Subject: Re: Data Handling Posted by Harald Jeszenszky on Wed, 22 Apr 1998 07:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Neil Winrow wrote:

- > Can anyone please offer me any advice. I have a file containing several
- blocks of data. Each block of data contains the same amount of data.
- indata = fltarr(5,100)
- > readf,10, indata
- ; define array size and read first block of data into array

>

- > Header info from each block of data seperates the data, so I need to
- > skip over the header and read the next block of data, the number of data
- > blocks cannot be determinded from any header info. So the problem
- > involves having X number of blocks that need to be accessed at any
- > time. If I use pointers to point to each data block then I can retrieve
- > the data later, but I'm a little unsure how to go about this.

- Many Thanks
- > Neil

You could scan the whole data file for one time and save the data block positions in an IDL structure. Then you can access every data block by its block position using the POINT_LUN procedure.

The following routines should give you an idea of who to do this (there is no error checking included):

```
FUNCTION Open_File, name
```

```
OPENR, unit, name, /GET_LUN
```

```
header = STRARR(3) ; size = # of header lines/block
data = FLTARR(5,10); size = # of data values to read
blocks = 0
```

```
WHILE NOT EOF(unit) DO BEGIN
READF, unit, header; skip header lines
blocks = blocks + 1
IF (blocks EQ 1) THEN $; save block position
  pos = (FSTAT(unit)).CUR_PTR $
ELSE $
  pos = [TEMPORARY(pos), (FSTAT(unit)).CUR_PTR]
READF, unit, data; skip data block
```

```
ENDWHILE
  id = { BLOCK_IO, unit:unit, blocks:blocks, pos:pos }
  RETURN, id
END; Open_File
FUNCTION Read_Data, id, block
  data = FLTARR(5,10)
  IF (block LT 0) OR (block GE id.blocks) THEN BEGIN
MESSAGE, 'Block # out of range !', /CONTINUE
RETURN, data
  ENDIF
  POINT_LUN, id.unit, id.pos[block]
  READF, id.unit, data
  RETURN, data
END; Read_Data
PRO Close_File, id
  FREE_LUN, id.unit
  id = 0
END; Close_File
Hope it helps
Harald
File Attachments
1) vcard.vcf, downloaded 77 times
```