

Chapter II-9 — Importing and Exporting Data

Simple delimited text

ch0	ch1	ch2	ch3	(optional row of labels)
2.97055	1.95692	1.00871	8.10685	
3.09921	4.08008	1.00016	7.53136	
3.18934	5.91134	1.04205	6.90194	

Loading this text would create four waves with three points each or, if you specify loading it as a matrix, a single 3 row by 4 column wave.

Delimited text with missing values

ch0	ch1	ch2	ch3	(optional row of labels)
2.97055	1.95692		8.10685	
3.09921	4.08008	1.00016	7.53136	
	5.91134	1.04205		

Loading this text as 1D waves would create four waves. Normally each wave would contain three points but there is an option to ignore blanks at the end of a column. With this option, ch0 and ch3 would have two points. Loading as a matrix would give you a single 3 row by 4 column wave with blanks in columns 0, 2 and 3.

Delimited text with a date column

Date	ch0	ch1	ch2	(optional row of labels)
2/22/93	2.97055	1.95692	1.00871	
2/24/93	3.09921	4.08008	1.00016	
2/25/93	3.18934	5.91134	1.04205	

Loading this text as 1D waves would create four waves with three points each. Igor would convert the dates in the first column into the appropriate number using the Igor system for storing dates (number of seconds since 1/1/1904). This data is not suitable for loading as a matrix.

Delimited text with a nonnumeric column

Sample	ch0	ch1	ch2	(optional row of labels)
Ge	2.97055	1.95692	1.00871	
Si	3.09921	4.08008	1.00016	
GaAs	3.18934	5.91134	1.04205	

Loading this text as 1D waves would normally create four waves with three points each. The first wave would be a text wave and the remaining would be numeric. You could also load this as a single 3x3 matrix, treating the first row as column labels and the first column as row labels for the matrix. If you loaded it as a matrix but did not treat the first column as labels, it would create a 3 row by 4 column text wave, not a numeric wave.

Delimited text with quoted strings

Sample	ch0	ch1	ch2	Comment
Ge	2.97055	1.95692	1.00871	"Run 17, station 1"
Si	3.09921	4.08008	1.00016	"Run 17, station 2"
GaAs	3.18934	5.91134	1.04205	"Run 17, station 3"

Starting with Igor Pro 8.00, Load Delimited Text (LoadWave/J) recognizes ASCII double-quote characters as enclosing a string that may contain delimiter characters. In this case, the Comment column contains text which contains commas. Comma is normally a delimiter character but, because the column text is quoted, LoadWave does not treat it as a delimiter. See **Quoted Strings in Delimited Text Files** on page II-135 for details.

The Load Waves Dialog for Delimited Text — 1D

The basic process of loading 1D data from a delimited text file is as follows:

1. Choose Data→Load Waves→Load Waves to display the Load Waves dialog.
2. Choose Delimited Text from the File Type pop-up menu.