Section 10: Input/output editing

A format used in conjunction with an input/output statement provides information that directs the editing between the internal representation of data and the characters of a sequence of formatted records.

A format specifier (9.4.1.1) in an input/output statement may refer to a FORMAT statement or to a character expression that contains a format specification. A format specification provides explicit editing information. The format specifier also may be an asterisk (*) which indicates list-directed formatting (10.8). Instead of a format specifier, a *namelist-group-name* may be specified which indicates namelist formatting (10.9).

10.1 Explicit format specification methods

Explicit format specification may be given

(1) In a FORMAT statement or

(2) In a character expression.

10.1.1 FORMAT statement

R1001 *format-stmt* **is** FORMAT *format-specification*

R1002 *format-specification* **is** ([*format-item-list*])

Constraint: The *format-stmt* shall be labeled.

Constraint: The comma used to separate *format-item*s in a *format-item-list* may be omitted

(1) Between a P edit descriptor and an immediately following F, E, EN, ES, D, or G edit descriptor (10.6.5),

(2) Before a slash edit descriptor when the optional repeat specification is not present (10.6.2),

(3) After a slash edit descriptor, or

(4) Before or after a colon edit descriptor (10.6.3)

Blank characters may precede the initial left parenthesis of the format specification. Additional blank characters may appear at any point within the format specification, with no effect on the interpretation of the format specification, except within a character string edit descriptor (10.7).

NOTE 10.1

Examples of FORMAT statements are:

```
5     FORMAT (1PE12.4, I10)
9     FORMAT (I12, /, ' Dates: ', 2 (2I3, I5))
```

10.1.2 Character format specification

A character expression used as a format specifier in a formatted input/output statement shall evaluate to a character string whose leading part is a valid format specification.

NOTE 10.2

The format specification begins with a left parenthesis and ends with a right parenthesis.

All character positions up to and including the final right parenthesis of the format specification shall be defined at the time the input/output statement is executed, and shall not become redefined or undefined during the execution of the statement. Character positions, if any, following the right parenthesis that ends the format specification need not be defined and may contain any character data with no effect on the interpretation of the format specification.

If the format specifier references a character array, it is treated as if all of the elements of the array were specified in array element order and were concatenated. However, if a format specifier references a character array element, the format specification shall be entirely within that array element.

NOTE 10.3

If a character constant is used as a format specifier in an input/output statement, care shall be taken that the value of the character constant is a valid format specification. In particular, if a format specification delimited by apostrophes contains a character constant edit descriptor delimited with apostrophes, two apostrophes shall be written to delimit the edit descriptor and four apostrophes shall be written for each apostrophe that occurs within the edit descriptor. For example, the text:

```
 2 ISN'T 3
```

may be written by various combinations of output statements and format specifications:

```
    WRITE (6, 100) 2, 3
100 FORMAT (1X, I1, 1X, 'ISN''T', 1X, I1)

    WRITE (6, '(1X, I1, 1X, ''ISN''''T'', 1X, I1)') 2, 3

    WRITE (6, '(A)') ' 2 ISN''T 3'
```

Doubling of internal apostrophes usually can be avoided by using quotation marks to delimit the format specification and doubling of internal quotation marks usually can be avoided by using apostrophes as delimiters.

10.2 Form of a format item list

R1003 *format-item* **is** [*r*] *data-edit-desc*
or *control-edit-desc*
or *char-string-edit-desc*
or [*r*] (*format-item-list*)

R1004 *r* **is** *int-literal-constant*

Constraint: *r* shall be positive.

Constraint: *r* shall not have a kind parameter specified for it.

The integer literal constant *r* is called a **repeat specification.**

10.2.1 Edit descriptors

An **edit descriptor** is a **data edit descriptor**, a **control edit descriptor**, or a **character string edit descriptor**.

R1005 *data-edit-desc* **is** I *w* [**.** *m*]
or B *w* [**.** *m*]
or O *w* [**.** *m*]
or Z *w* [**.** *m*]
or F *w* **.** *d*
or E *w* **.** *d* [E *e*]
or EN *w* **.** *d* [E *e*]
or ES *w* **.** *d* [E *e*]
or G *w* **.** *d* [E *e*]
or L *w*
or A [*w*]

or D *w* . *d*

R1006 *w* **is** *int-literal-constant*

R1007 *m* **is** *int-literal-constant*

R1008 *d* **is** *int-literal-constant*

R1009 *e* **is** *int-literal-constant*

Constraint: *e* shall be positive.

Constraint: *w* shall be zero or positive for the I, B, O, Z, and F edit descriptors. *w* shall be positive for all other edit descriptors.

Constraint: *w*, *m*, *d*, and *e* shall not have kind parameters specified for them.

I, B, O, Z, F, E, EN, ES, G, L, A, and D indicate the manner of editing.

R1010 *control-edit-desc* **is** *position-edit-desc*
or [*r*] /
or :
or *sign-edit-desc*
or *k* P
or *blank-interp-edit-desc*

R1011 *k* **is** *signed-int-literal-constant*

Constraint: *k* shall not have a kind parameter specified for it.

R1012 *position-edit-desc* **is** T *n*
or TL *n*
or TR *n*
or *n* X

R1013 *n* **is** *int-literal-constant*

Constraint: *n* shall be positive.

Constraint: *n* shall not have a kind parameter specified for it.

R1014 *sign-edit-desc* **is** S
or SP
or SS

R1015 *blank-interp-edit-desc* **is** BN
or BZ

In *k*P, *k* is called the **scale factor**.

T, TL, TR, X, slash, colon, S, SP, SS, P, BN, and BZ indicate the manner of editing.

