
Subject: Re: Printing array to text file

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 29 Aug 2011 21:28:50 GMT

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check out the WIDTH keyword to OPENW

cheers,

paulv

Alexa wrote:

```
> Hi All,
>
> When I'm printing an array to a text file it doesn't print in way that
> maintains the proper number of rows and columns.
>
>
> Here's what I'm doing to fill the array in IDL,
>
> ;;Open file with list of metallicities and put into an array
> ReadCol, "MetalsList.txt", Metal, Format='a'
> print, Metal
>
> ;;Create temporary arrays for the transitions
> O3arr=FLTARR(41,25)
>
> ;;Open the metals folders in order to read in col.txt
>
>   for nt=0, N_ELEMENTS(Metal)-1 do begin
>     cd, Metal[nt]
>     ;;Read in column densities
>     ReadCol, 'O3.cd', U, O3
>
>     cd, '..'
>
>     ;Fill arrays
>
>     O3arr(nt,*)=o3
>   endfor
>
> I think the problem is probably how I'm printing the array to a text
> file
>
>   openw, lun, 'O3arr.txt', /GET_LUN
>   printf,lun, O3arr
>   close, lun & free_lun, lun
>
```

> Do you see anything here that would cause the array not to have the
> proper columns and rows?
>
> Thanks,
> Alexa

Subject: Re: Printing array to text file
Posted by [Brian Wolven](#) on Mon, 29 Aug 2011 21:36:38 GMT
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I think you're going to need to specify a format with a fixed number of values and decimal places for each value if you want to generate nice even columns. I don't think that the default IDL format will provide that, unless the values are pretty uniform.
