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Subject: Re: Help for Wav

Posted by [Ewan A. Macpherson](#) on Sat, 24 Apr 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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wbiagiot@suffolk.lib.ny.us wrote:

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> "Ewan A. Macpherson" <emacpher@umich.edu> wrote:

>> For reading and writing wav files, you can use the PV-WAVE

>> routines, riff\_read.pro & riff\_write.pro available from my web

>> page.

> Thanks for your read/write routines; I plan to experiment with them under IDL

> as they seem pretty compatable. A couple of 'dumb' questions though: 1) Are

> the terms 'riff' and 'wav' interchangeable?

No. WAV is a type of RIFF file. RIFF is sort of a "meta format", so the names of those routines unfortunately promise somewhat more than they deliver. Previous, less-functional versions of those routines were called WAV\_READ and WAV\_WRITE, hence the (perhaps ill-advised) name change.

2) Do you (or anyone else) know of

> a means to send a WAV file to a PC audio card from within IDL? I suspect

> it's gonna have to be an external-C module-arrangement which, unfortunately,

> I haven't tried yet.

Could your write out the WAV file and then spawn the Windows Media Player?

Isn't it about time IDL and PV-WAVE provided native support for WAV files and soundcards? Matlab finally got around to it, although you still can't record.

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