EVIO 6.0 User’s Guide

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30-Sep-2020

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[1. Introduction To Evio Versions 6](#_Toc54699646)

[1.1 Version 1 6](#_Toc54699647)

[1.2 Versions 2 & 3 6](#_Toc54699648)

[1.3 Version 4 7](#_Toc54699649)

[1.3.1 File Format Block Size 7](#_Toc54699650)

[1.3.2 Network Communication Format 7](#_Toc54699651)

[1.3.3 Expanded User Interface 7](#_Toc54699652)

[1.3.4 Dictionary 7](#_Toc54699653)

[1.3.5 Padding 8](#_Toc54699654)

[1.3.6 Data Formats 8](#_Toc54699655)

[1.3.7 Random Access 8](#_Toc54699656)

[1.3.8 Append Mode 8](#_Toc54699657)

[1.3.9 Splitting Files 8](#_Toc54699658)

[1.3.10 Thread Safety 8](#_Toc54699659)

[1.3.11 Graphics 8](#_Toc54699660)

[1.4 Version 6 8](#_Toc54699661)

[1.4.1 New Block or Record Format 9](#_Toc54699662)

[1.4.2 Compressed Data 9](#_Toc54699663)

[1.4.3 Data Format Agnostic API 9](#_Toc54699664)

[1.4.4 New C++ library 9](#_Toc54699665)

[2 Basics of the C Library 10](#_Toc54699666)

[2.1 Starting to use Evio 10](#_Toc54699667)

[2.2 Reading events 11](#_Toc54699668)

[2.3 Writing events 11](#_Toc54699669)

[2.3.1 Splitting files 12](#_Toc54699670)

[2.3.2 Naming files 12](#_Toc54699671)

[2.4 Controlling I/O through evIoctl() 13](#_Toc54699672)

[2.5 String manipulation 14](#_Toc54699673)

[2.6 Network Communication Format 14](#_Toc54699674)

[2.7 Dictionary 14](#_Toc54699675)

[2.8 First Event 14](#_Toc54699676)

[2.9 Data Formats 15](#_Toc54699677)

[2.10 Documentation 15](#_Toc54699678)

[3 Evio Installation 16](#_Toc54699679)

[3.1 C 16](#_Toc54699680)

[3.2 C++ 16](#_Toc54699681)

[3.2.1 Prerequisites 16](#_Toc54699682)

[3.2.2 Building 17](#_Toc54699683)

[3.2.3 Cmake / make 18](#_Toc54699684)

[3.2.4 Documentation 18](#_Toc54699685)

[3.3 Java 20](#_Toc54699686)

[4 C++ API Basics 21](#_Toc54699687)

[4.1 Basics 21](#_Toc54699688)

[4.2 Three interfaces 21](#_Toc54699689)

[4.3 Shared Pointers 22](#_Toc54699690)

[4.4 ByteBuffer Class 22](#_Toc54699691)

[4.4.1 Basic Usage 22](#_Toc54699692)

[4.4.2 Capacity 22](#_Toc54699693)

[4.4.3 Position 23](#_Toc54699694)

[4.4.4 Limit 23](#_Toc54699695)

[4.4.5 Mark 23](#_Toc54699696)

[4.4.6 Example Diagrams 23](#_Toc54699697)

[4.4.7 Creating a Buffer 25](#_Toc54699698)

[4.4.8 Writing Data 25](#_Toc54699699)

[4.4.9 The flip() method 26](#_Toc54699700)

[4.4.10 Reading Data 26](#_Toc54699701)

[4.4.11 Endianness 26](#_Toc54699702)

[4.4.12 The rewind() method 26](#_Toc54699703)

[4.4.13 The clear() and compact() methods 27](#_Toc54699704)

[4.4.14 The mark() and reset() methods 27](#_Toc54699705)

[4.4.15 The array() method 27](#_Toc54699706)

[5 Evio-specific C++ APIs 28](#_Toc54699707)

[5.1 Event Creating with EventBuilder 28](#_Toc54699708)

[5.2 Writing 31](#_Toc54699709)

[5.2.1 Writing to file or buffer 31](#_Toc54699710)

[5.2.2 Naming files 31](#_Toc54699711)

[5.2.3 Splitting files 32](#_Toc54699712)

[5.3 Reading 32](#_Toc54699713)

[5.4 Searching 35](#_Toc54699714)

[5.5 Parsing 36](#_Toc54699715)

[5.6 Transforming 37](#_Toc54699716)

[5.7 Dictionaries 37](#_Toc54699717)

[5.8 First Event 39](#_Toc54699718)

[5.9 XML format events 39](#_Toc54699719)

[6 Compact Java Evio 41](#_Toc54699720)

[6.1 Basics 41](#_Toc54699721)

[6.2 Example 1 42](#_Toc54699722)

[6.3 Example 2 43](#_Toc54699723)

[6.4 Example 3 44](#_Toc54699724)

[6.5 Example 4 45](#_Toc54699725)

[6.6 XML format events 45](#_Toc54699726)

[7 Utilities 46](#_Toc54699727)

[7.1 evio2xml 46](#_Toc54699728)

[7.2 eviocopy 47](#_Toc54699729)

[7.3 evioCat 47](#_Toc54699730)

[7.4 Xml2evio 47](#_Toc54699731)

[8 C++ Tutorial 48](#_Toc54699732)

[8.1 Simple event I/O 48](#_Toc54699733)

[8.2 Querying the event tree 49](#_Toc54699734)

[8.3 Manipulation of the event tree 51](#_Toc54699735)

[8.4 Example programs 52](#_Toc54699736)

[8.5 Advanced topics 52](#_Toc54699737)

[9 Java Evio (Jevio) 53](#_Toc54699738)

[9.1 Building 53](#_Toc54699739)

[9.2 Documentation 53](#_Toc54699740)

[9.3 Basics 54](#_Toc54699741)

[9.4 Event Creating 54](#_Toc54699742)

[9.5 Writing 55](#_Toc54699743)

[9.5.1 Writing to file or buffer 55](#_Toc54699744)

[9.5.2 Naming files 57](#_Toc54699745)

[9.5.3 Splitting files 58](#_Toc54699746)

[9.6 Reading 59](#_Toc54699747)

[9.7 Searching 61](#_Toc54699748)

[9.8 Parsing 62](#_Toc54699749)

[9.9 Transforming 63](#_Toc54699750)

[9.10 Dictionaries 63](#_Toc54699751)

[9.11 First Event 65](#_Toc54699752)

[9.12 XML format events 65](#_Toc54699753)

[10 Compact Java Evio 67](#_Toc54699754)

[10.1 Basics 67](#_Toc54699755)

[10.2 Example 1 68](#_Toc54699756)

[10.3 Example 2 69](#_Toc54699757)

[10.4 Example 3 70](#_Toc54699758)

[10.5 Example 4 71](#_Toc54699759)

[10.6 XML format events 71](#_Toc54699760)

[11 Java Evio Event-Viewing Gui 72](#_Toc54699761)

[A. Evio File Format 73](#_Toc54699762)

[A.1 Old Format, Evio Versions 1-3 73](#_Toc54699763)

[A.2 New Format, Evio Version 4 74](#_Toc54699764)

[B. EVIO Data Format 76](#_Toc54699765)

[B.1 Bank Structures & Content 76](#_Toc54699766)

[B.2 Changes From Previous Versions 77](#_Toc54699767)

[B.3 Composite Data Type 78](#_Toc54699768)

[B.3.1 General Type Info 78](#_Toc54699769)

[B.3.1 Creating Events with Composite Data 80](#_Toc54699770)

[C. EVIO Dictionary Format 82](#_Toc54699771)

[C.1 Evio versions 2 & 3 82](#_Toc54699772)

[C.1.1 Jevio problems 83](#_Toc54699773)

[C.1.2 C++ Evio problems 83](#_Toc54699774)

[C.2 Evio version 4 83](#_Toc54699775)

[C.2.1 Pretty Printing 85](#_Toc54699776)

[C.2.2 Behaviors 85](#_Toc54699777)

[C.2.3 Differences between C++ and Java 86](#_Toc54699778)

[D. EVIO Function Objects 87](#_Toc54699779)

[E. Revision History 88](#_Toc54699780)

Chapter 1

# Introduction to Evio Versions

## Version 1

Version 1 of the CODA EVIO package, written in C, was in use at Jefferson Lab for over a decade. It has seen extensive use in Halls A and C, where the raw data is written to disk in EVIO format, and has seen limited use in the Hall B, where PRIMEX and the GlueX BCAL test stored their raw data in EVIO format (CLAS stored raw data in BOS/FPACK format).

## Versions 2 & 3

In EVIO format versions 2 and 3 (no difference between them), the JLab DAQ group upgraded and extended the EVIO package to meet some additional needs. First added were XML conversion and other utilities, support for all 1, 2, 4, and 8-byte data types, addition of a new TAGSEGMENT bank type, support for gzipped files and pipes (courtesy of Steve Wood), elimination of obsolete data types, as well as a number of bug fixes and performance enhancements.

With the advent of object-orientation and C++ the DAQ group instituted an upgrade to the EVIO package beyond simple wrapping of existing C code in C++. Since an EVIO event maps to a tree, a fact which allowed us to write the XML conversion utilities, we based the object-oriented extension on the XML notion of stream and Document Object Model (DOM) parsing and DOM trees. Note that banks in an EVIO event can either be container nodes or leaf nodes, i.e. they can contain either other banks **or** data, but not both (unlike XML, where a node can contain both data AND other nodes). Users need only be familiar with a small subset of C++ capabilities; however, advanced users of the EVIO package should be able to take full advantage of the STL.

Note that the object-oriented features build upon the existing C library, and except as noted the C library continues to work as before. On the Java front, the DAQ group adopted, extended, and supports Dave Heddle's jevio package.

## Version 4

### File Format Block Size

In previous versions, the EVIO file format had fixed-size blocks generally set to 8192 32-bit ints (32768 bytes) including a block header. EVIO banks were often split across one or more blocks. This was largely done for error recovery when using tape storage.

In version 4, since tape storage considerations are now irrelevant, each block contains an integral number of events. Users can set the nominal block size or events/block. Writing will not exceed the given limit on events/block, but each block may contain significantly less events depending on their size. The nominal block size will be exceeded in the case that a single event larger than that size is written.

### Network Communication Format

In order to unify file and network communications, the new file format is used for both. The C library has evOpenBuffer and evOpenSocket routines to complement the traditional evOpen and allows reading and writing with buffers and TCP sockets.

### Expanded User Interface

The C library contains several new read routines which differ in their memory handling. Options for the routine evIoctl have been expanded. Routines for dictionary handling and other purposes have been added as well.

### Splitting Files

The C, C++, and Java evio libraries all implement a means to limit the size of an evio file being written by splitting it into multiple files. There are facilities to make the automatic naming of these files simple.

### Dictionary

An xml format dictionary can be seamlessly included as the first bank of a file/network format.

### First Event

Occasionally it is useful to have the same event appear in each split file, for example including a config event in each file. Such an event is called the first event since typically it is the first event after the dictionary in each of the splits. One can define a first event for each file.

### Padding

When using 1 and 2 byte data sizes (short, unsigned short, char, and unsigned char) in previous EVIO versions, there was some ambiguity. Because EVIO format dictates each bank, segment, or tagsegment must be an integral number of 32-bit ints in length, specifying an odd number of shorts or non-multiple of 4 number of chars meant there were extra, unused shorts or chars that the user had to keep track of externally.

In version 4, with banks and segments (**not** tagsegments), these unused shorts/chars or padding are tracked in the header by using the 2 highest bits of the content type. Padding can be 0 or 2 bytes for shorts and 0-3 bytes for chars. All padding operations are completely transparent to the user.

### Data Formats

There is a new data format called composite data which is used by Hall B. In a nutshell, it consists of a string which describes the format of the data - allowing data of mixed types to be stored together - and is followed by the data itself.

### Random Access

There is a read routine which will read a particular event (say #347) directly instead of having to read the previous (346) events.

### Append Mode

There is now a writing mode which will append data to the end of an existing file or buffer.

### Thread Safety

The libraries are now designed to be thread safe.

### Graphics

The Java library has a graphical user interface for viewing evio format files.



## Version 6

The following outlines the major changes that were made. A big factor for introducing another evio version was the desire to compress data in each block (now called a record). The HIPO format, in use in Jefferson Lab’s HallB, was merged with evio along with much of the code to do (un)compression of data. This has added a great deal of complexity to the record headers (which are not compressed).

### New Block or Record Format

Version 6 has an expanded record header which allows for bookkeeping associated with compression. It also allows for a user-defined portion of the header along with an index of the position of each contained event.

### Compressed Data

Each record can contain data compressed in gzip, lz4 or lz4\_best format.

### Data Format Agnostic API

The HIPO classes which were incorporated into evio are data format agnostic. Thus, part of the evio library can now deal with data not in evio format.

### New C++ library

The C++ library in this version was ported from Java. From a programmer’s point of view, this allows for simpler code maintenance. The C++ library of the previous version is no longer available. There is no independent C library either. All C library functions of the previous version are available in the new C++ library.

Chapter 2

# Basics of the C Library

There is no C Evio library per se. But using the C++ library, all the C library calls of earlier versions can still be made. When using these methods, it is entirely up to the user to provide buffers of data in the exact evio format required. Thus, it requires a great deal of expert knowledge. What may help is that the Evio file format is described in Appendix A while bank structures and content type are described in Appendix B. Appendix C explains the dictionary format.

## Starting to use Evio

The first thing a user must do is to "open" evio and obtain a handle to be used as an argument for all other evio functions. There are now 3 possibilities in the 3 open routines:

1. **int evOpen(char \*filename, char \*flags, int \*handle)**
2. **int evOpenBuffer(char \*buffer, int bufLen, char \*flags, int \*handle)**
3. **int evOpenSocket(int sockFd, char \*flags, int \*handle)**

The first routine is for opening a file. The "flags" argument can "w" for writing, "r" for reading, "a" for appending, "ra" for random access, or “s” for splitting the file while writing. The splitting, appending and random access modes are new in this version of evio and are not backwards compatible. Writing a file will overwrite any existing data, while appending will add new events to the end of a file. Reading a file will allow access to each event in the order in which it exists in the file - in other words, it is a sequential access to the events. The random access mode, on the other hand, does a preliminary scan of the file and allows reading (not writing) of selected events no matter where they are in sequence. When writing large amounts of data it is often convenient to split the output into a number of files. This is supported by specifying the “s” flag. By proper specification of the filename argument and by using the evIoctl() function, these split files can be automatically named.

The second routine is for opening a buffer. It takes a pointer to a buffer as well as its length in words (32 bit ints) as the first 2 arguments. The "flags" argument is the same as for evOpen() as discussed in the previous paragraph with the exception of “s” since splitting makes no sense for buffers.

The third is for opening evio with a TCP socket. The first argument is the socket file descriptor of a TCP socket which was created elsewhere. The "flags" argument in this case can only be "w" for writing, "r" for reading since splitting, appending or random access makes no sense when talking about a stream-oriented medium.

## Reading events

There are now 4 routines able to read an event.

1. **int evRead(int handle, uint32\_t \*buffer, size\_t buflen)**
2. **int evReadAlloc(int handle, uint32\_t \*\*buffer, uint64\_t \*buflen)**
3. **int evReadNoCopy(int handle, const uint32\_t \*\*buffer, uint64\_t \*buflen)**
4. **int evReadRandom(int handle, const uint32\_t \*\*pEvent, size\_t eventNumber)**

The first is the original read routine which reads an event into a user-given buffer. Its main problem is that the caller does not generally know the size of the event before reading it and therefore the supplied buffer may be too small - resulting in an error.

The second reads an event, allocating all the memory necessary to hold it with the caller responsible for freeing that memory.

The way evio works internally is that a file/buffer/socket is read one block at a time into an internal buffer. The third routine simply returns a pointer to the next event residing in the internal buffer - so no memory allocation or copying is done. If the data needs to be swapped, it is swapped in place. Any other calls to read routines will cause the data to be overwritten if a new block needs to be read in. Of course, no writing to the returned pointer is allowed.

