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Subject: Re: exporting data

Posted by [Brad Gom](#) on Wed, 21 Jun 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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If you specifically want to write a file for use in Excel, then its best to write a text file where the values are seperated with commas (a CSV file). You can use the PRINTF procedure to write formatted text to a file, or WRITEU to write binary data.

for example:

```
data=findgen(10,5)
;Open LUN 1 for hello.dat with write access.
OPENW, 1, 'data.csv'
;Do the output operation to the file.
PRINTF, 1, data,format='(9(f,""),f)'
;Close the file.
CLOSE, 1
```

This will print out the contents of the data array, seperated with commas. Look at the FORMAT keyword in the help to see how it works.

Brad

Rachel wrote:

```
> Hi. I'm a fairly new user of IDL, and I was wondering if there is anyway to
> export IDL variables. For instance, if I've created an array in IDL and I'd
> like to graph it in Excel or some other graphing program is there any way to
> get the array to excel. Any suggestion would be greatly appreciated.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Rachel
```

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