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Subject: Reading ASCII

Posted by [dean](#) on Fri, 21 Jul 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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I am attempting to read a ASCII text file with topography data.

This file was created on a DOS machine and has a CR and NL character after each line. In my attempts to read this file, I keep getting the CR and NL characters which messes up my image. Is there a way to read this file without picking up the CR and NL with IDL?

Below is the sample PRO I am working with. The ASCII file is located on [castor.cira.colostate.edu](http://castor.cira.colostate.edu) in Dean.

Kelly Dean  
CSU/CIRA

```
=====
PRO READ_TOP
imgname = 'elev.txt'
xsize = 961
ysize = 601
```

```
openr, unit, imgname, /get_lun
status = FStat(unit)
HELP, status, /STRUCT
image = INTarr(xsize, ysize)
scan = INTarr(xsize)
FOR j = 0, ysize-1 DO BEGIN
  readU, unit, scan
  image(0,(ysize-1)-j) = scan
ENDFOR
close, unit
free_lun, unit
nmax = MAX(image)
nmin = MIN(image)
print, 'MAX ',nmax,' Min ',nmin
WINDOW, 0, xsize=xsize,ysize=ysize,title='Elevation'
TVscl, image

end
```

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Subject: Re: Reading ASCII

Posted by [gennari](#) on Sun, 23 Jul 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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dean@phobos.cira.colostate.edu wrote:

: I am attempting to read a ASCII text file with topography data.  
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: after each line. In my attempts to read this file, I keep getting  
: the CR and NL characters which messes up my image. Is there a  
: way to read this file without picking up the CR and NL with IDL?

:  
: Below is the sample PRO I am working with. The ASCII file  
: is located on castor.cira.colostate.edu in Dean.

:  
: Kelly Dean  
: CSU/CIRA  
:

If your using this data file on a Unix machice you can easily  
convert it using a standard text converter.

SGL: to\_unix  
SUN Solaris 2.x : dos2unix

or use apropos on your system to see what's available, i.e.,

apropos "convert text"

I used the SGL utility to\_unix and got a clean image from your data.  
This solution seemed easier than converting the ASCII data within IDL.

Scott Gennari

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Subject: Re: Reading ASCII  
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Sun, 23 Jul 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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dean@phobos.cira.colostate.edu wrote:

>  
> I am attempting to read a ASCII text file with topography data.  
> This file was created on a DOS machine and has a CR and NL character  
> after each line. In my attempts to read this file, I keep getting  
> the CR and NL characters which messes up my image. Is there a

```
> way to read this file without picking up the CR and NL with IDL?
>
> Below is the sample PRO I am working with. The ASCII file
> is located on castor.cira.colostate.edu in Dean.
>
> ... Snip
>
> FOR j = 0, ysize-1 DO BEGIN
>   readU, unit, scan
>   image(0,(ysize-1)-j) = scan
> ENDFOR
```

Pardon me if I'm being obtuse, but why are you using an unformatted read (READU) on an ASCII file?

IDL for Windows (and maybe other versions as well) accepts either CR+LF or LF-only as line terminators in ASCII files.

--

```
===== ==
Mark Hadfield          hadfield@storm.greta.cri.nz
NIWA (Taihoro Nukurangi)  NIWA.GRETA:HADFIELD
Wellington, New Zealand
```

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Subject: Re: Reading ASCII  
Posted by [dean](#) on Thu, 27 Jul 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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Thanks for the input people. It appears I cannot use IDL to read pass the CR and NL. The c program that Amara Graps should be helpful. Unfortunately, I don't have access to a UNIX box - just a Window NT or VAX/VMS.

Thanks again for the input,

Kelly

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