Finally, the last read routine works like the 3rd read routine described in the previous paragraph in which a pointer to an internal buffer is returned to the caller. It is valid only when evio has been opened in random access mode and allows the caller to read only the event of interest instead of all previous events as well.

## Writing events

As in previous versions there is only 1 write routine simply because the C library will only write in the new format, so no changes here:

**int evWrite(int handle, const uint32\_t \*buffer)**

However, there is a complication when writing to a buffer that does not occur when writing to a file or socket. Unlike a file which grows as one writes or a socket that will take any amount of data, the buffer that the caller provides to contain what is written, is of fixed size. Thus an error can be returned if the amount of data written exceeds the buffer size; therefore, it is convenient to keep track of how much has already been written, before continuing to write more. This can be done through the following new routine:

**int evGetBufferLength(int handle, uint64\_t \*length)**

This routine returns the number of bytes currently written into a buffer when given a handle provided by calling evOpenBuffer(). After the handle is closed, this no longer returns anything valid.

### Splitting files

When writing significant amounts of data to a single file, that file can get very large – too large. Historically, run control was able to split the data into multiple files with an automatic file naming system. For this version of evio, the ability to split files is built in as is the naming system. Start by setting the “flags” parameter in the evOpen() call to “s”. In addition to that, the user may choose the number of bytes at which to start writing to a new file by a call to evIoctl() (see below). If not explicitly set, the split occurs at 1GB. If a dictionary is defined by calling evWriteDictionary() (see below), then that dictionary is included in each of the split files. The split files are named according to the automatic naming system whose details are given in the next section.

### Naming files

When splitting files, a base filename is passed to evOpen() and may contain characters of the form **$(env)** where “env” is the name of an environmental variable. When a file is created, all such contructs will be substituted with the actual environmental variable’s value (or nothing if it doesn’t exist).

Similarly, the base filename may contain constructs of the form **%s** which will be substituted with the actual run type’s value (if set with evIoctl) or nothing if run type is null or was not set.

Generated files names are distinguished by a split number which starts with 0 for the first file and is incrementing by 1 for each additional file. Up to 2, C-style integer format specifiers (such as %03d, or %x) are allowed in the base filename. If more than 2 are found, an error is returned. If no "0" precedes any integer between the "%" and the "d" or "x" of the format specifier, it will be added automatically in order to avoid spaces in the generated filename. The first specifier will be substituted with the given run number value (set in evIoctl()). The second will be substituted with the split number. If no specifier for the split number exists, it is tacked onto the end of the file name.

Below is an example of how the file naming and splitting is done. Given the list of values below

int split = 100000000; // split at 100MB

int runNumber = 1;

char \*runType = “myExperiment”;

char \*directory = “/myDirectory”;

char \*baseFilename = “my$(BASE\_NAME)\_%s\_%x\_%03d.ext”;

and a BASE\_NAME environmental variable of the value “File”, the following happens. The baseFilename string will have the environmental variable, BASE\_NAME, substituted in the obvious location along with the runType substituted for the %s, the runNumber substituted for the %x (hex format), and the split number substituted for the %03d. The first 3 split files will have the names:

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_001.ext

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_002.ext

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_003.ext

## Controlling I/O through evIoctl()

Some control over evio settings is given to the user with the evIoctl() routine, shown below,

**int evIoctl (int handle, char \*request, void \*argp)**

It can be used, for example, to set the target block size and the maximum number of events/block for writes. It can also read various quantities including the total number of events in a file or buffer opened for reading or writing.

This routine can obtain a pointer to allocated memory containing the most recently read block header. The size of the memory is 8, 32-bit unsigned integers (words) and the pointer to the memory is obtained by passing its address in argp. This pointer must be freed by the caller to avoid a memory leak.

To summarize, the ***request*** parameter can be the case independent string value of:

1. "B"  for setting target block size in words
2. “W” for setting writing (to file) internal buffer size in words
3. "N"  for setting max # of events/block
4. “R” for setting run number (used in file splitting)
5. “T” for setting run type (used in file splitting)
6. “S” for setting file split size in bytes
7. "V"  for getting evio version #
8. "H"  for getting 8 words of block header info
9. "E"  for getting # of events in file/buffer

The ***argp*** parameter is a:

1. pointer to 32 bit unsigned int containing block size in 32-bit words if request = B
2. pointer to 32 bit unsigned int containing buffer size in 32-bit words if request = W
3. pointer to 32 bit unsigned int containing max # of events/block if request = N
4. pointer to 32 bit unsigned int containing run # if request = R
5. pointer to character containing run type if request = T
6. pointer to 64 bit unsigned int containing file split size in bytes if request = S
7. pointer to 32 bit int returning the version # if request = V
8. address of pointer to unsigned 32 bit int returning a pointer to 8 uint32\_t's of block header if request = H. (This pointer must be freed by caller since it points to allocated memory).
9. pointer to unsigned 32 bit int returning the total # of original events in existing   
   file/buffer when reading or appending if request = E

## String manipulation

In order to facilitate the handling of strings, 2 routines are provided. The first,

**int evBufToStrings(char \*buffer, int bufLen, char \*\*\*pStrArray, int \*strCount),**

takes evio string format data and converts it into an array of strings. The second,

**int evStringsToBuf(uint32\_t \*buffer, int bufLen, char \*\*strings,**

**int stringCount, int \*dataLen),**

does the reverse and takes an array of strings and places them in evio format into a buffer.

## Network Communication Format

In order to unify file and network communications, the new file format is used for both. The C library has evOpenBuffer() and evOpenSocket() routines to complement the traditional evOpen() and allows reading and writing with buffers and TCP sockets.

## Dictionary

An xml format dictionary can be seamlessly included as the first event when writing events to a file, buffer, or network. Refer to Appendix C for details on the format of a dictionary. To write a dictionary, simply call the following routine

**int evWriteDictionary(int handle, char \*xmlDictionary)**

**before** writing any events and it will be seamlessly included as the first event in the first block. If events have already been written, an error will be returned. When reading events, simply call the following routine to get the dictionary, as a string, if it was defined:

**int evGetDictionary(int handle, char \*\*dictionary, int \*len)**

Note that if a file is being split, each file contains the dictionary.

## First Event

Occasionally it is useful to have the same event appear in each split file, for example including a config event in each file. Such an event is called the first event since typically it is the first event after the dictionary in each of the splits. To define such an event, call the following routine:

**int evWriteFirstEvent(int handle, const uint32\_t \*firstEvent)**

It’s wise to call this before other events are written to avoid it being left out of one of the early splits.

## Data Formats

There is a new data format called composite data which is used by Hall B. In a nutshell, it consists of an evio format string which describes the format of the data - allowing data of mixed types to be stored together - and is followed by the data itself.

## Documentation

Besides the document you are now reading, there are doxygen docs which are essentially javadoc web pages for C/C++ code. To those unfamiliar with doxygen, programmers include specially formatted comments in the code itself which is extracted by the doxygen program and formed into web pages for view with a web browser. The user must generate these web pages by going to the top level of the evio distribution and typing "scons doc". Then simply view the doc/doxygen/C[or CC]/html/index.html file in a browser.

Chapter 3

# Evio Installation

The evio library is available in three languages, C, C++, and Java. All code is contained in the github repository,

<https://github.com/JeffersonLab/evio.git>

The **evio-6.0** branch contains the most recent version of evio. Documentation is accessible at:

<https://jeffersonlab.github.io/evio/>

## C

The C library is call libevio. It is a library with historically limited capabilities. To compile it, follow the directions below for the C++ compilation. The C++ library is much more extensive in scope.

## C++

The current C++ evio library is entirely different from the previous version (5.2) as it has been ported from the Java code. This was done for a number of reasons. First, a much more comprehensive C++ library was desired than was currently existing. Second, it needed major, new capabilities such as being able to (un)compress data. Third, it had to use a new format developed from the merging of Java evio version 4 and the Java HIPO library. Finally, the author and maintainer of the previous code was no longer working at Jefferson Lab. The simplest solution was to port the well-tested Java code which avoided having to redesign complex software from scratch.

C++ evio is supported on both the MacOS and Linux platforms.

C++ version 17 is used.

### Prerequisites

Evio depends upon the Disruptor-cpp software package available from github at <https://github.com/Abc-Arbitrage/Disruptor-cpp.git> . In terms of functionality, it is an ingenious, ultrafast ring buffer which was initially developed in Java (<https://github.com/LMAX-Exchange/disruptor.git)> and then ported to C++. It’s extremely useful when splitting work among multiple threads and then recombining it.

If using the Disruptor software directly downloaded from github, be aware that the distribution of the Disruptor made available as part of the evio distribution has had 2 classes added. Thus, one must add the ***SpinCountBackoffWaitStrategy.cpp*** and ***SpinCountBackoffWaitStrategy.h*** files to any distribution taken directly from github. Follow all instructions for compiling it in its README.MD file. Note that it requires GCC 5.0 / Clang 3.8 or newer. Its shared library must be installed where evio can find it.

Some boost libraries are also needed:

* boost\_system
* boost\_thread-mt
* boost\_chrono

On linux, the file system API in C++17 is contained in a separate library for some reason:

* stdc++fs

### Building

There are 2 different methods to build the C++ library and executables. The first uses ***scons***, a Python-based build software package which is available at <https://scons.org> . The second uses cmake and make.

#### Scons

To get a listing of all the local options available to the scons command, run ***scons -h*** in the top-level directory to get this output:

-D                  build from subdirectory of package

local scons OPTIONS:

--dbg               compile with debug flag

--32bits            compile 32bit libs & executables on 64bit system

--prefix=<dir>      use base directory <dir> when doing install

--incdir=<dir>      copy header  files to directory <dir> when doing install

--libdir=<dir>      copy library files to directory <dir> when doing install

--bindir=<dir>      copy binary  files to directory <dir> when doing install

install             install libs, headers, and binaries

install -c          uninstall libs, headers, and binaries

doc                 create javadoc (in ./doc)

undoc               remove javadoc (in ./doc)

tar                 create tar file (in ./tar)

Use scons -H for help about command-line options.

Although this is fairly self-explanatory, executing

scons install

will compile and install all the code. All compiled code is placed in the generated ***build*** directory.

### Cmake / make

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### Documentation

The documentation for this software has already been created and is hosted at <https://jeffersonlab.github.io/evio/> (which, perhaps, you are reading right now).

#### Doxygen

All the source code contains doxygen style comments. One may generate the associated documentation by calling

scons doc

in the top-level directory. The result can be viewed by using your web browser to view the created doc/doxygen/CC/html/index.html file. To regenerate this file, call

scons undoc

scons doc

For those who wish to fine-tune the generated files, the doxygen configuration file is doc/DoxyfileCC and can be modified to suit. The doxygen comments can be viewed from the github pages website as well so explicity dealing with doxygen is not necessary.

#### User’s Guide

The user’s guide (the document you’re reading right now) is written and stored as a word document in the doc/users\_guide directory. Of course, this can be viewed in Microsoft Word. For user’s convenience, it’s also available in pdf format. Transforming this document into something that can be hosted on a website can be done in a number of different ways.

##### Read the docs

In order to host the user’s guide on the readthedocs website, it must first be transformed into the reStructuredText (rst) format. This is done by using the ***pandoc*** program available from <https://pandoc.org>. Follow instructions from that website in order to install it. On the Mac it’s as simple as:

brew install pandoc

The ***brew*** command is available from <https://brew.sh> and is a package manager for the Mac. Once installed, the following command will do the transformation from word to rst:

pandoc evio\_UsersGuide.docx –f docx –t rst –s –o evio\_UsersGuide.rst

***Sphinx*** is a Python software package which is designed to output documentation in various formats from input in rst format. This is why the user’s guide was transformed into rst format – so that sphinx could work its magic. Sphinx can be installed with the command:

pip install sphinx

If doxygen generated output is to be included along with the user’s guide, a few more things need to be done. The ***breathe*** and ***exhale*** plugins for sphinx are necessary to incorporate doxygen comments into the final product. Breathe takes the xml format doxygen output file and forms it into rst format. Exhale takes the breathe output and makes rst which allows one to navigate between classes and files. These packages can be installed by calling:

pip install breathe

pip install exhale

However, as in the case with doxygen, dealing directly with sphinx and breathe is unnecessary. The readthedocs site is already linked to evio’s github location and can automatically generate docs using its own sphinx and breathe. At least this is true theoretically. In practice, doxygen must be configured to produce an xml format output file. Unfortunately, it produces an xml file in which the last element does not match its first element. This must be corrected by hand in order for the xml parsing to succeed.

Producing the final documentation by hand requires the following steps:

1. run doxygen
2. edit the produced index.xml file so it can be parsed
3. setup the sphinx configuration file, source/conf.py
4. create the content to be finally displayed, in index.rst
5. create the html file through sphinx by calling:

make html

1. look at the produced html file, build/hml/index.html, with a browser

##### GitHub Pages

It’s also possible to host documentation through a github repository directly. To do this:

1. Check doxygen generated html files into the repository.
2. Create an index.md file with markup language directions on what to display
3. In the repository’s setting, set the GitHub Pages area to point to this file
4. View the results at  https://<account>.github.io/<package/

## Java

The current Java evio package, org.jlab.coda.jevio, was originally written by Dr. Dave Heddle of CNU and was graciously given to the JLAB DAQ group for maintenance and continued development. A large amount of additional work has been done since that time. As previously mentioned, evio now uses a new format developed from the merging of evio version 4 and the HIPO library.

The code will compile using Java version 8 or later.

### Prerequisites

Evio depends upon the Disruptor software package available from github at <https://github.com/LMAX-Exchange/disruptor.git> . In terms of functionality, it is an ingenious, ultrafast ring buffer which was initially developed for use the in the commodities exchange markets. It’s extremely useful when splitting work among multiple threads and then recombining it.

If using the Disruptor software directly downloaded from github, be aware that the distribution of the Disruptor made available as part of the evio distribution has had 1 class added and 2 of them slightly modified. Thus, one must add the ***SpinCountBackoffWaitStrategy.java*** file to any distribution taken directly from github. And one must make slight modifications to ….. See Appendix Q for further details.

The disruptor jar file, **disruptor-3.3.jar** and a jar file used in lz4 data compression, **lz4-java-1.4.0.jar** are both accessible in the **java/jars** directory.

### Building

The java evio uses ***ant*** to compile. To get a listing of all the options available to the ant command, run ***ant help*** in the evio top level directory to get this output:

help:   
    [echo] Usage: ant [ant options] <target1> [target2 | target3 | ...]   
  
    [echo]        targets:   
    [echo]        help       - print out usage   
    [echo]        env        - print out build file variables' values   
    [echo]        compile    - compile java files   
    [echo]        clean      - remove class files   
    [echo]        cleanall   - remove all generated files   
    [echo]        jar        - compile and create jar file   
 [echo] install - create jar file and install into 'prefix'

[echo] if given on command line by -Dprefix=dir',

[echo] else install into CODA if defined

[echo] uninstall - remove jar file previously installed into 'prefix'

[echo] if given on command line by -Dprefix=dir',

[echo] else installed into CODA if defined  
    [echo]        all        - clean, compile and create jar file   
    [echo]        javadoc    - create javadoc documentation   
    [echo]        developdoc - create javadoc documentation for developer   
 [echo] undoc - remove all javadoc documentation

    [echo]        prepare    - create necessary directories

Although this is fairly self-explanatory, executing ***ant*** is the same as ***ant compile***. That will compile all the java. All compiled code is placed in the generated ***./build*** directory. If the user wants a jar file, execute ***ant jar*** to place the resulting file in the ***./build/lib*** directory. The **java** command in the user’s path will be the one used to do the compilation.

### Documentation

The documentation for this software has already been created and is hosted at <https://jeffersonlab.github.io/evio/> (which, perhaps, you are reading right now).

#### Javadoc

All the source code contains javadoc style comments. One may generate the associated documentation by calling

ant javadoc

in the top-level directory. If more detail is desired, classes and methods which are not public can be seen by, instead, executing the command

ant developdoc

This is more suitable for a developer. In either case, the resulting javadoc can be accessed by viewing the **doc/Javadoc/index.html file** in a web browser. To regenerate this file, call

ant undoc

ant Javadoc

#### User’s Guide

See the section above for info on the [user’s guide](#_User’s_Guide), which you are reading right now.

