
Subject: problem with ASSOC

Posted by [jackel\[1\]](#) on Wed, 02 Jul 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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Greetings

I've run across some strange behaviour with ASSOC (used for easy random file access), and I was wondering if

- 1) anyone has seen this before
- 2) anyone would like to test my sample script on other platforms

Basically, I make a small file with a number of records, and can read it back in with READU. However, trying to ASSOC gives some very strange results. Any comments would be greatly appreciated. The sample script is included below.

```
;1997/07/02  Brian Jackel  jackel@danlon.physics.uwo.ca
;
;Platform: Win95
;Version: 4.0.1 and 5.0 pre-release beta
;
;This IDL script isolates a problem where ASSOC doesn't
;appear to work properly. Everything works well using
;READU, but ASSOC has trouble with the floating point value,
;and runs out of records. The output is included at the
;end of this file.
;

;Create a small record
;
recordtype= {Test, hh:0, mm:0, ss:0, ut:0.0}
record= recordtype
record.hh= 12
record.ss= 5
record.ut= 10.5

;Write several copies to a file (all identical)
;
filename= 'test.dat'
OPENW,1,filename
FOR indx=0,10 DO WRITEU,1,record
CLOSE,1

;Read the first one back in, see if it's okay
```

```

;
PRINT,'Results using READU'
OPENR,1,filename
READU,1,record
HELP,/str,record
POINT_LUN,1,0
FOR indx=0,10 DO BEGIN
  READU,1,record
  PRINT,indx,record.ut
ENDFOR
CLOSE,1

```

```

;
;Use "assoc" to read in a file, see what happens.
;

```

```

PRINT,'Results using ASSOC'
OPENR,1,filename,BUFSIZE=1024
read_data= ASSOC(1,recordtype)
test= read_data(0)
HELP,/STR,test
FOR indx=0,10 DO BEGIN
  test= READ_DATA(indx)
  print,indx,test.ut
ENDFOR

```

```

CLOSE,1

```

```

END

```

```

;IDL> .RUN E:\DATA\EISCAT\1992\DATA\TEST.PRO

```

```

;% Compiled module: $MAIN$.

```

```

;Results using READU

```

```

;** Structure TEST, 4 tags, length=12:

```

```

; HH      INT      12
; MM      INT      0
; SS      INT      5
; UT      FLOAT    10.5000
; 0  10.5000
; 1  10.5000
; 2  10.5000
; 3  10.5000
; 4  10.5000
; 5  10.5000
; 6  10.5000
; 7  10.5000
; 8  10.5000
; 9  10.5000
; 10 10.5000

```

```
;Results using ASSOC
;** Structure TEST, 4 tags, length=12:
; HH      INT      12
; MM      INT      0
; SS      INT      5
; UT      FLOAT    1.12540e-039
; 0 1.12540e-039
; 1 1.68156e-044
; 2 4.59177e-040
; 3 7.00649e-045
; 4 10.5000
; 5 1.12540e-039
; 6 1.68156e-044
; 7 4.59177e-040
; 8 7.00649e-045
;% End of file encountered. Unit: 1
; File: E:\data\EISCAT\1992\data\test.dat
;% Execution halted at: $MAIN$      43
; E:\DATA\EISCAT\1992\DATA\TEST.PRO
```

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BTW, in my previous article, there is a line

```
> OPENR,1,filename,BUFSIZE=1024
```

but the results are the same no matter what BUFSIZE is set to,
or if it's not set at all. Sorry for any confusion.

Brian