R1016 *char-string-edit-desc* **is** *char-literal-constant*

Constraint: The *char-literal-constant* shall not have a kind parameter specified for it.

Each *rep-char* in a character string edit descriptor shall be one of the characters capable of representation by the processor.

The character string edit descriptors provide constant data to be output, and are not valid for input.

Within a character literal constant, appearances of the delimiter character itself, apostrophe or quote, shall be as consecutive pairs without intervening blanks. Each such pair represents a single occurrence of the delimiter character.

If a processor is capable of representing letters in both upper and lower case, the edit descriptors are without regard to case except for the characters in the character constants.

10.2.2 Fields

A **field** is a part of a record that is read on input or written on output when format control encounters a data edit descriptor or a character string edit descriptor. The **field width** is the size in characters of the field.

10.3 Interaction between input/output list and format

The beginning of formatted data transfer using a format specification initiates **format control** (9.4.4.4.2). Each action of format control depends on information jointly provided by

(1) The next edit descriptor in the format specification and

(2) The next effective item in the input/output list, if one exists.

If an input/output list specifies at least one effective list item, at least one data edit descriptor shall exist in the format specification.

NOTE 10.4

An empty format specification of the form ( ) may be used only if the input/output list has no effective list items (9.4.4.4). Zero length character items are effective list items, but zero sized arrays and implied-DO lists with an iteration count of zero are not.

Except for a format item preceded by a repeat specification *r*, a format specification is interpreted from left to right.

A format item preceded by a repeat specification is processed as a list of *r* items, each identical to the format item but without the repeat specification and separated by commas.

NOTE 10.5

An omitted repeat specification is treated in the same way as a repeat specification whose value is one.

To each data edit descriptor interpreted in a format specification, there corresponds one effective item specified by the input/output list (9.4.2), except that an input/output list item of type complex requires the interpretation of two F, E, EN, ES, D, or G edit descriptors. For each control edit descriptor or character edit descriptor, there is no corresponding item specified by the input/output list, and format control communicates information directly with the record.

Whenever format control encounters a data edit descriptor in a format specification, it determines whether there is a corresponding effective item specified by the input/output list. If there is such an item, it transmits appropriately edited information between the item and the record, and then format control proceeds. If there is no such item, format control terminates.

If format control encounters a colon edit descriptor in a format specification and another effective input/output list item is not specified, format control terminates.

If format control encounters the rightmost parenthesis of a complete format specification and another effective input/output list item is not specified, format control terminates. However, if another effective input/output list item is specified, the file is positioned in a manner identical to the way it is positioned when a slash edit descriptor is processed (10.6.2). Format control then reverts to the beginning of the format item terminated by the last preceding right parenthesis. If there is no such preceding right parenthesis, format control reverts to the first left parenthesis of the format specification. If any reversion occurs, the reused portion of the format specification shall contain at least one data edit descriptor. If format control reverts to a parenthesis that is preceded by a repeat specification, the repeat specification is reused. Reversion of format control, of itself, has no effect on the scale factor (10.6.5.1), the sign control edit descriptors (10.6.4), or the blank interpretation edit descriptors (10.6.6).

NOTE 10.6

Example: The format specification:

```
10 FORMAT (1X, 2(F10.3, I5))
```

with an output list of

```
WRITE (10,10) 10.1, 3, 4.7, 1, 12.4, 5, 5.2, 6
```

produces the same output as the format specification:

```
10 FORMAT (1X, F10.3, I5, F10.3, I5/F10.3, I5, F10.3, I5)
```

10.4 Positioning by format control

After each data edit descriptor or character string edit descriptor is processed, the file is positioned after the last character read or written in the current record.

After each T, TL, TR, or X edit descriptor is processed, the file is positioned as described in 10.6.1. After each slash edit descriptor is processed, the file is positioned as described in 10.6.2.

If format control reverts as described in 10.3, the file is positioned in a manner identical to the way it is positioned when a slash edit descriptor is processed (10.6.2).

During a read operation, any unprocessed characters of the current record are skipped whenever the next record is read.

10.5 Data edit descriptors

Data edit descriptors cause the conversion of data to or from its internal representation. Characters in the record shall be of default kind if they correspond to the value of a numeric, logical, or default character data entity, and shall be of nondefault kind if they correspond to the value of a data entity of nondefault character type. Characters transmitted to a record as a result of processing a character string edit descriptor shall be of default kind. On input, the specified variable becomes defined unless an error condition, an end-of-file condition, or an end-of-record condition occurs. On output, the specified expression is evaluated.

10.5.1 Numeric editing

The I, B, O, Z, F, E, EN, ES, D, and G edit descriptors may be used to specify the input/output of integer, real, and complex data. The following general rules apply:

(1) On input, leading blanks are not significant. The interpretation of blanks, other than leading blanks, is determined by a combination of any BLANK= specifier (9.3.4.6), the default for a preconnected or internal file, and any BN or BZ blank control that is currently in effect for the unit (10.6.6). Plus signs may be omitted. A field containing only blanks is considered to be zero.

(2) On input, with F, E, EN, ES, D, and G editing, a decimal point appearing in the input field overrides the portion of an edit descriptor that specifies the decimal point location. The input field may have more digits than the processor uses to approximate the value of the datum.

(3) On output with I, F, E, EN, ES, D, and G editing, the representation of a positive or zero internal value in the field may be prefixed with a plus, as controlled by the S, SP, and SS edit descriptors or the processor. The representation of a negative internal value in the field shall be prefixed with a minus.

(4) On output, the representation is right-justified in the field. If the number of characters produced by the editing is smaller than the field width, leading blanks are inserted in the field.