Chapter 4

# C++ API Basics

## Basics

There are things to know before reading and writing evio format files. To see the technical format details, go to [Appendix B](#_EVIO_Data_Format). However, this is **not** intended to be a full evio format tutorial. First, let's look at the classes which form the basis of evio.

Evio's container structures are called banks, segments, and tagsegments. These entities are implemented with 4 different classes. They all provide the same function of containing block data but differ in their header format. The very top level of an evio structure is always a bank and is called an event. This is represented by the ***EvioEvent*** class which is just a special case (subclass) of an ***EvioBank*** with a little extra private data included. Banks have 2 words (8 bytes) of header followed by data. The ***EvioSegment*** and ***EvioTagSegment*** classes represent segments and tagsegments respectively, each have 1 word of header, no num value and differing amounts of tag and type data.

To access the information about an evio structure contained in its header, call getHeader() with event, bank, segment, or tagsegment objects. Using the returned ***BaseStructureHeader*** object, there are methods available to get & set values for its contents including type, tag, number, length, and padding.

Events of any complexity can be created using either the ***EventBuilder*** or ***CompactEventBuilder*** classes. The writing of events is done through ***EventWriter***, and the reading of events through ***EvioReader*** or ***EvioCompactReader***.

## Three interfaces

The Java implementation of the evio library was developed first and the C++ was ported from that. Since Java has performance issues surrounding the creation and tracking of objects, additional classes (i.e. a second Java API) was developed to minimize object creation and thereby improve performance. As a result, there are now 2 different APIs to use in handling evio data. Each will be described in different sections.

There is also a third interface (also originally written in Java and ported ot C++) which treats events as buffers with any type of data, that is, it’s data format agnostic. This API reads, writes, compresses and uncompresses data of any type. The other 2 API’s call this one for all evio 6.0 operations. The reading of earlier formats is done with code from the previous version. This API will be described in its own section as well.

## Shared Pointers

Evio data is a represented by a tree structure. Each evio structure, EvioEvent, EvioBank, EvioSegment, and EvioTagSegment, contains references to both parent and children. In order to facilitate implementation in a safe way, all these references are shared pointers.

## ByteBuffer Class

The ***ByteBuffer*** class is a transplant from Java. It’s not a complete port due entirely to the big differences between C++ and Java. However, it is extremely useful, saves a lot of effort, automagically takes care of endian issues, and it’s used in much of the API. Here’s a little tutorial, but the reader can always read the volumes written on the Java version of this class to get a complete handle on it. Remember, if something about the interface seems weird or inefficient, it’s a translation from the Java.

### Basic Usage

In C++, a ByteBuffer is an object which wraps an array of uint8\_t type. This object provides a set of methods that makes it easier to work with the memory block. Using a ByteBuffer to write and read data typically follows this little 4-step process:

1. Write data into the buffer
2. Call buffer.flip()
3. Read data out of the buffer
4. Call buffer.clear() or buffer.compact()

When you write data into a buffer, the buffer keeps track of how much data you have written. Once you need to read the data, you can prepare the buffer for this by using the flip() method. The buffer lets you read all the data written into the buffer. Once done reading, you can clear the buffer, to make it ready for writing again by calling clear() or compact().

A buffer has four properties you should be familiar with. These are:

* **Capacity**: the maximum number of byte elements the buffer can hold. The capacity is set when the buffer is created and can never be changed.
* **Position**: the index of the next element to be read or written.
* **Limit**: the first element of the buffer that should not be read or written. In other words, the count of live elements in the buffer. The limit is less than or equal to the capacity.
* **Mark**: a remembered position. Calling mark() sets mark = position. Calling reset( ) sets position = mark. The mark is undefined until set.

When you write data into the ByteBuffer, you do so at a certain position. Initially the position is 0. There are 2 types of writing: 1) an absolute write which does **not** advance its position after the write, and 2) a relative write which when a byte, long etc. has been written into the ByteBuffer, the position is advanced to point to the next position in the buffer to insert data into. Position can maximally become capacity - 1.

When you read data from a Buffer you also do so from a certain position. When you flip a ByteBuffer from writing to reading, it’s limit is set the current position and the position is reset back to 0, thus preparing it to be read. There are 2 types of reading: 1) an absolute read which does **not** advance its position after the read and 2) a relative read which does. In the relative case, as you read data from the ByteBuffer the position is advanced to next position to read.

### Example Diagrams

**Initial buffer state in which position = 0, limit = capacity = N.**

**Also the state after calling clear().**

****

B**uffer after relative write of 4-byte integer = 0x11223344 (big endian)**

****

**Buffer after flip()**

****

**Buffer after relative read of one 4-byte integer**

****

### Creating a Buffer

When creating a ByteBuffer object you can specify the amount memory in its buffer. If not specified it allocates 4096 bytes. Here is an example showing the allocation of a ByteBuffer, with a capacity of 128kBytes:

ByteBuffer buf(128000);

### Writing Data

You can write data into a buffer via its put() methods. The put() method is overloaded and other variants of it exist, allowing the writing of different types of data or an array of bytes into the buffer. Here is an example showing how to do a relative write which places the written value at the buffer’s current position and afterwards advances the position by the size of the write (4 bytes in this case):

int myInt = 123;

buffer.putInt(myInt);

Here’s an example of writing at a specified position after which the position does not change:

size\_t position = 1024;

int myInt = 123;

buffer.putInt(position, myInt);

### The flip() method

The ***flip*** method prepares a ByteBuffer for reading after being written to. It sets the position back to 0, and sets the limit to where position just was. In other words, position now marks the reading position, and limit marks how many bytes, chars etc. were written into the buffer - the limit of how many bytes, chars etc. that can be read.

### Reading Data

You can read data from the buffer using one of the get methods. They allow you to read data in different ways. Here is an example of a relative read at the current position which afterwards advances the postion by the size of the read (8 bytes in this case):

int64\_t myLong = buf.getLong();

Here’s an example of an absolute read at a specified position after which the position does not change:

size\_t position = 1024;

double myDouble = buffer.getDouble(position);

### Endianness

The transparent handling of the data’s endianness (big or little) is a feature of ByteBuffers which makes reading and writing much easier. The endianness can be set by calling the order() method. This works with the ByteOrder class in the following way:

buf.order(ByteOrder::ENDIAN\_BIG);

This method directs each write to place the data into the ByteBuffer’s internal array in the prescribed endian. It also directs each read to retrieve that data properly. Thus, the endian value of a ByteBuffer can be set once and all reads and writes will transparently do the right thing. The default endian value of a ByteBuffer object is the endian value of the local node.

### The rewind() method

The ***rewind()*** method sets the position back to 0, so you can reread all the data in the buffer. The limit remains unchanged, thus still marking how many bytes that can be read from the buffer.

### The clear() and compact() methods

Once done reading data, one can make the buffer ready for writing again by calling either the ***clear()*** or ***compact()*** method. The clear() method does not erase any data, it merely sets the ByteBuffer back to its initial state (position = 0, limit = capacity).

The compact() method only clears the data which you have already read. If there is still unread data in the buffer that needs to be read later, but some writing needs to be done first, call compact() instead of clear(). This will copy all unread data to the beginning of the buffer. Then it sets position to right after the last unread element. The limit is set to capacity, just as in clear(). Now the buffer is ready for writing, but you will not overwrite the unread data.

### The mark() and reset() methods

You can mark a given position in a buffer by calling the ***mark()*** method. You can then later reset the position back to the marked position by calling the ***reset()*** method.

### The array() method

You can directly access the internal array that stores the data in a ByteBuffer by calling lthe ***array()*** method. For those readers familiar with it, all C++ ByteBuffers (unlike Java) are backed by arrays.

Chapter 5

# Evio-specific C++ APIs

As mentioned in a [previous section](#_Three_interfaces), there are 2 APIs which only deal with evio data. Where they differ is that one uses the classes ***EventBuilder*** and ***EvioReader*** to build events and read data, while the other uses ***CompactEventBuilder*** and ***EvioCompactReader***. So, what are the differences?

When communicating EvioEvents objects over the network, each object (and all of its contained objects in its tree structure) must be serialized into an array or buffer of bytes when sending and must deserialize the same bytes back into objects on the receiving end. This can lead to a serious performance penalty, especially in the original Java. To avoid having to serialize and deserialize continually, a new API was developed to allow the handling of evio data in byte buffer form. For lack of a better term, **compact** was the word chosen to describe it since all evio data handled in this API are contained in ByteBuffer objects and never expanded into EvioEvent objects.

## Regular API for Building Events

The ***EventBuilder*** class constructs evio events. It takes care of all the little details and requires only the initial calling of a constructor and subsequent calling of the addChild() method to create an evio event. The builder will check all arguments, the byte order of added data, type mismatches between parent & child, and will set all evio header lengths automatically. It acts as a DOM-like model and so elements of the tree can be added anywhere at any time.

The following code uses the EventBuilder to create an event (almost always a bank of banks) with 3 children (a bank of banks, a bank of segments, and a bank of tagsegments). Each of these children have children of their own. It’s written out to a buffer. The code relies on the EvioEvent/Bank/Segment/TagSegment classes to get, fill, and update their internal data vectors:

**// Data to write stored in these vectors**

vector<uint8\_t> byteVec;

vector<uint32\_t> intVec;   
vector<double> doubleVec;  
vector<string> stringsVec;

**//-------------------------------------**

**// Build event (bank of banks) with EventBuilder object**

uint32\_t tag = 1, num = 1;  
EventBuilder builder(tag, DataType::BANK, num);  
shared\_ptr<EvioEvent> event = builder.getEvent();

**//-------------------------------------  
// First child of event = bank of banks**auto bankBanks = EvioBank::getInstance(tag+1, DataType::BANK, num+1);  
**// Add this bank as child of event**  
builder.addChild(event, bankBanks);

**// Create first (& only) child of bank of banks = bank of ints**  
auto bankInts = EvioBank::getInstance(tag+11, DataType::UINT32, num+11);

**// Get its internal vector of int data**  
auto &iData = bankInts->getUIntData();

**// Write our data into that vector**  
iData.insert(iData.begin(), intVec.begin(), intVec.end());

**// Done writing so tell builder to update its internals for this bank**  
bankInts->updateUIntData();

**// Add this bank as child of bankBanks**  
builder.addChild(bankBanks, bankInts);

**//-------------------------------------**

**// Second child of event = bank of segments**  
auto bankSegs = EvioBank::getInstance(tag+2, DataType::SEGMENT, num+2);  
builder.addChild(event, bankSegs);  
  
**// Create first child of bank of segments = segment of *doubles***auto segDoubles = EvioSegment::getInstance(tag+22, DataType::DOUBLE64);  
auto &sdData = segDoubles->getDoubleData();  
sdData.insert(sdData.begin(), doubleVec.begin(), doubleVec.end());  
segDoubles->updateDoubleData();  
builder.addChild(bankSegs, segDoubles);  
  
**// Create second child of bank of segments = segment of *bytes***  
auto segBytes = EvioSegment::getInstance(tag+23, DataType::CHAR8);  
auto &scData = segBytes->getCharData();  
scData.insert(scData.begin(), byteVec.begin(), byteVec.end());  
segBytes->updateCharData();  
builder.addChild(bankSegs, segBytes);

**//-------------------------------------**

**// Third child of event = bank of tagsegments**  
auto bankTsegs = EvioBank::getInstance(tag+3, DataType::TAGSEGMENT, num+3);  
builder.addChild(event, bankTsegs);

**// Create first child of bank of tagsegments = tagsegment of strings**  
auto tsegStrings = EvioTagSegment::getInstance(tag+33, DataType::CHARSTAR8);  
auto &tstData = tsegStrings->getStringData();  
tstData.insert(tstData.begin(), stringsVec.begin(), stringsVec.end());   
tsegStrings->updateStringData();  
builder.addChild(bankTsegs, tsegStrings);

**//-------------------------------------**

**// Remove first segment (and all descendants) in bank of segments**builder.remove(segDoubles);

**//-------------------------------------**

**// Take event, write it into buffer, get buffer ready to read**

shared\_ptr<ByteBuffer> buffer;

event->write(\*(buffer.get()));  
buffer->flip();

In addition to the methods for creating and adding banks, segments and tagsegments, there are methods to add all the various data types like chars, shorts, ints, longs, doubles, floats, and strings. The only tricky thing is handling Composite format data. Look at [Appendix B](#_B.3_Composite_Data) to get more information on handling this complicated format.

Another way of creating events avoids the use of the EventBuilder class altogether. Call the insert() method of each structure to place it into another structure as a child. This way of doing things requires the event to call setAllHeaderLengths() at the end to make sure all the evio headers in the event have the proper lengths set. The following abbreviated code does what the previous example does:

**// Create an event**

auto event = EvioEvent::getInstance(tag, DataType::BANK, nm);  
  
**//-------------------------------------  
// First child of event = bank of banks**auto bankBanks = EvioBank::getInstance(tag+1, DataType::BANK, num+1);  
event->insert(bankBanks, 0);  
  
**// Create first (& only) child of bank of banks = bank of ints**auto bankInts = EvioBank::getInstance(tag+11, DataType::UINT32, num+11);  
auto &iData = bankInts->getUIntData();  
iData.insert(iData.begin(), intVec.begin(), intVec.end());  
bankInts->updateUIntData();  
bankBanks->insert(bankInts, 0);  
  
**//-------------------------------------**

**// Second child of event = bank of segments**auto bankSegs = EvioBank::getInstance(tag2, DataType::SEGMENT, num+2);  
event->insert(bankSegs, 1);  
  
**// Create first child of bank of segments = segment of *bytes***auto segBytes = EvioSegment::getInstance(tag+22, DataType::CHAR8);  
auto &scData = segBytes->getCharData();  
scData.insert(scData.begin(), byteVec.begin(), byteVec.end());  
segBytes->updateCharData();  
bankSegs->insert(segBytes, 0);  
  
**//-------------------------------------**

**// Third child of event = bank of tagsegments**auto bankTsegs = EvioBank::getInstance(tag+3, DataType::TAGSEGMENT, num+3);  
event->insert(bankTsegs, 2);

**// Create first child of bank of tagsegments = segment of *ints***auto tsegInts = EvioTagSegment::getInstance(tag+33, DataType::UINT32);  
auto &tiData = tsegInts->getUIntData();  
tiData.insert(tiData.begin(), intVec.begin(), intVec.end());  
tsegInts->updateUIntData();  
bankTsegs->insert(tsegInts, 0);  
  
**//-------------------------------------**

**// If doing things this way, be sure to set all the header lengths**

event->setAllHeaderLengths();

## Compact API for Building Events

The ***CompactEventBuilder*** class also constructs evio events. It takes care of all the little details and requires only the initial calling of a constructor to which a buffer is provided. It acts as a SAX-like model and so each structure is added depth-first to the tree.

The following code uses the CompactEventBuilder to create an event (as above) with 3 children (a bank of banks, a bank of segments, and a bank of tagsegments). Each of these children have children of their own. The builder writes it into a buffer:

**// Data to write stored in these arrays**

int dataElementCount = 10;

uint8\_t byteArray[];

uint32\_t intArray[];   
double doubleArray[];  
string stringsArray[];

**// Create the buffer to hold everything**

auto buffer = make\_shared<ByteBuffer>(8192);

**// Build event (bank of banks) with CompactEventBuilder object**

uint32\_t tag = 1, num = 1;  
CompactEventBuilder builder(buffer);  
  
**//-------------------------------------**

**// add top/event level bank of banks**builder.openBank(tag, DataType::BANK, num);

**// add bank of banks to event**builder.openBank(tag + 1, DataType::BANK, num + 1);  
  
**// add bank of ints to bank of banks**builder.openBank(tag + 11, DataType::UINT32, num + 11);  
builder.addIntData(intArray, dataElementCount);

**// done with bank of ints, go to enclosing structure**  
builder.closeStructure();

**// done with bank of banks**  
builder.closeStructure();  
  
  
**//-------------------------------------**

**// add bank of segs to event**builder.openBank(tag + 2, DataType::SEGMENT, num + 2);  
  
**// add first child, tagseg of doubles to bank of segs**builder.openTagSegment(tag + 22, DataType::DOUBLE64);  
builder.addDoubleData(doubleArray, dataElementCount);  
builder.closeStructure();

**// add second child, seg of bytes to bank of segs**builder.openSegment(tag + 23, DataType::CHAR8);  
builder.addByteData(byteArray, dataElementCount);  
builder.closeStructure();

**// done with bank of segs**  
builder.closeStructure();  
  
  
**//-------------------------------------**

**// add bank of tagsegs**builder.openBank(tag + 3, DataType::TAGSEGMENT, num + 3);  
  
**// add tagseg of strings**builder.openTagSegment(tag + 21, DataType::CHARSTAR8);  
builder.addStringData(stringsVec);  
builder.closeStructure();

**// Close all existing structures**  
builder.closeAll();

**// There is no way to remove any structures**

**// Get ready-to-read buffer from builder**

**// (this sets the proper pos and lim in buffer)**auto bytebbuffer = builder.getBuffer();

Notice in particular the last line above in which the buffer given as an argument to the builder’s constructor is obtained through calling getBuffer(). This method returns that same buffer with its position and limit properly set for reading.

