

---

Subject: Re: file output

Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 22 Sep 2000 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

bishop\_98@my-deja.com (bishop\_98@my-deja.com) writes:

> Hello all this may sound like a dumb question but this has been buggin  
> me. My problem is that when 've processed some thousand rows of data  
> thats read into an array and wish to ouput it to a new file what happens  
> is that the row doesn't fit on a line but rather goes over to the next  
> line but i tried just printing out the values as is instead of the array  
> and the exact same values fit.

IDL, like many computer programs first written in the era of FORTRAN card decks, uses an 80-column line. (I always have the idea that people who don't sign their names to newsgroup posts are young kids who have missed out on far more than just drugs, sex, and rock and roll from the sixties. They missed out on etiquette too. Or, at least that is what I imagine. I'm probably wrong.)

In any case, when IDL is writing data to a file in free-format mode and it gets to the end of that 80 character line, it just moves on to the next line, and continues in this manner until it runs out of things to say.

If you want to make the line wider (sounds like you do), then you can use the WIDTH keyword to make it as wide as you like:

```
OpenW, lun, filename, /Get_Lun, Width=180
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: [davidf@dfanning.com](mailto:davidf@dfanning.com)

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

---