Subject: Re: easy read of column ASCII file in IDL?
Posted by Paul van Delst on Fri, 28 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Liam Gumley wrote:

> Peter Clinch wrote:
>> I'm just evaluating IDL as the UK agents are offering a very good
>> "Abandon PV~Wave in favour of IDL" offer.
>> In Wave, we often use DC_READ_FREE with the /col keyword to read column
>> form,atted ASCII data: is there a similarly easy way to do this in IDL?
>
> We swear by DDREAD, a utility developed by Fred Knight. Check out
>
> ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/user_contrib/knight/
>
> From the in-line 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.
>
> Cheers,
> Liam.

I agree with Liam - DDREAD makes reading ASCII column data trivial. However,
DDREAD does use another user contribution routine called N_LINES.PRO (or
NLINES.PRO..can't remeber which) in where the total number of lines is
initially set to zero:

n_lines = 0

which can cause consternation if you're reading a large ASCII file. The
definition should be

n_lines = 0L

Just so you know.

paulv

--
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University of Wisconsin-Madison   purity is a fundamentalist
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Subject: Re: easy read of column ASCII file in IDL?
Posted by Liam Gumley on Fri, 28 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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Subject: Re: easy read of column ASCII file in IDL?
Posted by R. Bauer on Fri, 28 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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> Ta, Pete.
> --

>

Please look at the answer how to find number of lines in an ascii file

--
R.Bauer