## Tree structure API for Building Events

In addition to using the “builder” classes for creating events, one can also use the methods used to handle the tree structure of the EvioEvent, EvioBank, EvioSegment, and EvioTagsegment classes to create events. The methods used for handling the tree structure are extensive. To get a more complete picture, see the doxygen documentation in which each method is thoroughly described. To get a sampling, look at the following example:

**// Create some banks**auto topBank = EvioBank::getInstance(0, DataType::BANK, 0);  
auto midBank = EvioBank::getInstance(1, DataType::BANK, 1);  
auto midBank2 = EvioBank::getInstance(2, DataType::SEGMENT, 2);  
auto childBank = EvioBank::getInstance(4, DataType::FLOAT32, 4);  
  
**// Child bank's float data**auto &fData = childBank->getFloatData();  
fData.push\_back(0.);  
fData.push\_back(1.);  
childBank->updateFloatData();  
  
**// Create tree**topBank->add(midBank);  
topBank->add(midBank2);  
midBank->add(childBank);

**// Create more structures**

auto childSeg1 = EvioBank::getInstance(5, DataType::INT32, 5);  
auto childSeg2 = EvioBank::getInstance(6, DataType::INT32, 6);  
auto childSeg3 = EvioBank::getInstance(7, DataType::SHORT16, 7);  
  
**// Children data**auto &iData = childSeg1->getIntData();  
iData.push\_back(3);  
iData.push\_back(4);  
childSeg1->updateIntData();  
  
auto &iData2 = childSeg2->getIntData();  
iData2.push\_back(5);  
iData2.push\_back(6);  
childSeg2->updateIntData();  
  
auto &sData = childSeg3->getShortData();  
sData.push\_back(7);  
sData.push\_back(8);  
childSeg3->updateShortData();  
  
**// Add segments to tree**midBank2->add(childSeg1);  
midBank2->add(childSeg2);  
midBank2->add(childSeg3);  
  
**//--------------------**

**// Print out tree info**

**//--------------------**  
cout << std::boolalpha;  
cout << "Is child descendant of Top? " << topBank->isNodeDescendant(childBank) << endl;

cout << "Is Top ancestor of child? " << childBank->isNodeAncestor(topBank) << endl;

cout << "Depth at Mid bank = " << midBank->getDepth() << endl;  
cout << "Depth at Child bank = " << childBank->getDepth() << endl;  
cout << "Level at top bank = " << topBank->getLevel() << endl;  
cout << "Level at child = " << childBank->getLevel() << endl;  
  
cout << "midBank2 has " << midBank2->getChildCount() << " children" << endl;

cout << "Remove childSeg2 from midBank2:" << endl;  
midBank2->remove(childSeg2);  
cout << "midBank2 now has " << midBank2->getChildCount() << " children" << endl;

cout << "CALL sharedAncestor for both mid banks" << endl;  
auto strc = midBank2->getSharedAncestor(midBank);  
if (strc != nullptr) {  
 cout << "shared ancestor of midBank 1&2 = " << strc->toString() << endl;  
}  
else {  
 cout << "There is NO shared ancestor of midBank 1&2" << end;  
}  
  
auto path = childBank->getPath();  
cout << "Path of childBank:" << endl;  
for (auto str : path) {  
 cout << " - " << str->toString() << endl;  
}

cout << "iterate thru topBank children" << endl;  
auto beginIter = topBank->childrenBegin();  
auto endIter = topBank->childrenEnd();  
for (; beginIter != endIter; beginIter++) {  
 auto kid = \*beginIter;  
 std::cout << " kid = " << kid->toString() << std::endl;  
}  
  
  
auto root = childBank->getRoot();  
cout << "Root of childBank is = " << root->toString() << endl;  
  
cout << "Is childBank root structure? " << childBank->isRoot() << endl;  
cout << "Is topBank root structure? " << topBank->isRoot() << endl;  
  
shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> node = topBank;  
cout << "Starting from root:" << endl;  
do {  
 node = node->getNextNode();  
 if (node == nullptr) {  
 cout << " next node = nullptr" << endl;  
 }  
 else {  
 cout << " next node = " << node->toString() << endl;  
 }  
} while (node != nullptr);

cout << "childSeg1 is a Leaf? " << childSeg1->isLeaf() << endl;  
cout << "midBank2 leaf count = " << midBank2->getLeafCount() << endl;

## Writing Events

### Writing to file or buffer

Start writing an evio format file or buffer with an ***EventWriter*** object. Simply pick among the various constructors for your medium of choice. There are optional parameters which allow the user to chose whether to append to or overwrite any previously existing data. The user can also set the maximum record size and the maximum number of events per record as well as specify a dictionary and data byte order among other things. Refer to the doxygen documentation for all of the possibilities.

Below is example code with comments showing how the writing is done. It shows how to write to both files and buffers as well as how to define a dictionary and how to create evio data. If the reader is unfamiliar with the [***ByteBuffer***](#_ByteBuffer_Class) class, take some time to read up on it when using buffers. It will allow you to do many things.

**// Append or overwrite**

bool append = false;

**// File’s name**  
 string filename = "./myData";

**// Byte order in which to write data**

ByteOrder order = ByteOrder::ENDIAN\_LOCAL;

**// Create an EventWriter object to write out events to file**

EventWriter writer(filename, order, append);

   **// Create an event** [**(see previous section)**](#_Event_Creating)

   EventBuilder builder(1, DataType::BANK, 1);

**// Add structures & data here …**

**// Get reference to the event just created**   auto event = builder.getEvent();  
  
   **// Write event to file**   
   writer.writeEvent(event);

**// Finish the writing**   
   writer.close();

And now the same example for buffers:

**// Create a ByteBuffer and get a shared pointer to it**

auto myBuf = std::make\_shared<ByteBuffer>(1024);

**// Byte order in which to write data**

myBuf.order(ByteOrder::ENDIAN\_LITTLE);

**// Create an EventWriter object to write out events to buffer**

EventWriter writer(myBuf);

   **// Create an event** [**(see previous section)**](#_Event_Creating)

   EventBuilder builder(1, DataType::BANK, 1);

**// Add structures & data here …**

**// Get reference to the event just created**   auto event = builder.getEvent();  
  
   **// Write event to buf**   
   writer.writeEvent(event);

**// Finish the writing**   
   writer.close();

### Naming files

The filename passed to any of the constructors may contain characters of the form **$(env)** where “env” is the name of an environmental variable. When the file is created, all such constructs will be substituted with the actual environmental variable’s value (or nothing if it doesn’t exist).

Similarly, the filename may contain constructs of the form **%s** which will be substituted with the actual run type’s value (if passed in as a parameter to the constructor).

The filename may also contain the run number value (if passed in as a parameter to the constructor) and the split number (if splitting). This is done by allowing up to 2, C-style integer format specifiers (such as %03d, or %x) in the filename. If more than 2 are found, an exception will be thrown. If no "0" precedes any integer between the "%" and the "d" or "x" of the format specifier, it will be added automatically in order to avoid spaces in the generated filename. The first occurrence will be substituted with the given run number value. If the file is being split, the second will be substituted with the split number. If 2 specifiers exist and the file is not being split, no substitutions are made.

### Splitting files

When writing significant amounts of data to a single file, that file can get very large – too large. Historically, run control was able to split the data into multiple files with an automatic file naming system. The ability to split files is now built into evio as is the naming system. Simply pick the constructor designed for file splitting with parameters allowing the user to choose the number of bytes at which to start writing to a new file and the name of the files to use. The constructor of both the EventWriter and EvioCompactEventWriter (more on this in the next chapter) classes have input parameters for a base filename, run type, run number, and split size.

A description of the general file naming system is in the section above, but when splitting into multiple files (split size > 0), the user should also be aware that the generated files names are distinguished by a split number. If the base filename contains C-style int format specifiers, then the first occurrence will be substituted with the given run number value. The second will be substituted with the split number. If no specifier for the split number exists, it is tacked onto the end of the file name.

Below is example code with comments showing how the file naming and splitting is done.

int split = 100000000; **// split at 100MB**

int runNumber = 1;

string runType = “myExperiment”;

string directory = “/myDirectory”;

string baseFilename = “my$(BASE\_NAME)\_%s\_%x\_%03d.ext”;

EventWriter writer(baseFilename, directory,   
                   runType, runNumber, split,

64000, 1000, 300000,

byteOrder, dictionary,

bitInfo, overWriteOK, append);

The baseFilename string will have the value of the environmental variable BASE\_NAME, substituted for the $(BASE\_NAME) part of the string along with the runType substituted for the %s, the runNumber substituted for the %x (hex format), and the split number substituted for the %03d. If BASE\_NAME has the value “File”, then the first 3 split files will have the names:

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_001.ext

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_002.ext

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_003.ext

## Regular API for Reading Events

Start reading an evio format file or buffer with an ***EvioReader*** object. Simply pick among the various constructors for your medium of choice. There is an optional parameter allowing the user to make sure the incoming record numbers are sequential. (Find out about record numbers by reading through [Appendix A](#_A.___2) which describes the evio file format). There is also an optional parameter for choosing between sequential and random-access methods for reading a file.

There are two basic types of read calls. The first is random-access, and the second is sequentially in nature. The following are the random-access methods of the EvioReader class:

getEvent(size\_t i)

parseEvent(size\_t i)

gotoEventNumber(size\_t i)

and the sequential methods:

nextEvent()

parseNextEvent()

rewind()

When mixing calls of these two categories in one application, be aware that calling a random-access method will affect the sequential methods. The sequence will jump to the event called by event number. For example, if an application calls parseNextEvent() twice, then suddenly calls parseEvent(20), the next time parseNextEvent() is called, it will returned the 21st event, not the 3rd.

Now for a word on performance. When reading larger files, it is usually faster to use the sequential methods. The reason for that is they read in whole blocks (not individual events) at a time. If the file was written with block sizes substantially greater in size than a single event (the default when using small events), then it will be faster. The random-access methods will, on the other hand, hop to the event of interest and only read in that single event.

It's easier to give an example of code used to read a file than to explain things abstractly. Various lines show how to get and use a dictionary, read events with the sequential or random-access methods, get the total number of events, and get & print data. The code below uses many of the available evio features for reading and will read the file or buffer created in the previous section.

**// READ a file**

string filename = “myFile”;

EvioReader reader(filename);

**// Find out how many events the file contains**  
int32\_t evCount = reader.getEventCount();  
cout << "File has " << evCount << " events" << endl;

**// Does it contain a dictionary?**  
if (reader.hasDictionary()) {

string dict = reader.getDictionaryXML();  
 cout << "Dictionary = " << dict << endl;

}

**// Does it contain a first event?**  
shared\_ptr<EvioEvent> fe = reader.getFirstEvent();  
if (fe != nullptr) {  
 cout << “First event size = " << fe->getTotalBytes() << “ bytes” << endl;  
}

**// Look at each event with random-access type method**  
cout << "Print out regular events’ raw data:" << endl;  
for (int i = 0; i < evCount; i++) {  
 auto ev = reader.parseEvent(i + 1); *auto &* dataVec = ev->getRawBytes();  
 Util::printBytes(dataVec.data(), dataVec.size(),  
 " Event #" + to\_string(i));  
}

**// Go back to beginning of file**

reader.rewind();

**// Use sequential access to events**

shared\_ptr<EvioEvent> ev = nullptr;  
while ((ev = evioReader.parseNextEvent()) != nullptr) {   
 **// do something with event**

cout << “Event has tag = “ << ev->getHeader()->getTag() << endl;  
}

## Searching

Most users are interested in searching an event, a bank, a segment, or a tagsegment for various things. To this end, evio has several built-in searches for ease of use. See the doxygen documentation for the static methods in the ***StructureFinder*** class for details.

Custom searches can be done by creating filters conforming to the ***IEvioFilter*** interface. Simply define an ***accept()*** method to determine which structures to add to a returned vector. In addition, listeners can be added to execute methods upon the finding of a matching structure using ***IEvioListener*** interface.

Following is an example of code that uses both the built-in search for banks with particular tag/num values and also a simple, user-defined search for finding ***EvioSegment*** type structures with odd numbered tags.

**// Search for banks with specific tag/num using StructureFinder**  
cout << "Search for banks of tag=4 & num=4 using StructureFinder, got:" << endl;

uint16\_t tag = 4;  
uint8\_t num = 4;  
std::vector<std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure>> vec;

**// Searching the topBank structure**  
StructureFinder::getMatchingBanks(topBank, tag, num, vec);  
for (auto n : vec) {  
 std::cout << " bank = " << n->toString() << std::endl;  
}  
vec.clear();

**// Custom search for segments with odd tags**

cout << "Search for segments with odd numbered tags, got:" << endl;

**// Define custom filter**  
class myFilter : public IEvioFilter {  
 public:

bool accept(StructureType const &t, shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> s) override){  
 return ((t == StructureType::STRUCT\_SEGMENT) &&  
 (s->getHeader()->getTag() % 2 == 1));  
 }  
};

**// Use filter in method which does matching**  
auto filter = make\_shared<myFilter>();  
topBank->getMatchingStructures(filter, vec);  
for (auto n : vec) {  
 cout << " bank = " << n->toString() << endl;  
}  
  
**// Custom search for segments with odd tags which also executes listener**

cout << "Search for all segs with odd tags, & execute listener:" << endl;

**// Define custom listener**  
class myListener : public IEvioListener {  
 public:  
 void gotStructure(std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> topStructure,  
 std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> structure) {  
 cout << " listener run for structure = " << structure->toString() << endl;  
 }  
  
 **// We're not parsing, so these are not used ...**void startEventParse(std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> structure) {}  
 void endEventParse(std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> structure) {}  
};

**// Do the searching**  
auto listener = make\_shared<myListener>();  
topBank->visitAllStructures(listener, filter);

Note that any bank, segment, or tagsegment structure can call getMatchingStructures() directly instead of through the StructureFinder class.

## Parsing

Users have some options while parsing events. Listeners and filters may be added to an EvioReader to be used while events are being parsed. The previous section has a good example of how to create a filter. One such filter can be set for a reader object allowing the user to weed out events of no interest.

Evio also has an ***IEvioListener*** interface that can be used to define multiple listeners that operate during parsing in a SAX-like manner. For each listener, simply define 3 methods to be run – after a structure is read in and filter applied while an event is being searched/parsed, just before an event (bank, segment, or tagsegment) is to be parsed, and just after an event has been parsed. Here again, the previous section has a simple example of doing this. Following is an example of code that uses both a listener and a filter, but this time in the context of parsing.

