

COLUMN LIMITS

PURPOSE

Specifies the column limits in a file between which the read scan is restricted during subsequent READ and SERIAL READ commands. The specified columns and all columns in between will be included in the data read.

DESCRIPTION

The COLUMN LIMITS command is useful for selectively reading variables from a file and for skipping columns containing character data.

DATAPLOT by default performs free format reads. The COLUMN LIMITS and ROW LIMITS commands provide a method for restricting DATAPLOT to looking at specific columns and rows. However, within these limits DATAPLOT still performs free format reads. The SET READ FORMAT command can be used to perform formatted reads.

SYNTAX

COLUMN LIMITS <column 1> <column 2>

where <column 1> is a number or parameter that specifies the first column to read;
and <column 2> is a number or parameter that specifies the last column to read.

EXAMPLES

```
COLUMN LIMITS 10 30
COLUMN LIMITS 1 15
COLUMN LIMITS 50 63
```

NOTE

The COLUMN RULER command can be used in conjunction with the LIST command to see in what columns a given variable is located. The COLUMN RULER command is documented in the Support chapter.

DEFAULT

DATAPLOT reads columns 1 to 132.

SYNONYMS

None

RELATED COMMANDS

READ	=	Reads data (column-wise) into variables.
SERIAL READ	=	Reads data (row-wise) into variables.
ROW LIMITS	=	Sets the file lines to be included in subsequent reads.
SKIP	=	Sets the number of lines to skip over at the beginning of a file in subsequent reads.
WRITE	=	Writes variables, parameters, and functions to the screen or to a file.
LIST	=	Lists the contents of a file or list the last 20 commands.
SET READ FORMAT	=	Define a Fortran like format to use in subsequent reads.
COLUMN RULER	=	Prints a column header denoting columns 1 through 80.

APPLICATIONS

Reading data files

IMPLEMENTATION DATE

Pre-1987

PROGRAM

```
COLUMN LIMITS 5 100
READ X
A 1
B 2
C 3
END OF DATA
PRINT X
```