
Subject: Re: WRITE_FITS error

Posted by [Carsten Lechte](#) on Fri, 20 Aug 2010 13:57:28 GMT

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

Gray wrote:

```
> % WRITEU: Error encountered writing to file. Unit: 100, File:
> Hel__interp.fits.gz
> Input/output error
> % Error occurred at: WRITEFITS      243 /Applications/itt/idl70/lib/
> astrolib/pro/writefits.pro
```

You do not say what kind of operating system you use, so I am answering for a Unix/Linux type system, which may be wrong or misleading for Windows-based systems. OSX should be more Unix-like than windows-like.

The string "Input/output error" usually occurs when one of the lower-level operating system functions for writing data to files fails, i.e. it is not an error within the IDL program as such.

Possible reasons for IO errors include: full disk, exhausted quota, removable drives that have been disconnected or have otherwise disappeared.

Note that even a 100MB file may not fit into a 120MB space if first an uncompressed file is written, then compressed with an external program, necessitating space for both compressed and uncompressed versions, then the uncompressed file is removed. I have no idea if this is relevant for fits.gz files.

chl
