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Subject: Re: Writing formatted text files

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Liam Gumley wrote:

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>
> Bernard Puc <bpuc@va.aetc.com> wrote in message
> news:38A47BCA.884D0CC@va.aetc.com...
>> I'd like to speed-up the following code. I'm writing comma delimited
>> text files, I'm eliminating whitespace by using strtrim, and am
>> explicitly formatting the string using a format keyword. Any ideas how
>> to improve this? I've been playing with various ways of formatting
>> without using a FOR loop but either don't get the desired output or the
>> error message telling me the output string has been truncated to 1024
>> lines.
>>
>> data_to_write = fltarr(3, 100000)
>> FOR j=0, 99999 DO BEGIN
>>   PRINTF,Lun,$
>>   strtrim(string(data_to_write[0,j],format='(f10.3)'),2),',',$
>>   strtrim(string(data_to_write[1,j],format='(f10.3)'),2),',',$
>>   strtrim(string(data_to_write[2,j],format='(f10.3)'),2),$
>>   FORMAT = "(a,a,a,a,a)"
>> ENDFOR
>>
>> Output should look like this:
>>
>> 278.980,-232.018,258.090
>> 278.926,-231.974,258.360
>> 278.889,-231.944,241.240
>> 278.852,-231.913,206.900
>> 278.814,-231.883,156.390
>> 278.776,-231.852,93.680
>> 278.739,-231.821,27.799
>> 278.702,-231.791,-33.771
>> 278.664,-231.760,-84.551
>> 278.626,-231.729,-121.161
>
> This doesn't get rid of all the whitespace, but it's simple and quick, and
> the output is easy to read:
>
> arr = findgen(3, 1000) * 0.1
> print, arr, format='(2(f8.3, ","),f8.3)'
>
```

Try

```
print,FORMAT='(2(f0, ","),f0)',arr
```

It eliminates the whitespace, although you can't control the precision generated (6 digits after the decimal, by default). This "natural width" format isn't documented.

JD

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