**// Read some data**

EvioReader reader3(buffer);  
auto parser = reader3.getParser();  
  
**// Define a listener for the parser**  
class myListener : public IEvioListener {

public:  
 void gotStructure(std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> topStructure,  
 std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> structure) override {  
 cout << " GOT struct = " << structure->toString() << endl;  
 }  
  
 // Call at start of event parsing  
 void startEventParse(std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> structure) override {  
 cout << " START parsing event = " << structure->toString() << endl;  
 }

// Called at end of event parsing  
 void endEventParse(std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> structure) override {  
 cout << " END parsing event = " << structure->toString() << endl;  
 }  
};  
  
auto listener = make\_shared<myListener>();  
  
**// Add the listener to the parser**  
parser->addEvioListener(listener);  
  
**// Define a filter to select everything (not much of a filter!)**  
class myFilter : public IEvioFilter {

public:  
 bool accept(StructureType const & t, std::shared\_ptr<BaseStructure> s) override {  
 return (true);  
 }  
};  
  
auto filter = std::make\_shared<myFilter>();  
  
**// Add the filter to the parser**  
parser->setEvioFilter(filter);  
  
**// Now parse an event**  
cout << "Run custom filter & listener on first event:" << endl;  
auto ev = reader.parseEvent(1);

## Transforming

Occasionally there can arise problems with the "num" parameter defined by a EvioBank header but not the header of the EvioSegment or EvioTagsegment. The ***StructureTransformer*** class can be used to transform objects between these 3 classes while taking care of the troublesome num and the differences in the format of their header words. For example:

**// Take an existing EvioSegment**

shared\_ptr<EvioSegment> seg;

**// Turn that segment into a bank with num = 10**

uint8\_t num = 10;

shared\_ptr<EvioBank> bank = StructureTransformer::transform(seg, num);

## Dictionaries

This section describes how dictionaries can be used (refer to [Appendix C](#_EVIO_Dictionary_Format) for the format). In general, it is easiest to have one global dictionary defined when manipulating evio data. For jevio this can be set in the singleton ***NameProvider*** class/object. To set this global dictionary simply do something like:

**// Define xml dictionary String**   
string xmlDictString =   
      "<xmlDict>\n" +

      "  <dictEntry name=\"first bank\"  tag=\"1\"  num=\"1\"/>\n" +   
      "  <dictEntry name=\"second bank\"  tag=\"2\"  num=\"2\"/>\n" +   
      "</xmlDict>";

**// Create a dictionary object from xml string**

EvioXmlDictionary dict(xmlDictString);

**// Make it the global dictionary**

NameProvider.setProvider(dict);

Once the global dictionary is set, the question is, "how is it used"? The section in this chapter for "Searching" uses the ***StructureFinder*** class and that is the case here as well. This class uses the global dictionary if defined, but another dictionary may be specified as an argument to its methods. There three methods in this class that use the dictionary as seen below:

// Take some event (not defined here)

EvioEvent event;

// Names to look for

String name = "dictionaryEntry";

String childName = "childEntry";

String parentName = "parentEntry";

// Search for structures (banks, segs, tagsegs) with a particular name   
List<BaseStructure> list1 = StructureFinder.getMatchingStructures(   
                              event, name, dict);

// Search for structures whose parent has a particular name   
List<BaseStructure> list2 = StructureFinder.getMatchingParent(   
                              event, parentName, dict);

// Search for structures who have a child with a particular name   
List<BaseStructure> list3 = StructureFinder.getMatchingChild(   
                              event, childName, dict);

// Print out the list of structures

if (list2 != null) {

for (BaseStructure bs : list2) {   
 System.out.println("Structure named \"" + dictionary.getName(bs) +

"\" has a parent named " + parentName);   
 }

}

In order to implement other types of searches, it would be relatively simple to copy the code for any of the three methods and modify it to suit.

When a file or buffer is read, it may have a dictionary in xml format associated with it. That dictionary is accessible through the ***EvioReader.getDictionaryXML()*** method. For convenience, the ***EvioEvent*** class has a place to store and retrieve an xml dictionary string by using its ***setDictionaryXML()***, ***getDictionaryXML()***, and ***hasDictionaryXML()*** methods.

The dictionary can also be used directly as an object of the ***EvioXmlDictionary*** class. Once an xml string is parsed into such an object (by means if its constructor), there are methods to retrieve the parsed information. These methods can obtain tag/num pairs associated with a name and vice versa. They can also obtain data types, data formats, and descriptive comments associated with either a name or tag/num pair.

// Define xml dictionary String   
String xmlDictString =   
 "<xmlDict>\n" +

 " <dictEntry name=\"me\" tag=\"10\" num=\"0\" type=\"composite\" />\n" +

" <description format=\"2iN(FD)\" >\n" +

" Any comments can go right here!" +

" </description>\n" +  
 "  </dictEntry>\n" +   
 "</xmlDict>";

// Create a dictionary object from xml String

EvioXmlDictionary dict = new EvioXmlDictionary(xmlDictString);

// Retrieve & print info from dictionary

System.out.println("Getting stuff for name = \"me\":");   
System.out.println("    tag         = " + dict.getTag("me"));   
System.out.println("    num         = " + dict.getNum("me"));   
System.out.println("    type        = " + dict.getType("me"));   
System.out.println("    format      = " + dict.getFormat("me"));   
System.out.println("    description = " + dict.getDescription("me"));   
  
System.out.println("Getting stuff for tag = 10, num = 0:");   
System.out.println("    type        = " + dict.getType(10,0));   
System.out.println("    name        = " + dict.getName(10,0));   
System.out.println("    format      = " + dict.getFormat(10,0));   
System.out.println("    description = " + dict.getDescription(10,0));

There are also a couple of ways in which to iterate through the entries of a dictionary to see what it contains using the ***dict.getMap()*** method.

Method 1:

Map<String, EvioDictionaryEntry> map = dict.getMap();

Set<String> keys = map.keySet();

for (String key : keys) {

System.out.println("key = " + key +

", tag = " + dict.getTag(key) +

", num = " + dict.getTag(key));

}

Method 2:

int i=0;

Map<String, EvioDictionaryEntry> map = dict.getMap();

Set<Map.Entry<String, EvioDictionaryEntry>> set = map.entrySet();

for (Map.Entry<String, EvioDictionaryEntry> entry : set) {

String entryName = entry.getKey();

EvioDictionaryEntry entryData = entry.getValue();

System.out.println("entry " + (++i) + ": name = " + entryName +

", tag = " + entryData.getTag() +

", num = " + entryData.getTag());

}

## First Event

If the user wants the same (first) event in each split file, then simply select the ***EventWriter*** constructor that has an argument for the first event (for either file or buffer writing). An alternative method is to call the EventWriter’s:

**setFirstEvent ( EvioBank firstEvent );**

method. If calling the method, make sure it’s called before any other events are written in order to ensure that it is written to each of the split files.

## XML format events

If the user wants to view an event in xml format, that is easily possible:

EvioEvent ev;

boolean asHex = true;

String xml1 = ev.toXML();

String xml2 = ev.toXML(asHex);

It’s also possible to go in the other direction and parse a file of xml events into EvioEvent objects. In this case, if there is more than one event, the top-level xml element must be:

<evio-data>

If there is no dictionary, the events must be indicated by the xml element:

<event>

otherwise it can be any valid xml element whose value exists in the dictionary. Elements whose tag/num/type info is not in the xml may have it supplied by a dictionary entry.

String xml;

List<EvioEvent> list;

list = Utilities.toEvents(xml);

int maxEvents = 20, skip = 1;

EvioXmlDictionary dictionary;

boolean debug = false;

list = Utilities.toEvents(xml, maxEvents, skip, dictionary, debug);

Section

4

# Compact Java Evio

When communicating EvioEvents (java objects) over the network, the user must serialize such events and all its contained objects into an array or buffer of bytes when sending and must deserialize the same bytes into objects on the receiving end. This can lead to a serious performance penalty. To avoid having to serialize and deserialize continually, a new API was developed to allow the handling of evio data in byte buffer form. For lack of a better term, **compact** was the word chosen to describe it since all evio data handled in this API are contained in ByteBuffer objects and never expanded into EvioEvent objects.

## Basics

There are 4 classes comprising all the functionality: ***EvioCompactReader***, ***EvioCompactStructureHandler***, ***CompactEventBuilder***, and ***EvioNode***. Starting with the simplest (and given a buffer of evio data) the EvioNode class stores information about a single evio structure (bank, segment, or tagsegment) in that buffer, but does not contain information about its internal structure. In other words, there is no expansion into a tree and its necessarily accompanying deserialization. It stores all the header information along with locations of the header and data in the buffer itself.

The EvioCompactReader (compact reader for short) plays a similar role as the EvioReader in that it parses a buffer or file (not bigger than 2.1 GB) in evio format. Its constructor creates an EvioNode object for each event and stores it in a list. Methods allow searching an event for structures of a given tag & num pair or dictionary entry. Once an EvioNode object is obtained from a search, its structure's data can be retrieved. A user-created evio structure can be added as the last child of any event by calling ***EvioCompactReader.addStructure()***. Banks and entire events can be removed by calling ***EvioCompactReader.removeEvent()*** or ***removeStructure()***. Perhaps the most powerful feature of the compact reader is that the user can obtain a ByteBuffer representing just a single structure - an event, bank, segment, or tagsegment (no block headers / no full evio file format). This allows for the extraction of bytes representing a single structure to be sent over the network. In this way it almost acts as a writer as well as being a reader.

Working hand-in-hand with the compact reader, the EvioCompactStructureHandler (structure handler for short) can parse the bytes representing a single structure previously produced by the compact reader. Actually any EvioEvent, EvioBank, EvioSegment, or EvioTagSegment object can produce a byte representation of itself by calling its write() method which the structure handler can parse. The structure handler has methods to search for structures of a given tag & num pair or dictionary entry. Once an EvioNode object is obtained from a search, its structure's data can be retrieved. User-created evio structures can be added to the end of any structure (which contains structures, cannot add bank to bank of ints for example). As in the compact reader, the user can obtain a ByteBuffer representing just a single structure.

There is no special class for writing compact events, just use EventWriter which can write events that are in ByteBuffer form. A simple measurement shows that using compact classes to search a file for structures of a given tag/num pair is about 9x faster than using EvioReader.

Instead of using the ***EventBuilder*** class to create events, one can use the ***CompactEventBuilder*** class to do it. The advantage is that the CompactEventBuilder minimizes the creation of objects and constructs an event directly in a ByteBuffer and takes care of all the little details. Because the event is created in a single buffer, it must be done sequentially creating each evio element in its proper order.

There are methods to create and add banks, segments and tagsegments as containers as well as methods to add all the various data types like chars, shorts, ints, longs, doubles, floats. One can even add EvioNode objects. The only tricky thing is handling Composite format data. Look at [Appendix B](#_B.3_Composite_Data) to get more information on handling this format.

## Example 1

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Use CompactEventBuilder to create event

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {

int tag=1, num=1;

// Create buffer to store event in

ByteBuffer buf = ByteBuffer.allocate(1024);

// Use the CompactEventBuilder to create event

CompactEventBuilder builder = new CompactEventBuilder(buf);

// create bank of banks   
builder.openBank(tag, num, DataType.BANK);   
  
// create bank of segments   
builder.openBank(tag+1, DataType.SEGMENT);   
  
// create segment of 3 shorts   
builder.openSegment(tag+2, DataType.SHORT16);   
short[] sdata = new short[] {1,2,3};

builder.addShortData(sdata);

// Finish things up

builder.closeAll();

// Get buffer in ready-to-read form

buf = builder.getBuffer();

// -----------------------------------------------

// Write event to file

// -----------------------------------------------

File file = new File(“/tmp/myFile”);

EventWriter writer = new EventWriter(file);   
 writer.writeEvent(buf);

writer.close();

// -----------------------------------------------

// Read event from file and printout

// -----------------------------------------------

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader(“/tmp/myFile”);

EvioNode node = reader.getScannedEvent(1);

String xml = Utilities.toXML(node);

System.out.println(“XML:\n” + xml);

}

catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }

}

## Example 2

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Read file, search for tag/num, print data, add bank

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {   
 // Read file /tmp/myFile with compact reader

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader("/tmp/myFile");

// -----------------------------------------------

// Search for structure and print its data

// -----------------------------------------------

// Search first event for tag = 3, num = 4   
 List<EvioNode> returnList = reader.searchEvent(1, 3, 4);   
 if (returnList.size() < 1) {   
 throw new Exception("Found nothing in search");   
 }

// First structure found in event 1 with tag = 3, num = 4

EvioNode node = returnList.get(0);

// Get data in structure   
 ByteBuffer buf = reader.getData(node);

// Type of data in structure   
 DataType dType = node.getDataTypeObj();   
 // Print data in structure  
 if (dType == DataType.DOUBLE64) {   
 System.out.println("Double data =");   
 DoubleBuffer dbuf = buf.asDoubleBuffer();   
 for (int i=0; i < dbuf.limit(); i++) {   
 System.out.println(i + "   " + dbuf.get(i));   
 }   
 }

// -----------------------------------------------

// Add user bank to first event

// -----------------------------------------------

// Create a bank to add to end of event, tag = 5, num = 6

EvioBank bank = new EvioBank(5, DataType.INT32, 6);   
 int[] intData = new int[] {1,2,3};   
 try {   
 bank.appendIntData(intData);   
 }   
 catch (EvioException e) {}   
  
 ByteBuffer bb = ByteBuffer.allocate(4\*12);   
 bank.write(bb);   
 bb.flip();

// Add bank to event 1  
 reader.addStructure(1, bb);  
 }   
 catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }   
}

## Example 3

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Read file, remove first event.

// Get new first event (previously 2nd), remove structure,

// write to file

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {   
 // Read file /tmp/myFile with compact reader

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader("/tmp/myFile");

// Remove first event

if (reader.getEventCount() < 2) {

return;

}

reader.removeEvent(1);

// Get new first event (previously second)

EvioNode node = reader.getScannedEvent(1);

// Remove first child of event

ByteBuffer newBuffer = reader.removeStructure(node.getChildAt(0));

// Write to file

reader.toFile(“/tmp/filename”);

}   
 catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }   
}

## Example 4

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Read file, get events, obtain their buffers,

// and write them to another file.

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {   
 // Read file /tmp/myFile with compact reader

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader("/tmp/myFile");

// Number of events in file

int evCount = reader.getEventCount();

// Create writer to file /home/user/outputFile

int runNumber = 1, split = 0, internalBufSize = 1000000;

String dictionary = null;

EvioCompactEventWriter compactWriter =   
 new EvioCompactEventWriter("outputFile", "/home/user",

runNumber, split, internalBufSize,   
                                   ByteOrder.BIG\_ENDIAN, dictionary);

// Loop over all events  
 for (int i=0; i < evCount; i++) {

// Read event #i from input file

ByteBuffer evBuf = reader.getEventBuffer(i);

// Write event to output file   
 compactWriter.writeEvent(evBuf);

}

// Flush internal buffer to file & close

compactWriter.close();

}   
 catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }   
}

## XML format events

If the user wants to view an event or any evio structure in xml format, that is easily possible.

EvioNode node;

boolean asHex = true;

String xml = Utilities.toXML(node, asHex);

Section

5

# Utilities

The utilities described below can be used to convert from binary EVIO to ASCII XML format and back, and to selectively copy EVIO events from one binary file to another. Below the term “event tag” refers to the tag of the outermost bank in an event, which is always of type BANK (two-word header, includes num).

## evio2xml

evio2xml, part of the C library, is a flexible utility that reads a binary EVIO file and dumps selected events in XML format to stdout or to a file:

$ evio2xml –h

evio2xml [-max max\_event] [-pause] [-skip skip\_event]

[-dict dictfilename] [-dtag dtag]

[-ev evtag] [-noev evtag] [-frag frag] [-nofrag frag]

[-max\_depth max\_depth]

[-n8 n8] [-n16 n16] [-n32 n32] [-n64 n64]

[-verbose] [-brief] [-no\_data] [-xtod] [-m main\_tag]

[-e event\_tag]

[-indent indent\_size] [-no\_typename] [-maxbuf maxbuf]

[-debug]

[-out outfilenema] [-gz] filenamee

where most options customize the look and feel of the XML output, and defaults should be satisfactory. –max specifies the maximum number of events to dump, –pause causes evio2xml to pause between events, -skip causes it to skip events before starting to dump them. By default the bank tags are printed as numbers. The user can specify ASCII strings to be used instead in a tag dictionary (via –dict). Contact the DAQ group to get an example dictionary file.

## eviocopy

eviocopy, part of the C library, copies selected events from a binary EVIO file to another binary EVIO file.

