
Subject: reading in tab-separated string data

Posted by [timbovaird](#) on Thu, 19 Apr 2012 05:53:08 GMT

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I'm unable to read an array of strings into IDL. Here's what I'm trying to do.

```
OPENW,lun,'table.dat',/get_lun,WIDTH=500
for i=0,numlines-1 do
  PRINTF,lun,strjoin(data[*],string(9b)) ;separate strings in row by
  tabs
CLOSE,lun
```

```
OPENR,lun,'table.dat',/get_lun
READF,lun,data
CLOSE,lun
```

The .dat file opens in excel fine but I always get "READF: End of file encountered." when I try to read the table back into IDL. I have a similar table which uses floats instead of strings and it works fine so I'm not sure what is causing the problem.

Thanks, Tim.
