Subject: Re: tape I/O under Unix: eof always true?
Posted by ljg on Sat, 02 Jan 1993 03:29:56 GMT

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Fred Knight (knight@ll.mit.edu) wrote:
: Can anybody give me some help on IDL's handling of eof while reading
: tape under Unix? The following test fails. I mount a (test) tar tape
: and do the following:
: IDL> openr,lun,/get_lun,'/dev/rst0'
: IDL> print,eof(lun)
:   1   ; <==== Why? Shouldn't it be zero?
: IDL> point_lun,lun,100
: IDL> print,eof(lun)
:   1   ; <==== Same question.
: IDL> a=bytarr(2048)
: IDL> readu,lun,a
: IDL> print,eof(lun)
:   1   ; <==== Same question.

: Thanks for any help,

: Fred
: --
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Hmmm . . . Didn't my recent posting make it out? In it, I mentioned
that eof() doesn't work with tape files. However, using on_ioerror works:

```
  openr,1,'/dev/nrst0'

  !error = 0
  on_ioerror, done

  while (1) do begin
    readu,1,buf
    ; . . . process data . . .
  endwhile

  done:
  if !error then print, !err_string
```

The above will work to read a single file from a tape, however I still
have no answer as to how to read multiple files from a tape. So far,
the only way I can read a second file is to exit completely out of IDL,
reposition the tape with mt, restart IDL and rerun the application.
I guess I'll be giving RSI a call on Monday.

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