit,a
> free_lun,unit
> a=strjoin(a)
> a=strsplit(a,',',/extract)
> a=fix(a)
>
> There are much simpler ways to read it, if the file is written a
> little differently.
```

Thanks for the suggestion. But what if the text file has more than one variable in it? Say "a" and "b".

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL  
Posted by [Gray](#) on Sat, 17 Apr 2010 14:22:46 GMT  
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```
On Apr 17, 4:02 am, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Apr 16, 6:35 pm, pp <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>
>
>
>
>> On Apr 16, 10:17 pm, fgg <fabioquimaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>> ... and I'd like to add it to the variables view. When I type @'path/
>>> batchfilename.pro' at the IDL prompt, I get the following message: "%
>>> Program code area full". Any suggestions?
>
>> Do not write large literals, like that one. You just demonstrated one
>> of the several reasons not to do it. Put those numbers into a file,
>> then read it into the variable.
>
>> There are many ways to read those values from a file, depending on how
>> you write them into the file. If all you do is strip the "a = [" and
>> the "]" from the ends of that file, you could read it as
>
>> nl=file_lines('file.txt')
>> a=strarr(nl)
>> openr,unit,'file.txt',/get_lun
>> readf,unit,a
```

```
>> free_lun,unit
>> a=strjoin(a)
>> a=strsplit(a,',',/extract)
>> a=fix(a)
>
>> There are much simpler ways to read it, if the file is written a
>> little differently.
>
> Thanks for the suggestion. But what if the text file has more than one
> variable in it? Say "a" and "b".
```

Then you can use the same kind of thing I already showed you - read in the lines of the file as a strarr, then use where, stregex, and value\_locate to pick out the lines with '=' in them and associate each line with an equals sign, then concatenate the lines using strjoin, then use strsplit to turn the long string into an array.

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL  
Posted by [penteado](#) on Sat, 17 Apr 2010 22:07:24 GMT  
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On Apr 17, 5:02 am, fgg <fabioguilmaraesgoncal...@gmail.com> wrote:  
> Thanks for the suggestion. But what if the text file has more than one  
> variable in it? Say "a" and "b".

That only depends on how you write them to the file. You should write the file in the most convenient way, which will depend on what you need to write, and where the values come from. If the values come from some other software, the file generated by that software may be directly readable.

If a and b have the same number of elements, one choice is to write them as a table, with one column for each. Then it could be read easily with read\_ascii(), read\_csv(), or in many other ways.

If they do not have the same length, then writing them using one line for each may be more convenient, then they can be read with a combination of readf and strsplit.

Or you may use key=value pairs, and read them, as Gray suggested, or with gettok() from idlastro. If you have many variables of different dimensions to be read (such as a file with many parameters on how to do something, or metadata), this may be the most convenient way, since it is easy to be read and edited by humans, and easy to parse. It is even simple to write a general parser, which would return all key/value pairs in a structure (or, when IDL 8 comes out, in a hash).

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL  
Posted by [wallabadah](#) on Mon, 19 Apr 2010 05:11:23 GMT  
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Another option is to put the variable definition into a function. eg.

```
function set_a
  return, a = [1, 2, 3, $
  ...
  ...
]
end
```

you could then .compile the function, and use it with  
a = set\_a()

This would allow you to copy/paste from your existing batch file.

Will.

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL  
Posted by [fgg](#) on Mon, 19 Apr 2010 23:47:41 GMT  
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> Then you can use the same kind of thing I already showed you - read in  
> the lines of the file as a strarr, then use where, stregex, and  
> value\_locate to pick out the lines with '=' in them and associate each  
> line with an equals sign, then concatenate the lines using strjoin,  
> then use strsplit to turn the long string into an array.

Hi Gray,

I'm using what you showed me to read the original input ascii file  
(see  
[http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse\\_thread/thread/eee2cb1d71cac70b/2f916ebd48eb0a04?lnk=gst&q=fabio#2f916ebd48eb0a04](http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/eee2cb1d71cac70b/2f916ebd48eb0a04?lnk=gst&q=fabio#2f916ebd48eb0a04))  
and print all the variables in a more convenient format (e.g.  
columnar). The problem is that when I run the script the variables are  
not added to the 'variables view'. I understand that I could simply  
read in the new, formatted file, but the variables don't have the same  
number of lines (maybe this is not a problem?). So my solution was to  
adapt your script to write an ascii file with variables written as  
above and then read it in as a batch file. I soon realized that this  
wouldn't work for large vectors... and here I am again. I wonder if  
there is a way to read the data as shown below, printing the variables  
in column output format, and at the same time add them to the  
variables view? Hope this makes sense.