$ eviocopy –h

eviocopy [-max max\_event] [-skip skip\_event] [-ev evtag]

[-noev evtag] [-nonum evnum] [-debug]

input\_filename output\_filename

where –max specifies the maximum number of events to copy, -skip cause eviocopy to skip events, -ev causes eviocopy to only copy events with the specified event tag, and

-noev inhibits copying of events with the specified tag. –ev and –noev can be specified multiple times on the command line.

## evioCat

evioCat, part of the C++ library, concatenates multiple EVIO binary files into 1 file.

$ evioCat –h usage:

evioCat [-maxev maxEvent] [-maxevFile maxEventFile] [-debug]

-o outputFile file1 file2 file3 ...

where –maxev specifies the max number of events to add, -maxevFile is the max number of files to add, -debug causes debugging output to screen, -o specifies the output file name and the rest of the arguments are the files containing evio events to concatenate.

## Xml2evio

Xml2evio, part of the Java library, takes a file containing an xml representation of evio events and converts it into an evio format file and/or displays it on screen.

$ Usage: java org.jlab.coda.jevio.apps.Xml2evio -x <xml file> -f <evio file>

[-v] [-hex] [-d <dictionary file>]

[-max <count>] [-skip <count>]

-h help

-v verbose output

-x xml input file name

-f evio output file name

-d xml dictionary file name

-hex display ints in hex with verbose option

-max maximum number of events to convert to evio

-skip number of initial events to skip in xml file

This program takes evio events in an xml file and

converts it to a binary evio file

Section

8

# Java Evio (Jevio)

The current Java EVIO package (org.jlab.coda.jevio) was originally written by Dr. Dave Heddle of CNU and was graciously given to the JLAB DAQ group for maintenance and continued development. Since it was created independently of the C++ implementation, it differs in its interface but contains much of the same functionality.

## Basics

There are some things necessary to know before reading and writing evio format files. However, this is **not** intended to be a full evio tutorial. First, let's look at the classes which form the basis of evio data and do some basic manipulations.

Evio's container structures are banks, segments, and tagsegments. These entities are implemented with 4 different classes. At the very top level is the ***EvioEvent*** which is just a special case (subclass) of an ***EvioBank*** with dictionary and other extra data included. Banks, of course, have 2 words (8 bytes) of header followed by data. The ***EvioSegment*** and ***EvioTagSegment*** classes represent segments and tagsegments respectively, each have 1 word of header, no num value and differing amounts of tag and type data.

To get information contained in a header, call getHeader() with event, bank, seg, or tagseg objects. Using the returned ***BaseStructureHeader*** object, there are methods available to get & set values for content type, tag, num, length, and padding.

Events of any complexity (containing container structures) are created using the ***EventBuilder*** class. The writing of events is done through ***EventWriter*** objects, and the reading of events through ***EvioReader***. There is also a graphical viewer of events available in ***EventTreeFrame***.

In previous versions of evio, only files could be written and read. Currently, however, evio data can be handled by buffers as well.

The next 2 sections have examples which work together. The reading example will read what the writing example produces.

## Event Creating

There are 2 ways to create an evio event. Start with the simplest first -- use the ***EventBuilder*** class to do it. This takes care of all the little details and requires only the initial calling of the constructor and subsequent calling of the addChild() method to create an evio event. The builder will check all arguments, the byte order of added data, type mismatches between parent & child, and will set all evio header lengths automatically. The following code uses the EventBuilder to create an event (bank) of banks with 1 child which is a bank of segments. The bank of segments also has 1 child which is a segment of shorts.

// Use the EventBuilder class to create event of banks, tag=1, num=1

EventBuilder builder = new EventBuilder(1, DataType.BANK, 1);   
EvioEvent event = builder.getEvent();   
  
// bank of segments   
EvioBank bankSegs = new EvioBank(2, DataType.SEGMENT, 2);   
builder.addChild(event, bankSegs);   
  
// segment of 3 shorts   
EvioSegment segShorts = new EvioSegment(3, DataType.SHORT16);   
short[] sdata = new short[] {1,2,3};

segShorts.setShortData(sdata);   
builder.addChild(bankSegs, segShorts);

// To remove a structure

builder.remove(segShorts);

There are methods to create and add banks, segments and tagsegments as containers as well as methods to add all the various data types like chars, shorts, ints, longs, doubles, floats and their arrays. The only tricky thing is handling Composite format data. Look at [Appendix B](#_B.3_Composite_Data) to get more information on handling this format.

The second means is to call the insert() method of the event or its children. This method requires the event to call setAllHeaderLengths() at the end to make sure all the evio headers in the event have the proper lengths set. The following code does exactly what the previous example does but does not check for the issues mentioned above:

// Use event constructor and insert() calls   
EvioEvent event = new EvioEvent(1, DataType.BANK, 1);   
  
// bank of segments   
EvioBank bankSegs = new EvioBank(2, DataType.SEGMENT, 2);   
event.insert(bankSegs);   
  
// segment of 3 shorts   
EvioSegment segShorts = new EvioSegment(3, DataType.SHORT16);   
short[] sdata = new short[] {1,2,3};

segShorts.setShortData(sdata);   
bankSegs.insert(segShorts);

// To remove a structure

bankSegs.remove(segShorts);

// Make sure all evio headers have correct lengths

event.setAllHeaderLengths();

## Writing

### Writing to file or buffer

Start writing an evio format file or buffer with an ***EventWriter*** object. Simply pick among the various constructors for your medium of choice. There are optional parameters including allowing the user to chose whether to append to or overwrite any previously existing data. The user can also set the block size and number of events per block as well as specify a dictionary and data byte order among other things. Refer to the javadoc for all of the possibilities.

Below is some example code with comments showing how the writing is done. It shows how to write to both files and buffers as well as how to define a dictionary and how to create evio data. If the reader is unfamiliar with Java's ***ByteBuffer*** class, take some time to read up on it when using buffers. It will allow you to do many things.

// For WRITING a file or buffer   
public static void main(String args[]) {   
   
   // Define xml dictionary   
   String xmlDictionary =   
      "<xmlDict>\n" +   
      "  <bank name=\"bank of banks\"          tag=\"1\"   num=\"1\">\n" +   
      "     <bank name=\"bank of segments\"    tag=\"2\"   num=\"2\">\n" +   
      "       <leaf name=\"segment of shorts\" tag=\"3\"   />\n" +   
      "     </bank>\n" +   
      "     <bank name=\"bank of banks\"       tag=\"4\"   num=\"4\">\n" +   
      "       <leaf name=\"bank of chars\"     tag=\"5\"   num=\"5\"/>\n" +   
      "     </bank>\n" +   
      "  </bank>\n" +   
      "  <dictEntry name=\"last bank\"        tag=\"33\"  num=\"66\"/>\n" +   
      "</xmlDict>";

// Data to write  
 byte[]  byteData1 = new byte[]  {1,2,3,4,5};   
 int[]   intData1  = new int[]   {4,5,6};   
 int[]   intData2  = new int[]   {7,8,9};   
 short[] shortData = new short[] {11,22,33};

// Do we append or overwrite?

boolean append = false;

// Do we write to file or buffer?

boolean toFile = true;

ByteBuffer myBuf = null;  
  
 try {

EventWriter writer;

if (toFile) {

          // Create an event writer to write out the test events to file

// along with a dictionary  
 String fileName  = "./myData";   
    File file = new File(fileName);

writer = new EventWriter(file, xmlDictionary, append);   
 }

else {  
          // Or create an event writer to write to buffer   
          myBuf = ByteBuffer.allocate(10000);   
          myBuf.order(ByteOrder.LITTLE\_ENDIAN);   
          writer = new EventWriter(myBuf, xmlDictionary, append);   
 }

       // event - bank of banks   
       EventBuilder builder = new EventBuilder(1, DataType.BANK, 1);   
       EvioEvent event = builder.getEvent();   
  
       // bank of segments   
       EvioBank bankSegs = new EvioBank(2, DataType.SEGMENT, 2);   
       builder.addChild(event, bankSegs);   
  
       // segment of 3 shorts   
       EvioSegment segShorts = new EvioSegment(3, DataType.SHORT16);   
       segShorts.setShortData(shortData);   
       builder.addChild(bankSegs, segShorts);   
  
       // another bank of banks   
       EvioBank bankBanks = new EvioBank(4, DataType.BANK, 4);   
       builder.addChild(event, bankBanks);   
  
       // bank of chars   
       EvioBank charBank = new EvioBank(5, DataType.CHAR8, 5);   
       charBank.setByteData(byteData1);   
       builder.addChild(bankBanks, charBank);   
  
       // Write event to file   
       writer.writeEvent(event);

// How much room do I have left in the buffer now?

if (!toFile) {

System.out.println("I have " + myBuf.remaining() + " bytes left");

}   
  
       // event - bank of ints   
       EvioEvent lastEvent = new EvioEvent(33, DataType.INT32, 66);

// Tell jevio what the data's endianness is.

// This will not swap anything now but will

// enable it to be written out properly.

// NOT necessary to call if data is big endian.

// Call this BEFORE dealing with data!   
       lastEvent.setByteOrder(ByteOrder.LITTLE\_ENDIAN);

// Overwrite all previous data with "setIntData"   
       lastEvent.setIntData(intData1);

// Append data to end with "appendIntData"   
       lastEvent.appendIntData(intData2);

       // Write last event to file or buffer   
       writer.writeEvent(lastEvent);   
  
       // All done writing   
       writer.close();   
   }   
   catch (IOException e) {   
       e.printStackTrace();   
   }   
   catch (EvioException e) {   
       e.printStackTrace();   
   }

}

### Naming files

The filename passed to any of the constructors may contain characters of the form **$(env)** where “env” is the name of an environmental variable. When the file is created, all such constructs will be substituted with the actual environmental variable’s value (or nothing if it doesn’t exist).

Similarly, the filename may contain constructs of the form **%s** which will be substituted with the actual run type’s value (if passed in as a parameter to the constructor).

The filename may also contain the run number value (if passed in as a parameter to the constructor) and the split number (if splitting). This is done by allowing up to 2, C-style integer format specifiers (such as %03d, or %x) in the filename. If more than 2 are found, an exception will be thrown. If no "0" precedes any integer between the "%" and the "d" or "x" of the format specifier, it will be added automatically in order to avoid spaces in the generated filename. The first occurrence will be substituted with the given run number value. If the file is being split, the second will be substituted with the split number. If 2 specifiers exist and the file is not being split, no substitutions are made.

### Splitting files

When writing significant amounts of data to a single file, that file can get very large – too large. Historically, run control was able to split the data into multiple files with an automatic file naming system. For this version of evio, the ability to split files is built in as is the naming system. Simply pick the constructor designed for file splitting with parameters allowing the user to choose the number of bytes at which to start writing to a new file and the name of the files to use. The constructor of both the EventWriter and EvioCompactEventWriter (more on this in the next chapter) classes have input parameters for a base filename, run type, run number, and split size.

A description of the general file naming system is in the section above, but when splitting into multiple files (split size > 0), the user should also be aware that the generated files names are distinguished by a split number. If the base filename contains C-style int format specifiers, then the first occurrence will be substituted with the given run number value. The second will be substituted with the split number. If no specifier for the split number exists, it is tacked onto the end of the file name.

Below is example code with comments showing how the file naming and splitting is done.

int split = 100000000; // split at 100MB

int runNumber = 1;

String runType = “myExperiment”;

String directory = “/myDirectory”;

String baseFilename = “my$(BASE\_NAME)\_%s\_%x\_%03d.ext”;

EventWriter writer = new EventWriter(baseFilename, directory,   
                       runType, runNumber, split,

64000, 1000, 300000,

byteOrder, dictionary,

bitInfo, overWriteOK, append);

The baseFilename string will have the environmental variable, BASE\_NAME, substituted in the obvious location along with the runType substituted for the %s, the runNumber substituted for the %x (hex format), and the split number substituted for the %03d. If BASE\_NAME has the value “File”, then the first 3 split files will have the names:

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_001.ext

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_002.ext

myFile\_myExperiment\_1\_003.ext

## Reading

Start reading an evio format file or buffer with an ***EvioReader*** object. Simply pick among the various constructors for your medium of choice. There is an optional parameter allowing the user to make sure the incoming block numbers are sequential. (Find out about block numbers by reading through Appendix A which describes the evio file format). There is also an optional parameter for choosing between sequential and random-access methods for reading a file.

Looking "under the hood" for a moment, the preferred, random-access (and default) method of reading a file is to use a memory-mapped ByteBuffer to be able to address each byte. It is much faster than using streams to read a file sequentially. However, using a memory-mapped file is not always possible. There is a fundamental limitation built into the Java JVM which only allows indexes of arrays to be ints (and not longs). Since ints are signed 32 bit entities, and since a ByteBuffer object is backed by an array in which each byte is addressable, the result is that only files less than or equal to 231 - 1 (2.147G) bytes in size can be mapped. Files larger than that are read sequentially using streams. This version of jevio is the first to be able to read and write large files. The option exists to also read smaller files in a sequential manner but that would only slow things down. One possibly confusing part of the jevio interface is that methods that are random-access in nature are implemented using sequential reads for large files. Thus, jevio allows for a random-access style of approach even when the underlying reading mechanism is sequential. To implement this, all files and buffers are initially scanned to find the positions of each event. Note that this may take significant time for large files.

On this matter of random-access vs. sequentially oriented method calls, these are the 2 independent means of retrieving events from a file/buffer. The following are the random-access methods of the EvioReader class:

getEvent(int i)

parseEvent(int i)

gotoEventNumber(int i)

and the sequential methods:

nextEvent()

parseNextEvent()

rewind()

When mixing calls of these two categories in one application, there is no need to worry about one type interfering with the other. For example, if an application does a series of parseNextEvent() calls to look at a file, then doing a parseEvent(20) method call in the middle of the series will **not** change the sequence of the events returned by parseNextEvent().

Now for a word on performance. As previously mentioned, do not choose to read sequentially when reading files < 2.1 GB in size. When reading larger files, it is usually faster to use the sequential methods. The reason for that is they read in whole blocks (not individual events) at a time. If the file was written with block sizes substantially greater in size than a single event (the default when using small events), then it will be faster. The random-access methods will, on the other hand, hop to the event of interest and only read in that single event.

It's easier to give an example of code used to read a file than to explain things abstractly. Various lines show how to get and use a dictionary, read events with the sequential or random-access methods, get the total number of events, and get & print data. The code below uses many of the available evio features for reading and will read the file or buffer created in the previous section.

// For READING a file or buffer   
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 String fileName  = "/home/myAccount/myData";   
 File fileIn = new File(fileName);

ByteBuffer myBuf = null;

// Do we read from file or buffer?

boolean useFile = true;

   try {   
    EvioReader evioReader;   
       if (useFile) {  
           evioReader = new EvioReader(fileName);   
       }   
       else {   
           myBuf.flip();   
           evioReader = new EvioReader(myBuf);   
       }   
  
       // Get any existing dictionary   
       String xmlDictString = evioReader.getDictionaryXML();   
       EvioXMLDictionary dictionary = null;   
  
       if (xmlDictString == null) {   
           System.out.println("Ain't got no dictionary!");   
       }   
       else {   
           // Create dictionary object from xml string   
           dictionary = new EvioXMLDictionary(xmlDictString);   
           System.out.println("Dictionary:\n" + dictionary.toString());   
       }   
  
       // How many events in the file?   
       int evCount = evioReader.getEventCount();   
       System.out.println("Read file, got " + evCount + " events:\n");   
  
       // Use "random access" capability to look at last event (starts at 1)   
       EvioEvent ev = evioReader.parseEvent(evCount);   
       System.out.println("Last event = " + ev.toString());   
  
       // Print out any data in the last event.   
       // In the writing example, the data for this event was set to   
       // be little endian so we need to read it in that way too.   
       ev.setByteOrder(ByteOrder.LITTLE\_ENDIAN);   
       int[] intData = ev.getIntData();   
       if (intData != null) {   
           for (int i=0; i < intData.length; i++) {   
               System.out.println("intData[" + i + "] = " + intData[i]);   
           }   
       }   
  
       // Use the dictionary   
       if (dictionary != null) {   
           String eventName = dictionary.getName(ev);   
           System.out.println("Name of last event = " + eventName);   
       }   
  
       // Use sequential access to events   
       while ( (ev = evioReader.parseNextEvent()) != null) {   
           System.out.println("Event = " + ev.toString());   
       }   
  
       // Go back to the beginning of file/buffer for sequential methods  
       evioReader.rewind();

   }   
   catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(); }  
}

## Searching

Most users are also interested in searching an event, a bank, a segment, or a tagsegment for various things. To this end, jevio has a couple of built in searches for ease of use. See the javadoc for the ***StructureFinder*** class for details. Custom searches can be done by creating filters conforming to the ***IEvioFilter*** interface. Simply define an ***accept()*** method to determine which structures to add to a returned list. Following is an example of code that uses both the built in search for banks with particular tag/num values and also a simple, user-defined search for finding ***EvioSegment*** type structures with odd numbered tags.

