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Subject: Re: String array Read and Write

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 11 Jan 2014 05:36:22 GMT

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Gompie writes:

```
> I get garbage when I read in a array of strings that I had written using the following code
>
> openw, lun, 'test.dat', /get_lun
>
> afilename=bytarr(256,N)
>
> read in N afilenames...
>
> afilenames_temp=string(afilename(0:255,N) )
>
>
> writeu, lun,afilenames_temp(0:N-1)
> close,lun
> * Here If I give pring afilenames_temp(0:10) I get first 11 file complete names
> Looks like afilenames_temp has all the info that I needed to store in it and I should have written
it into the binary file...
>
> However when I read test.dat with the following code I get garbage.
>
>
> openr, lun, 'test.dat', /get_lun
> afile = string(lengths+1)
> readu, lun,afile
>
> Can anybody help...
```

Strings are difficult to write in a binary file since they have an undefined length in IDL. Try setting the XDR keyword on your OPENW command and giving them a defined length when reading them.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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