Thanks,  
Fabio

```
filters = ['*.txt', '*.dat', '*.out']
infile = dialog_pickfile(/read, filter=filters)
n = file_lines(infile)
raw_data = strarr(n)
heads = strarr(n)
openr, unit, infile, /get_lun
readf, unit, raw_data
close, unit & free_lun, unit
datas = where(stregex(raw_data,'=','/
boolean),ndata,complement=extra_lines)
data = raw_data[datas]
if (ndata lt n_elements(raw_data)) then begin
  extra_assoc = value_locate(datas,extra_lines)
  for i=0L,n_elements(extra_lines)-1 do $
    data[extra_assoc[i]] = strjoin([temporary(data[extra_assoc[i]]),$
    raw_data[extra_lines[i]]],/single)
endif
heads = gettok(data,'=')
fn = strtrim(ndata,1)
outfile = dialog_pickfile(/write, default_extension='txt',
filter='*.txt')
openw, outunit, outfile, /get_lun
printf, outunit, strsplit(strjoin(heads,' '),/extract)
lens = intarr(ndata)
for i=0L,ndata-1 do lens[i] = n_elements(strsplit(data[i],/regex))
npad = max(lens)
padded_data = strarr(npad,ndata)
for i=0L,ndata-1 do padded_data[0,i] = strsplit(data[i],/regex,/
extract)
printf, outunit, transpose(padded_data)+' ', format=('+fn+'A12)'
print, 'End of processing.'
print, "For working with data in Excel open '"+outfile+" and choose
'Delimited >> Comma'."
close, outunit & free_lun, outunit
end
```

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Subject: Re: Declaring large vectors in IDL  
Posted by [fgg](#) on Mon, 19 Apr 2010 23:57:43 GMT  
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And here's the adapted script in case it helps:

```
filters = ['*.txt', '*.dat', '*.out']
```

```

infile = dialog_pickfile(/read, filter=filters)
n = file_lines(infile)
raw_data = strarr(n)
openr, unit, infile, /get_lun
readf, unit, raw_data
close, unit & free_lun, unit
datas = where(stregex(raw_data,'=','/
boolean),ndata,complement=extra_lines)
data = raw_data[datas]
if (ndata lt n_elements(raw_data)) then begin
    extra_assoc = value_locate(datas,extra_lines)
    for i=0L,n_elements(extra_lines)-1 do $
        data[extra_assoc[i]] = strjoin([temporary(data[extra_assoc[i]]),$
            raw_data[extra_lines[i]]],/single)
endif
outfile = dialog_pickfile(/write, default_extension='pro',
filter='*.pro')
openw, outunit, outfile, /get_lun
for i=0,ndata-1 do begin
    line = strsplit(data[i],/extract)
    if (line[0] eq 'i_shot_ctr') then shot = line[2:*]
    if (line[0] eq 'i_rng_wf' and n_elements(line) eq 4002) then $
        for j=0,n_elements(shot)-1 do printf, outunit,
line[0]+'_'+shot[j]+' = [' +strjoin(line[j*200+2:j*200+201],', ')+' ]'
; This will not work. Max n_elements should be 251.
    if (line[0] eq 'i_rng_wf' and n_elements(line) eq 10882) then $
        for j=0,n_elements(shot)-1 do printf, outunit,
line[0]+'_'+shot[j]+' = [' +strjoin(line[j*544+2:j*544+545],', ')+' ]'
    if (line[0] ne 'i_rng_wf') then printf, outunit,
strjoin(line[0:1],', ')+' [' + strjoin(line[2:],', ')+' ]'
endfor
print, 'End of processing.'
print, 'Type the following at the IDL prompt to display the
variables:'
print, "@ "+outfile+"
close, outunit & free_lun, outunit
end

```

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