Subject: Re: writing multi-column text files Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Mon, 18 Aug 2003 17:35:47 GMT

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```
James Bradbury wrote:
```

```
I have a simple floating point array
>
 DATA FLOAT = array[17,48]
>
 that I would like to write to a text file.
 This is how I am trying to do it:
>
>
> openW, 1, 'new_data.txt'
> printF, 1, data
> close,1
> The problem is that when I open the IDL-written text file outside of
> IDL, it does not have the same dimensions as it should (17 columns,
> and 48 rows). It only has six columns... and 3 times as many rows.
```

This seems like it should be VERY simple...

Should be. Unfortunately file I/O never is (in any language as far as I can tell :o) The problem is the

default output width of ASCII files. I think it's something like 80-100 columns.

Try

```
openw, 1, 'new data.txt', width=2000
```

This should give you 2000 output columns (characters)...more than enough for 17 data columns.

paulv

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