
Subject: Re: Write a vector into a file

Posted by [penteado](#) on Tue, 09 Nov 2010 15:18:28 GMT

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On Nov 9, 1:07 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

- > But I think it works for the wrong reasons, and
- > I think there is a danger, especially if the data
- > is not all of the same magnitude, that what ends
- > up in the file is not exactly what you *expect*
- > will end up in the file.

I agree. That way is relying on IDL's guess of how to make a string out of the array, which is just intended to be a handy default (and most often used interactively for the console). But since we do not know what is getting written (might not even be numbers), that is a neat generic trick.

- > Much better, it seems to me, to do this correctly
- > so that the precision of the data is maintained
- > in the way you specify. Of course, we can't do
- > this "correctly" since the end user hasn't told
- > us anything about his data. It may be he is
- > content with solutions that just look like they
- > work. Many people are. :-)

That is a common problem. Too many are content with always using text files, as if none of the binary formats existed or ever were useful.
