Subject: Re: How can I read data file with tab delimeter?
Posted by M.W.Gardner on Thu, 11 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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ashi@acacia.lle.rochester.edu (Alexei Chirokikh) wrote:
> Hi,
> I have column organized data with TAB - delimeter. How can I read this data?
>

Assuming your data is organised in a consistent manner (i.e. all rows and columns contain the same number of data points) then thus is really easy..

Assume your file is organised with 5 columns and 4 rows and contains floating point data.

The IDL code to read this into the array my_data is as follows

```
my_data=fltarr(5,4)  ;define array of correct dimensions and type
openr,lun,'my_tab_file.dat',/get_lun  ;open file
readf,lun,my_data  ;read data into array maintaining structure in file
close,lun  ;close file
free_lun,lun  ;free logical file unit
```

IDL can reads tabs as multiple space delimiters - you do not have to specify the fact that the delimiter is a tab.

Hope that helps - if not get in touch.

Matt
--
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opinions are mine - http://www.uea.ac.uk/~e449

Subject: Re: How can I read data file with tab delimeter?
Posted by Liam Gumley on Fri, 12 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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The best routine I have found for this purpose is DDREAD.PRO,
available as part of Fred Knight's library at

ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/user_contrib/knight

From the online documentation:
```
;       This routine reads data in formatted (or unformatted) rows and columns.
;       The name stands for Data Dump Read.  By default, comments are
```

; skipped and the number of columns is sensed. Many options
; exist, e.g., selecting rows and columns, reading binary data,
; and selecting non-default data type and delimiters.

It also reads TAB delimited files. The best thing is that you don't
have to know the number of rows and columns in advance - DDREAD figures it out.

Do yourself a favor and get it.

Cheers,
Liam.
