
Subject: Re: Writing 2D array to Text File
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Fri, 21 Aug 2009 19:09:24 GMT
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Vikram wrote:

```
> Hello IDL Gurus,  
>  
> I would like to write a 2D array that I have [120,120], to a text  
> file. When I write the array out now, everything appears in 1 column  
> with 14400 rows:  
>  
> for i = 0,119 do begin  
>   for j = 0,119 do begin  
>     PRINTF,lun,array[i,j]  
>   endfor  
> endfor  
>  
> Is there anyway that I can format my PRINTF to print 120 columns and  
> 120 rows, for viewing in Excel. Any ideas?  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Vikram
```

Vikram,

you can play with the format keyword...
something like this:

```
print, a, format='(120(A,""))' ==> will put a comma after each value
```

or

```
print, a, format='(120A)' ==>will write by 120 cols.
```

So, in your case, just remove the loops...

```
PRINTF,lun,array, format = '(120A)'
```

You can even change the 120 by `n_elements(array[,0])` etc

Jean

Subject: Re: Writing 2D array to Text File
Posted by [penteado](#) on Fri, 21 Aug 2009 20:40:46 GMT
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On Aug 21, 4:09 pm, "Jean H." <jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca>

wrote:

```
> you can play with the format keyword...
> something like this:
>
> print, a, format='(120(A,""))' ==> will put a comma after each value
>
> or
>
> print, a, format='(120A)' ==> will write by 120 cols.
>
> So, in your case, just remove the loops...
>
> PRINTF,lun,array, format = '(120A)'
```

That is in case it is an array of strings. For numbers you would have to pick a numeric format in place of the A (I,F,E being the most common; see the documentation on print, and there will be a link to the format codes).

That double loop was writing only one element per line because by default each printf statement moves the output to a new line after it, so it was putting a newline after each element.

Subject: Re: Writing 2D array to Text File
Posted by [penteado](#) on Fri, 21 Aug 2009 20:47:23 GMT
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On Aug 21, 2:56 pm, Vikram <vikramivat...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Is there anyway that I can format my PRINTF to print 120 columns and
> 120 rows, for viewing in Excel. Any ideas?

If you are using IDL 7.1, you can also use write_csv to do everything (not just in place of printf, but in place of openw,printf,free_lun/close), as in:

```
write_csv,'file.csv',array
```
