



 AHELP for CIAO 3.4

load_ascii

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Synopsis

Module function to load ASCII data into Sherpa

Syntax

```
Integer_Type load_ascii([Integer_Type], {String_Type | Struct_Type})
Integer_Type load_bascii([Integer_Type], {String_Type | Struct_Type})

Success/Error Return Values: 1/0

Arguments:

(1) Data set number (default 1)

(2) ASCII filename, or

(2) S-Lang variable of Struct_Type (e.g., type of variable returned by
VARMM readascii())
```

Description

The function `load_ascii()` loads data from an ASCII file into a Sherpa data set. The function `load_bascii()` loads data from an ASCII file into the background associated with a Sherpa source data set. (The brackets indicate an optional letter in the function name, with "[b]" representing functions to use with background data. Note that background functions currently assume that the setting of `multiback` in the Sherpa state object is 0, i.e., that only one background dataset is allowed per source dataset.)

Currently, users may only input 1D data (i.e., two columns, with the first assumed to contain values of the independent variable x and the second to contain values of the dependent variable $y = f(x)$). Field names in the struct do not matter, although in the current implementation an `_nrows` field is needed to establish the length of the arrays.

See the related Sherpa command `READ` for more information.

Example 1

```
sherpa> () = load_ascii(",example.dat")
sherpa> () = load_ascii(1,"example.dat")
sherpa> () = load_bascii(",example.dat")
sherpa> () = load_bascii(1,"example.dat")
```

The first two commands will load data from the ASCII file into Sherpa source data set 1. The last two commands will load data from the ASCII file into the background associated with Sherpa source data set 1.

Example 2

```
sherpa> foo = readascii("example.dat")
sherpa> () = load_ascii(1,foo)
```

Here the data are read into the S-Lang variable ``foo". The load_ascii() function then reads the data from arrays which are part of the variable ``foo".

Bugs

See the [Sherpa bug pages](#) online for an up-to-date listing of known bugs.

See Also

chandra

[guide](#)

sherpa

[autoest](#), [back](#), [berrors](#), [bsyserrors](#), [coord](#), [data](#), [dataspace](#), [fakeit](#), [feffile](#), [group](#), [guess](#), [is_subtracted](#), [load](#), [load_arf](#), [load_back_from](#), [load_backset](#), [load_dataset](#), [load_fitsbin](#), [load_image](#), [load_inst](#), [load_inst_from](#), [load_pha](#), [load_pha2](#), [load_rmf](#), [read](#), [set_analysis](#), [set_axes](#), [set_backscale](#), [set_coord](#), [set_data](#), [set_exptime](#), [set_subtract](#), [set_weights](#), [setback](#), [setdata](#), [subtract](#), [ungroup](#), [unsubtract](#), [use](#)

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URL:
http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao3.4/load_ascii.html
Last modified: December 2006