
Subject: Writing an array of a structure to a file
Posted by [rfinch](#) on Tue, 11 Feb 1992 17:06:43 GMT
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PV-Wave 3.1, Sun 4.

I've got an array of a structure which must be sorted and duplicate entries deleted. Since PV-Wave's sort can only handle simple arrays (not structures), I want to dump the array structure to an ascii file and use Unix sort on it.

However, since the array is large (up to 5000 elements), I don't want to use a "for" loop. What is want to do is say:

```
writf, unit, catlg_sta, format='(7a,3i10)'
```

where structure is defined as:

```
catlg_stru = {catlg, a:' ', b:' ', c:' ', e:' ', f:' ', $  
  d_st:' ', d_ed:' ', jul_st:0L, jul_ed:0L, dssfile:0L}  
catlg_sta = replicate({catlg}, 5000)
```

However, curiously each tag field of each array element is put on its own line. And stranger, it doesn't seem to make a lot of difference just what the format is! A format of '(a)' produces the same result. Free format is no good, as it decides itself where line breaks occur; not good for subsequent sorting.

Any ideas how I can get each array element on its own line?

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Any opinions expressed are my own; they do not represent the DWR