// Take some event (not defined here)

EvioEvent event;

// Search it for banks (not segs, tagsegs) with particular tag & num values   
int tag=1, num=1;  
List<BaseStructure> list = StructureFinder.getMatchingBanks(   
                              event, tag, num);   
if (list != null) {

for (BaseStructure bs : list) {   
 System.out.println("Evio structure named \"" + dictionary.getName(bs) +

"\" has tag=1 & num=1");   
 }

}  
  
// ------------------------------------------------------------------   
// Search for banks/segs/tagsegs with a custom search criteria   
// ------------------------------------------------------------------   
  
// Define a filter to select Segment structures with odd numbered tags.   
class myEvioFilter implements IEvioFilter {   
 public boolean accept(StructureType type, IEvioStructure struct){   
    return (type == StructureType.SEGMENT &&   
               (struct.getHeader().getTag() % 2 == 1));   
   }   
};

// Create the defined filter  
myEvioFilter filter = new myEvioFilter();

// Use the filter to search "event"   
list = StructureFinder.getMatchingStructures(event, filter);   
if (list != null) {   
 for (BaseStructure bs : list) {   
   System.out.println("Evio structure named " +

dictionary.getName(bs) + " is Segment with odd tag");   
   }   
}

Note that any bank, segment, or tagsegment structure can call getMatchingStructures() directly instead of through the StructureFinder class.

## Parsing

Users have some options while parsing events. Listeners and filters may be added to an EvioReader to be used while events are being parsed. The previous section has a good example of how to create a filter. One such filter can be set for a reader object allowing the user to weed out events of no interest.

Jevio also has an ***IEvioListener*** interface that can be used to define multiple listeners that operate during parsing in a SAX-like manner. For each listener, simply define 3 methods to be run -- before an event is parsed, just after a structure in the event (bank, segment, or tagsegment) has been parsed, and after the entire event has been parsed. Following is an example of code that uses both a listener and a filter.

// Read some evio format file

EvioReader evioReader = new EvioReader(fileName);

// Get the parser which is contained in the reader  
EventParser parser = evioReader.getParser();

// Define a listener to be used with an event parser  
IEvioListener listener = new IEvioListener() {

// Run this method after each bank/seg/tagseg has been parsed

public void gotStructure(BaseStructure topStructure,

IEvioStructure structure) {  
    System.out.println("Parsed structure of type " +

structure.getStructureType());  
   }  
   
 // Run this method before the event is parsed

public void startEventParse(BaseStructure structure) {  
    System.out.println("Starting event parse");  
   }

// Run this method after the event has been parsed  
 public void endEventParse(BaseStructure structure) {  
 System.out.println("Ended event parse");  
 }  
};

// Add the listener to the parser  
parser.addEvioListener(listener);

// Define a filter to select everything (not much of a filter!)  
class myEvioFilter implements IEvioFilter {   
 public boolean accept(StructureType type, IEvioStructure struct){   
    return true;   
   }   
};

// Create the above-defined filter

myEvioFilter filter = new myEvioFilter();

// Add the filter to the parser

parser.setEvioFilter(filter);

// Now parse some event  
EvioEvent ev = evioReader.parseEvent(1);

## Transforming

Occasionally there can arise problems with the "num" parameter defined by a EvioBank header but not the header of the EvioSegment or EvioTagsegment. The ***StructureTransformer*** class can be used to transform objects between these 3 classes while taking care of the troublesome num. For example:

// Take an existing EvioSegment

EvioSegment seg;

int num = 10;

// Turn that segment into a bank

EvioBank bank = StructureTransformer.transform(seg, num);

## Dictionaries

This section describes how dictionaries can be used (refer to Appendix C for the format). In general it is easiest to have one global dictionary defined when manipulating evio data. For jevio this can be set in the singleton ***NameProvider*** class/object. To set this global dictionary simply do something like:

// Define xml dictionary String   
String xmlDictString =   
      "<xmlDict>\n" +

      "  <dictEntry name=\"first bank\"  tag=\"1\"  num=\"1\"/>\n" +   
      "  <dictEntry name=\"second bank\"  tag=\"2\"  num=\"2\"/>\n" +   
      "</xmlDict>";

// Create a dictionary object from xml String

EvioXmlDictionary dict = new EvioXmlDictionary(xmlDictString);

// Make it the global dictionary

NameProvider.setProvider(dict);

Once the global dictionary is set, the question is, "how is it used"? The section in this chapter for "Searching" uses the ***StructureFinder*** class and that is the case here as well. This class uses the global dictionary if defined, but another dictionary may be specified as an argument to its methods. There three methods in this class that use the dictionary as seen below:

// Take some event (not defined here)

EvioEvent event;

// Names to look for

String name = "dictionaryEntry";

String childName = "childEntry";

String parentName = "parentEntry";

// Search for structures (banks, segs, tagsegs) with a particular name   
List<BaseStructure> list1 = StructureFinder.getMatchingStructures(   
                              event, name, dict);

// Search for structures whose parent has a particular name   
List<BaseStructure> list2 = StructureFinder.getMatchingParent(   
                              event, parentName, dict);

// Search for structures who have a child with a particular name   
List<BaseStructure> list3 = StructureFinder.getMatchingChild(   
                              event, childName, dict);

// Print out the list of structures

if (list2 != null) {

for (BaseStructure bs : list2) {   
 System.out.println("Structure named \"" + dictionary.getName(bs) +

"\" has a parent named " + parentName);   
 }

}

In order to implement other types of searches, it would be relatively simple to copy the code for any of the three methods and modify it to suit.

When a file or buffer is read, it may have a dictionary in xml format associated with it. That dictionary is accessible through the ***EvioReader.getDictionaryXML()*** method. For convenience, the ***EvioEvent*** class has a place to store and retrieve an xml dictionary string by using its ***setDictionaryXML()***, ***getDictionaryXML()***, and ***hasDictionaryXML()*** methods.

The dictionary can also be used directly as an object of the ***EvioXmlDictionary*** class. Once an xml string is parsed into such an object (by means if its constructor), there are methods to retrieve the parsed information. These methods can obtain tag/num pairs associated with a name and vice versa. They can also obtain data types, data formats, and descriptive comments associated with either a name or tag/num pair.

// Define xml dictionary String   
String xmlDictString =   
 "<xmlDict>\n" +

 " <dictEntry name=\"me\" tag=\"10\" num=\"0\" type=\"composite\" />\n" +

" <description format=\"2iN(FD)\" >\n" +

" Any comments can go right here!" +

" </description>\n" +  
 "  </dictEntry>\n" +   
 "</xmlDict>";

// Create a dictionary object from xml String

EvioXmlDictionary dict = new EvioXmlDictionary(xmlDictString);

// Retrieve & print info from dictionary

System.out.println("Getting stuff for name = \"me\":");   
System.out.println("    tag         = " + dict.getTag("me"));   
System.out.println("    num         = " + dict.getNum("me"));   
System.out.println("    type        = " + dict.getType("me"));   
System.out.println("    format      = " + dict.getFormat("me"));   
System.out.println("    description = " + dict.getDescription("me"));   
  
System.out.println("Getting stuff for tag = 10, num = 0:");   
System.out.println("    type        = " + dict.getType(10,0));   
System.out.println("    name        = " + dict.getName(10,0));   
System.out.println("    format      = " + dict.getFormat(10,0));   
System.out.println("    description = " + dict.getDescription(10,0));

There are also a couple of ways in which to iterate through the entries of a dictionary to see what it contains using the ***dict.getMap()*** method.

Method 1:

Map<String, EvioDictionaryEntry> map = dict.getMap();

Set<String> keys = map.keySet();

for (String key : keys) {

System.out.println("key = " + key +

", tag = " + dict.getTag(key) +

", num = " + dict.getTag(key));

}

Method 2:

int i=0;

Map<String, EvioDictionaryEntry> map = dict.getMap();

Set<Map.Entry<String, EvioDictionaryEntry>> set = map.entrySet();

for (Map.Entry<String, EvioDictionaryEntry> entry : set) {

String entryName = entry.getKey();

EvioDictionaryEntry entryData = entry.getValue();

System.out.println("entry " + (++i) + ": name = " + entryName +

", tag = " + entryData.getTag() +

", num = " + entryData.getTag());

}

## First Event

If the user wants the same (first) event in each split file, then simply select the ***EventWriter*** constructor that has an argument for the first event (for either file or buffer writing). An alternative method is to call the EventWriter’s:

**setFirstEvent ( EvioBank firstEvent );**

method. If calling the method, make sure it’s called before any other events are written in order to ensure that it is written to each of the split files.

## XML format events

If the user wants to view an event in xml format, that is easily possible:

EvioEvent ev;

boolean asHex = true;

String xml1 = ev.toXML();

String xml2 = ev.toXML(asHex);

It’s also possible to go in the other direction and parse a file of xml events into EvioEvent objects. In this case, if there is more than one event, the top-level xml element must be:

<evio-data>

If there is no dictionary, the events must be indicated by the xml element:

<event>

otherwise it can be any valid xml element whose value exists in the dictionary. Elements whose tag/num/type info is not in the xml may have it supplied by a dictionary entry.

String xml;

List<EvioEvent> list;

list = Utilities.toEvents(xml);

int maxEvents = 20, skip = 1;

EvioXmlDictionary dictionary;

boolean debug = false;

list = Utilities.toEvents(xml, maxEvents, skip, dictionary, debug);

Section

9

# Compact Java Evio

When communicating EvioEvents (java objects) over the network, the user must serialize such events and all its contained objects into an array or buffer of bytes when sending and must deserialize the same bytes into objects on the receiving end. This can lead to a serious performance penalty. To avoid having to serialize and deserialize continually, a new API was developed to allow the handling of evio data in byte buffer form. For lack of a better term, **compact** was the word chosen to describe it since all evio data handled in this API are contained in ByteBuffer objects and never expanded into EvioEvent objects.

## Basics

There are 4 classes comprising all the functionality: ***EvioCompactReader***, ***EvioCompactStructureHandler***, ***CompactEventBuilder***, and ***EvioNode***. Starting with the simplest (and given a buffer of evio data) the EvioNode class stores information about a single evio structure (bank, segment, or tagsegment) in that buffer, but does not contain information about its internal structure. In other words, there is no expansion into a tree and its necessarily accompanying deserialization. It stores all the header information along with locations of the header and data in the buffer itself.

The EvioCompactReader (compact reader for short) plays a similar role as the EvioReader in that it parses a buffer or file (not bigger than 2.1 GB) in evio format. Its constructor creates an EvioNode object for each event and stores it in a list. Methods allow searching an event for structures of a given tag & num pair or dictionary entry. Once an EvioNode object is obtained from a search, its structure's data can be retrieved. A user-created evio structure can be added as the last child of any event by calling ***EvioCompactReader.addStructure()***. Banks and entire events can be removed by calling ***EvioCompactReader.removeEvent()*** or ***removeStructure()***. Perhaps the most powerful feature of the compact reader is that the user can obtain a ByteBuffer representing just a single structure - an event, bank, segment, or tagsegment (no block headers / no full evio file format). This allows for the extraction of bytes representing a single structure to be sent over the network. In this way it almost acts as a writer as well as being a reader.

Working hand-in-hand with the compact reader, the EvioCompactStructureHandler (structure handler for short) can parse the bytes representing a single structure previously produced by the compact reader. Actually any EvioEvent, EvioBank, EvioSegment, or EvioTagSegment object can produce a byte representation of itself by calling its write() method which the structure handler can parse. The structure handler has methods to search for structures of a given tag & num pair or dictionary entry. Once an EvioNode object is obtained from a search, its structure's data can be retrieved. User-created evio structures can be added to the end of any structure (which contains structures, cannot add bank to bank of ints for example). As in the compact reader, the user can obtain a ByteBuffer representing just a single structure.

There is no special class for writing compact events, just use EventWriter which can write events that are in ByteBuffer form. A simple measurement shows that using compact classes to search a file for structures of a given tag/num pair is about 9x faster than using EvioReader.

Instead of using the ***EventBuilder*** class to create events, one can use the ***CompactEventBuilder*** class to do it. The advantage is that the CompactEventBuilder minimizes the creation of objects and constructs an event directly in a ByteBuffer and takes care of all the little details. Because the event is created in a single buffer, it must be done sequentially creating each evio element in its proper order.

There are methods to create and add banks, segments and tagsegments as containers as well as methods to add all the various data types like chars, shorts, ints, longs, doubles, floats. One can even add EvioNode objects. The only tricky thing is handling Composite format data. Look at [Appendix B](#_B.3_Composite_Data) to get more information on handling this format.

## Example 1

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Use CompactEventBuilder to create event

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {

int tag=1, num=1;

// Create buffer to store event in

ByteBuffer buf = ByteBuffer.allocate(1024);

// Use the CompactEventBuilder to create event

CompactEventBuilder builder = new CompactEventBuilder(buf);

// create bank of banks   
builder.openBank(tag, num, DataType.BANK);   
  
// create bank of segments   
builder.openBank(tag+1, DataType.SEGMENT);   
  
// create segment of 3 shorts   
builder.openSegment(tag+2, DataType.SHORT16);   
short[] sdata = new short[] {1,2,3};

builder.addShortData(sdata);

// Finish things up

builder.closeAll();

// Get buffer in ready-to-read form

buf = builder.getBuffer();

// -----------------------------------------------

// Write event to file

// -----------------------------------------------

File file = new File(“/tmp/myFile”);

EventWriter writer = new EventWriter(file);   
 writer.writeEvent(buf);

writer.close();

// -----------------------------------------------

// Read event from file and printout

// -----------------------------------------------

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader(“/tmp/myFile”);

EvioNode node = reader.getScannedEvent(1);

String xml = Utilities.toXML(node);

System.out.println(“XML:\n” + xml);

}

catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }

}

## Example 2

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Read file, search for tag/num, print data, add bank

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {   
 // Read file /tmp/myFile with compact reader

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader("/tmp/myFile");

// -----------------------------------------------

// Search for structure and print its data

// -----------------------------------------------

// Search first event for tag = 3, num = 4   
 List<EvioNode> returnList = reader.searchEvent(1, 3, 4);   
 if (returnList.size() < 1) {   
 throw new Exception("Found nothing in search");   
 }

// First structure found in event 1 with tag = 3, num = 4

EvioNode node = returnList.get(0);

// Get data in structure   
 ByteBuffer buf = reader.getData(node);

// Type of data in structure   
 DataType dType = node.getDataTypeObj();   
 // Print data in structure  
 if (dType == DataType.DOUBLE64) {   
 System.out.println("Double data =");   
 DoubleBuffer dbuf = buf.asDoubleBuffer();   
 for (int i=0; i < dbuf.limit(); i++) {   
 System.out.println(i + "   " + dbuf.get(i));   
 }   
 }

// -----------------------------------------------

// Add user bank to first event

// -----------------------------------------------

// Create a bank to add to end of event, tag = 5, num = 6

EvioBank bank = new EvioBank(5, DataType.INT32, 6);   
 int[] intData = new int[] {1,2,3};   
 try {   
 bank.appendIntData(intData);   
 }   
 catch (EvioException e) {}   
  
 ByteBuffer bb = ByteBuffer.allocate(4\*12);   
 bank.write(bb);   
 bb.flip();

// Add bank to event 1  
 reader.addStructure(1, bb);  
 }   
 catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }   
}

## Example 3

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Read file, remove first event.

