
Subject: Read data as array structure

Posted by [Tasos](#) on Fri, 03 Feb 2012 08:32:50 GMT

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Hello,

I am trying to define an array structure having a string parameter and floats, in order to read a data file. The problem is, when I define the first parameter of the structure as a string and then read the file, this string parameter contains the data of the whole line and not the first data entry. I guess by giving you an example would be much easier to understand my problem...

Let's say that I have the data file below with this entries...

```
name    0.386216    1286.08
name    0.391236    1080.36
```

I first create the array structure...

```
dataStruct = { name:" p2:0.0, p3:0.0 }
```

...with two lines

```
data = replicate(dataStruct, 2)
```

and then read the data.

```
readf, lun, data
```

I then get the error --> % READF: Input conversion error. Unit: 100

How I can avoid the problem of the string variable reading the whole line of the data file?

PS. Of course I would like an answer which is related on the array structure and not how to just read the data from the file!

Thanks!

Tas

Subject: Re: Read data

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 18 Feb 2012 03:59:07 GMT

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DavePoreh writes:

```
> as you can see, i have different format per each line (Number- date
> (15-Oct-2003)- file address , etc.) i just need to read this file and
> then call it during my code.
> Can somebody please help,
```

How much money do you have in your budget? ;-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: Read data

Posted by [penteado](#) on Sat, 18 Feb 2012 13:31:47 GMT

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On Feb 18, 1:26 am, DavePoreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:

> as you can see, i have different format per each line (Number- date
> (15-Oct-2003)- file address , etc.) i just need to read this file and
> then call it during my code.

Actually I cannot see. I do not know where the line breaks are in the file or just show up because of the message. Can you make the file (or a few lines of it) available somewhere?

Subject: Re: Read data

Posted by [penteado](#) on Sun, 19 Feb 2012 19:07:29 GMT

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Based on the file Dave showed me, it seems that it is always one record per line, with 13 fields per record, with records separated by whitespace. I could read the file into a nice 13,52 array with

```
lines=strarr(file_lines('psi_input.txt'))
openr,unit,'psi_input.txt',/get_lun
readf,unit,lines
free_lun,unit
slines=strsplit(lines,/extract)
linesarr=transpose(slines.toarray())
```

From there you can convert some columns into other types. I am guessing some would be integers, some would be reals.

On Feb 18, 11:31 am, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Feb 18, 1:26 am, DavePoreh <d.po...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> as you can see, i have different format per each line (Number- date

>> (15-Oct-2003)- file address , etc.) i just need to read this file and

>> then call it during my code.

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> Actually I cannot see. I do not know where the line breaks are in the

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