
Subject: reading ASCII Data

Posted by [Mirko](#) on Tue, 13 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Hello

We have ASCII files (floats) with a different number of lines and different number of data in each line. The data was generated by a mass spectrometer software under Win 3.11. Each measurement line ends with '0D'xb instead of '0D'xb and '0A'xb. Is there a way to find the END OF LINE with an IDL function (like EOF) because each line starts with some "header information" which has to be skipped before the measured data starts.

How can you handle a variable number of floats?

Cheers

Mirko

Subject: Re: reading ASCII Data

Posted by [meron](#) on Tue, 20 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <371CD852.1E35776B@io.harvard.edu>, Martin Schultz <mgs@io.harvard.edu> writes:
> David Foster wrote:

>>

>> [...] I thought

>> it'd be trivial using IDL's STR_SEP(), but you can't get rid of

>> the extra space characters easily (it gets confused when two

>> delimiting characters are next to each-other...dreadful programming!).

>>

>

> looks a little clumsy but can be done (as long as they are really only

> spaces

> seperating your data records):

>

> tokens = str_sep(strcompress(strtrim(line, 2)), ' ')

>

> (maybe this would be worth its own function, e.g. strstrip)

>

Well, you can use my STRPARSE which is already 8 years old and still better than STR_SEP.

Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,
meron@cars.uchicago.edu | chances are he is doing just the same"

Subject: Re: reading ASCII Data
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Tue, 20 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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David Foster wrote:

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> [...] I thought
> it'd be trivial using IDL's STR_SEP(), but you can't get rid of
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looks a little clumsy but can be done (as long as they are really only
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seperating your data records):

```
tokens = str_sep( strcompress( strtrim( line, 2 ) ), ' ' )
```

(maybe this would be worth its own function, e.g. strstrip)

Regards,
Martin.

--

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