Subject: Re: structure length in files
Posted by Bill Nel on Tue, 18 Jun 2013 16:20:13 GMT
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On Tuesday, June 18, 2013 11:20:10 AM UTC-4, Helder wrote:

> [Short summary: When IDL writes structures in unformatted binary data files, what size will the resulting file have, that described by n_tags(Example1,/LENGTH) or n_tags(Example1,/DATA_LENGTH)?]

I don't believe it is documented, but empirically (on my Windows 7 system -- and several years ago on a Unix system), writeu, struct writes the structure unpadded to a file, n_tags(struct, /data_length). You can check yourself using
    openw, unit, filename, /get_lun,
    writeu, unit, struct
    point_lun, -unit, fileOffset

There is one important exception. If the struct contains strings, then n_tags(... , /data_length) isn't the size of the unpadded structure. (This is documented.)

--Wayne