

NAME

rf – RF11/RS11 fixed-head disk file

DESCRIPTION

This file refers to the concatenation of all RS-11 disks.

Each disk contains 1024 256-word blocks. The length of the combined RF file is 1024×(minor+1) blocks. That is minor device zero is taken to be 1024 blocks long; minor device one is 2048, etc.

The *rf0* file accesses the disk via the system's normal buffering mechanism and may be read and written without regard to physical disk records. There is also a "raw" interface which provides for direct transmission between the disk and the user's read or write buffer. A single read or write call results in exactly one I/O operation and therefore raw I/O is considerably more efficient when many words are transmitted. The name of the raw RF file is *rrf0*. The same minor device considerations hold for the raw interface as for the normal interface.

In raw I/O the buffer must begin on a word boundary, and counts should be a multiple of 512 bytes (a disk block). Likewise *seek* calls should specify a multiple of 512 bytes.

FILES

/dev/rf0, /dev/rrf0

BUGS

The 512-byte restrictions on the raw device are not physically necessary, but are still imposed.