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Subject: Re: PV-Wave, Fortran & Windows NT

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Wed, 01 Apr 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Dave Greenwood wrote:

>  
> I apologize for posting such a trivial question, but I don't have access  
> to a system with PV-Wave and I'm trying to help a friend who claims to  
> have only limited programming skills at best. My friend has a file  
> written from PV-Wave (v6.1) on a Windows NT system and wants to read  
> that file using a Fortran (Digital Visual Fortran 5.0) program.  
>  
> The test PV-Wave program is  
>  
>     openw, 10, 'intdat.dat'  
>     writeu, 10, indgen(11,1)  
>     close, 10  
>  
> I would expect that the following Fortran program would read that file:  
>  
>     integer idata(11)  
>     open(13, file='intdat.dat, form='unformatted')  
>     read(13) idata  
>     close(13)  
>  
> Is there any reason that Fortran program shouldn't read the PV-Wave  
> file? My friend claims it doesn't work but as yet he hasn't given me  
> the exact error messages he gets (he's halfway 'round the world so it  
> takes forever to get the things tried exactly as I'd like them.)  
>

Here is what the IDL online help has to say about this:

(OPENW; keywords)

F77\_UNFORMATTED

Unformatted variable-length record files produced by Unix FORTRAN programs contain extra information along with the data in order to allow the data to be properly recovered. This method is necessary because FORTRAN input/output is based on record-oriented files, while Unix files are simple byte streams that do not impose any record structure. Set the F77\_UNFORMATTED keyword to read and write this extra information in the same manner as f77(1), so that data to be processed by both IDL and FORTRAN. See "UNIX-Specific Information" on page 199 of BuildingIDL Applications for further details.

This keyword is only valid on Unix platforms though.

Hope it helps,

Martin

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