
Subject: Re: Writing an 8 Column array into a data file
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 15 Feb 2014 17:59:51 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

drewciampa@gmail.com writes:

> Also, maybe you guys could still help with whats going on with the hexadecimal data. That array contains string type variable, and when I write it to a file I only get the first number of each element. some sample code is below:

```
>
> array1    STRING  = Array[1, 5]
>
> the array contains:
> [2b40e2200ff00007, 2b40e2200ff00009, 2b40e2200ff0000c, 2b40e2200ff00011,
2b40e2200ff00019]
>
> openw, lun, 'test.dat', /get_lun
> printf, lun, array1, FORMAT='(Z16)'
> close,lun
>
> what I get is:
>      2
>      2
>      2
>      2
>      2
>
> Any clue why this might be?
```

Confusion on your part, I'm going to guess. :-)

What exactly are you trying to do? The array does NOT look like it contains string variables. If it *did* contain string variables, you could just write them out as strings. If you are trying to write the strings out as hexadecimal numbers, then IDL has to convert them to hexadecimals to write them. A number "b" doesn't make much sense in this conversion process, so IDL does what I would do, gives up and goes gets a beer. What would you do?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

