Subject: Re: open,/record - classification
Posted by knipp on Wed, 25 Nov 1992 11:01:07 GMT
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William Thompson (thompson@stars.gsfc.nasa.gov (William Thompson, code 682.1, x2040)
writes ...

> My experience is with IDL, not PV-WAVE, but this should still hold true. You
> can open a tape device in Unix and do I/O using READU and WRITEU. At least I
> was able to do this with an Exabyte tape drive on a Sun. You can also spawn
> out to the OS to send commands such as
>
> mt -f /dev/nrst1 fsf 1
>
>   ...
>
> At one time I tried to write IDL procedures for Unix that imitated as closely
> as possible the VMS tape utilities: TAPRD, TAPWRT, etc. I stopped working on
> it, though, when I realized that there was no way to obtain the actual number
> of bytes read in, as one could with the VMS routines. One place that was
> crucial for us was in reading FITS tapes--we needed to be able to tell if the
> tape was written using 2880 byte or 28800 byte records.
>
> Bill Thompson

 Dear Bill,
 thank you for your answer.

 I've tried OPENU together with READU/WRITEU. It worked perfectely well
 for records up to ~ 1000 bytes long.
 Unfortunately it did NOT with larger record-lengths (say 10000, 16000 or
 even 19000 bytes long - which I have to deal with).

 If anybody could help me to overcome this problem (without spawning
 a command like 'dd' to the OS) I'll be very grateful.

 Regarding your problem (2880 or 28800 byte records) :
 Have you tried the UNIX-command 'tcopy' ?

 K.Knipp
 (Does nobody know something about classification in WAVE ?)

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