// Get new first event (previously 2nd), remove structure,

// write to file

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {   
 // Read file /tmp/myFile with compact reader

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader("/tmp/myFile");

// Remove first event

if (reader.getEventCount() < 2) {

return;

}

reader.removeEvent(1);

// Get new first event (previously second)

EvioNode node = reader.getScannedEvent(1);

// Remove first child of event

ByteBuffer newBuffer = reader.removeStructure(node.getChildAt(0));

// Write to file

reader.toFile(“/tmp/filename”);

}   
 catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }   
}

## Example 4

// ---------------------------------------------------

// Read file, get events, obtain their buffers,

// and write them to another file.

// ---------------------------------------------------  
public static void main(String args[]) {   
  
 try {   
 // Read file /tmp/myFile with compact reader

EvioCompactReader reader = new EvioCompactReader("/tmp/myFile");

// Number of events in file

int evCount = reader.getEventCount();

// Create writer to file /home/user/outputFile

int runNumber = 1, split = 0, internalBufSize = 1000000;

String dictionary = null;

EvioCompactEventWriter compactWriter =   
 new EvioCompactEventWriter("outputFile", "/home/user",

runNumber, split, internalBufSize,   
                                   ByteOrder.BIG\_ENDIAN, dictionary);

// Loop over all events  
 for (int i=0; i < evCount; i++) {

// Read event #i from input file

ByteBuffer evBuf = reader.getEventBuffer(i);

// Write event to output file   
 compactWriter.writeEvent(evBuf);

}

// Flush internal buffer to file & close

compactWriter.close();

}   
 catch (EvioException e) {   
 e.printStackTrace();  
 }   
}

## XML format events

If the user wants to view an event or any evio structure in xml format, that is easily possible.

EvioNode node;

boolean asHex = true;

String xml = Utilities.toXML(node, asHex);

Section

10

# Java Evio Event-Viewing Gui

In the jevio jar file, there is a graphical user interface for looking at EVIO format files event-by-event. To run it simply type:

java org/jlab/coda/jevio/graphics/EventTreeFrame

HOWEVER, the simple gui above was further developed with many more features and put into its own package called JEventViewer-1.0. The newer viewer has the capability of grabbing ET events and cMsg messages and parsing them as evio data. It can also look at any file as a list of 32 bit integers – very useful for debugging. To run it type:

java org/jlab/coda/eventViewer/EventTreeFrame

For this to work the JEventViewer-1.0.jar and the latest jevio jar files must be in your CLASSPATH. If you want to look at ET and cMsg data, then the ET and cMsg jar files must be in the CLASSPATH as well. For further documentation look in the JEventViewer-1.0 package.

**APPENDIX A**

# A. Evio File Format

Following are descriptions of both the old format and the new.

## A.1 Evio Versions 1-3

Each file is divided into equal size ***blocks*** with each block having a header of 8, 32-bit integers or words. The fixed sized block was used as a means to recover data in case of tape storage problems. Following is a diagram of the header:

**OLD BLOCK HEADER**

MSB(31)                          LSB(0)   
<--------------- 32 bits ------------->

|  |
| --- |
| **Block Length** |
| **Block Number** |
| **Header Length** |
| **Start** |
| **End** |
| **Version** |
| **Reserved 1** |
| **Magic Number** |

1. The block length is number of 32 bit words in the block (including itself). Although it is adjustable, this was generally fixed for versions 1-3 at 8192 (32768 bytes).
2. The block number is an id # used by the event writer.
3. The header length is the number of 32 bit words in this header. In theory this too is adjustable but in practice was always 8.
4. The start is the offset in words to the first event header in block relative to the start of the block.
5. The end is the number of valid words (header + data) in the block. This is equal to the block size unless it is the last block in which case it may be less.
6. The version is the current evio format version number (1,2, or 3).
7. The reserved 1 is unused.
8. Finally, the magic number is the value 0xc0da0100 and is used to check endianness.

Following the header is the data. Often events ended up being split across one or more blocks. The start header word was used to find the beginning of the next event's header inside the block.

## A.2 Evio Version 4

Each file is still divided into ***blocks*** with each block having a header. In the new format, to simplify things, each block contains an integral number of events which in turn means that the size of each block is **not** fixed. Following is a diagram of the new header:

**NEW BLOCK HEADER**

MSB(31)                          LSB(0)   
<--------------- 32 bits ------------->

|  |
| --- |
| **Block Length** |
| **Block Number** |
| **Header Length** |
| **Event Count** |
| **Reserved 1** |
| **Bit info        | Version** |
| **Reserved 2** |
| **Magic Number** |

1. The block length is number of 32 bit words in the block (including itself). In general, this will vary from block to block.
2. The block number is an id # used by the event writer.
3. The header length is the number of 32 bit words in this header - set to 8 by default. This can be made larger but not smaller. Even though, theoretically, it can be changed, there are no means to do this or take advantage of the extra memory through the C, C++ or Java evio libraries.
4. The event count is the number of events in this block - always integral. Note that: this value should not be used to parse the following events since the very first block may have a dictionary whose presence is not included in this count.
5. Reserved 1 is used in the CODA online to store the CODA id of the data source if bits 10-13 of the bit-info word show a ROC Raw type.
6. The version is the current evio format version number (4) and takes up the lowest 8 bits. The other bits are used to store the various useful data listed below.
7. Reserved 2 is unused.
8. The magic number is the value 0xc0da0100 and is used to check endianness.

**BIT INFO WORD**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bit # (0 = LSB)** | **Function** |
| 0-7 | Version # = 4 |
| 8 | = 1 if dictionary is included (first block only) |
| 9 | = 1 if this block is the last block in file, buffer, or network transmission |
| 13-10 | type of events in block:  ROC Raw = 0,  Physics = 1,  Partial Physics = 2,  Disentangled Physics = 3,  User = 4,  Control = 5,  Other = 15 |
| 14 | = 1 if the next event (non-dictionary) is a “first event” to be placed at the beginning of each written file and its splits |
| 31-15 | unused |

Bits 8-14 are only useful for the CODA online use of evio. That’s because only a single CODA event ***type*** is placed into a single (ET, cMsg) buffer, and each user or control event has its own buffer as well. That buffer is then parsed by an EvioReader or EvioCompactReader object. Thus, all events will be of a single CODA type.

## A.3 Evio Version 6

A big factor for introducing yet another evio version was the desire to compress data in each block (now called a record). The HIPO format, in use in Jefferson Lab’s Hall B, already had the capability to compress data. In order to avoid proliferation of data formats, HIPO was merged with evio along with much of the code to handle data compression. This has added a great deal of complexity to the file and record headers as one can see following.

**FILE FORMAT**

Below is a diagram of how an HIPO/evio6 file is laid out. Each file has its own file header which appears once, at the very beginning of the file. It is always uncompressed. That is followed by an optional, uncompressed index array which contains 4-byte integers each of which gives the length of a record in bytes. Generally, the index array is not used with evio files.

That, in turn, is followed by an optional, uncompressed user header which is just an array of data to be defined by the user. This array is padded to a 4-byte boundary. To be more specific, it holds user data in HIPO files, but in evio files the user header will only store any dictionary or first event provided to the file writer. The dictionary and first event are placed into a record and written out as the user header. More on records later. Finally, any index array and user header is followed by any number of records including the last record which may be a trailer. More on the trailer later.



**FILE HEADER**

First, let’s look at the file header (unless specified, each row signifies 32 bits):

MSB(31)                           LSB(0)   
<-------------------- 32 bits ------------------>

|  |
| --- |
| **File Type ID** |
| **File Number** |
| **Header Length** |
| **Record Count** |
| **Index Array Length** |
| **Bit info       | Version** |
| **User Header Length** |
| **Magic Number** |
| **User Register, 64 bits** |
| **Trailer Position, 64 bits** |
| **User Integer 1** |
| **User Integer 2** |

1. For a HIPO file, the file type ID is 0x43455248, for an Evio file, it’s 0x4556494F. This is asci for HIPO and EVIO respectively.
2. The split number is used when splitting files during writing.
3. The header length is the number of 32 bit words in this header - set to 14 by default. Even though, theoretically, it can be changed, there are no means to do so through the evio library.
4. The record count is the number of records in this file.
5. The optional index array, which follows this file header, contains all record lengths in order. Each length is an unsigned 4-byte integer in units of bytes. This file header entry is the length of the index array in bytes. For evio files this will be 0 as the index array is not used in any evio library.
6. The version is the current evio format version number (6) and takes up the lowest 8 bits. The bit info word is used to store the various useful data listed in the table below.
7. The user “header” will hold any dictionary and first event provided to the file writer. This file header entry is the length of the user header in bytes.
8. The magic number is the value 0xc0da0100 and is used to check endianness.
9. The user register is a 64-bit register available to the user. This is not used by evio and always set to 0.
10. The trailer position is a 64-bit integer containing the byte offset from the start of the file to the trailer (which is a type of record). This may be 0 if the position was not available when originally writing or if there is no trailer.
11. The user integer #1 is just that, a 32-bit integer available to the user. This is not used by evio and always set to 0.
12. The user integer #2 is just that, a 32-bit integer available to the user. This is not used by evio and always set to 0.

**FILE HEADER’S BIT INFO WORD**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bit # (0 = LSB)** | **Function** |
| 0-7 | Evio Version # = 6 |
| 8 | = 1 if dictionary is included |
| 9 | = 1 if file has a “first” event – an event which gets included with every split file |
| 10 | = 1 if file has trailer containing an index array of record lengths |
| 11-19 | reserved |
| 20-21 | pad 1 |
| 22-23 | pad 2 |
| 24-25 | pad 3, always 0 |
| 26-27 | reserved |
| 28-31 | What type of header is this?  1 = Evio file header,  2 = Evio extended file header,  5 = HIPO file header,  6 = HIPO extended file header |

A note on the “evio extended file” header mentioned in the bitinfo table immediately above. The idea is to extend the header by adding extra words to its end. This has never been implemented. If the header was to be extended, the extra words would be user-defined integers. The third word, the header length, would need to be changed from it’s normal value of 14 to include the extra words.

**RECORD**

After the file header, index array, and user header, the file is divided into **records**. Following is the layout of a record:

****

Each record has a header. The header is followed by an index of events lengths – one word per length in the unit of bytes. This index is **not** optional.

It is followed by an optional user header which functions in the same manner as the one in the file layout. It is an array of data defined by the user. This array is padded to a 4-byte boundary. For the evio format, if writing to a file, any dictionary and/or first event are exclusively placed in the file’s user header and nothing is ever placed in a record’s user header. If writing to a buffer, any dictionary and/or first event are exclusively placed in the user header in the format of a record (in other words, a record within a record). The EventWriter class, when writing to a buffer only writes one record and so that will contain the dictionary/first event. If using the Writer class, it’s data format agnostic and any user data may be written with any record as part of the user header.

Any index array and user header is followed by any number of events. These events look differently depending on whether you have evio or HIPO format. An evio event always ends on a 4-byte boundary which means that pad2 will always be 0. In the HIPO world, events can be of any size. See the graphic below.

If data compression is being used, the record header will not be compressed allowing a quick scan of the file without any decompression needing to take place. When reading, data is decompressed record by record as needed to access particular events.

****

**RECORD HEADER**

The fields of the record header are seen below (unless specified, each row signifies 32 bits):

MSB(31)                           LSB(0)   
<-------------------- 32 bits ------------------>

|  |
| --- |
| **Record Length** |
| **Record Number** |
| **Header Length** |
| **Event Count** |
| **Index Array Length** |
| **Bit info       | Version** |
| **User Header Length** |
| **Magic Number** |
| **Uncompressed Data Length** |
| **CT | Compressed Data Length** |
| **User Register 1, 64 bits** |
| **User Register 2, 64 bits** |

1. The record length is number of 32 bit words in the record (including itself). In general, this will vary from record to record.
2. The record number is an id # used by the event writer. Can be used by reader to ensure data is received in the proper order.
3. The header length is the number of 32 bit words in this header - set to 14 by default. This can be made larger but not smaller. Even though, theoretically, it can be changed, there are no means to do this or take advantage of the extra memory through the evio libraries.
4. The event count is the number of events in this record - always integral.
5. The index array length is the length, in bytes, of the following index of event lengths.
6. The version is the current evio format version number (6) and takes up the lowest 8 bits. The bit info word is used to store the various useful data listed in the table below.
7. The user “header” is just a user-defined array which may contain anything. This record header entry is the length of the user header in bytes. If writing to a buffer and if there is a dictionary / first event, they will be stored in the user header and the length of that data will be stored here. If writing to a file, there is no user header data in a record so this entry will be 0.
8. The magic number is the value 0xc0da0100 and is used to check endianness.
9. The uncompressed data length is the padded length, in bytes, of the entire uncompressed record.
10. The highest 4 bits signify the type of compression used in the record (see table below). The other bits contain the padded length of the compressed data in 32-bit words.
11. User register #1, 64 bits.
12. User register #2, 64 bits.

**TYPE OF COMPRESSION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Value** | **Compression Type** |
| 0 | No compression |
| 1 | LZ4, fast |
| 2 | LZ4, best compression |
| 3 | gzip |

**RECORD HEADER’S BIT INFO WORD**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Bit # (0 = LSB)** | **Function** |
| 0-7 | Evio Version # = 6 |
| 8 | = 1 if dictionary is included (first record only) |
| 9 | = 1 if a first event is included (first record only) |
| 10 | = 1 if this record is the last record in file, buffer, or network transmission |
| 11-14 | type of events in record:  ROC Raw = 0,  Physics = 1,  Partial Physics = 2,  Disentangled Physics = 3,  User = 4,  Control = 5,  Other = 15 |
| 11-19 | reserved |
| 20-21 | pad 1 |
| 22-23 | pad 2 |
| 24-25 | pad 3 |
| 26-27 | reserved |
| 28-31 | What type of header is this?  0 = Evio record header,  3 = Evio file trailer,  4 = HIPO record header,  7 = HIPO file trailer |

Bits 8-14 are only useful for the CODA online use of evio. That’s because, for CODA online, only a single CODA event ***type*** is placed into a single record, and each user or control event has its own record as well. Thus, all events will be of a single CODA type.

Following is a graphic displaying how the bit info word is laid out for both the file and record headers.



**TRAILER**

In an evio file, the ending record can, but does not have to be, a regular record. It can also take the form of a trailer. The trailer is a regular record header optionally followed by an uncompressed array of record lengths (unit of bytes, each length is a 32-bit integer). This array is put in the place of the non-optional index array of events lengths that is part of the normal record header. See below.



**TRAILER’S HEADER**

In either case, bit #10 of the bit info word in the record header needs to be set – indicating that this is the last record. In the case of the trailer, bits 28-31 (seen in the table above) will indicate that this is a trailer. For an evio trailer, the value in those bits is 3. Also, the version number is placed in that same word. Everything after the magic number is 0.

MSB(31)                           LSB(0)   
<-------------------- 32 bits ------------------>

|  |
| --- |
| **Record Length** |
| **Record Number** |
| **14** |
| **0** |
| **Index Array Length** |
| **0x 30 00 02 06** |
| **0** |
| **0xcoda0100** |
| **0** |
| **0** |
| **0** |
| **0** |

**FILE READING**

When reading a file, the reader will first read the file header. If available, it can get a list of record lengths from that header and from there calculate record positions.

If the file header’s index array is non-existent, the trailer position can be read. If it’s a valid value, the reader can jump to it, read the trailer, read the trailer’s index, and from there calculate the position of each record.

If no record length information is available in either the file header or the trailer, the reader will scan the whole file from beginning to end to obtain it.

Appendix

B

# EVIO Data Format

## B.1 Bank Structures & Content

EVIO data is composed of a hierarchy of banks of different types. Container banks contain other banks, and leaf banks contain an array of a single primitive data type. Three types of banks exist: BANK, SEGMENT, and TAGSEGMENT. BANK has a two-word header, the latter two have a one-word header. All banks contain a **length**, **tag** and **type**. BANK additionally has a **num** field. SEGMENT and TAGSEGMENT differ on the number of bits allocated to the tag and type. Tag and num are user-defined while type denotes the bank contents and the codes listed in the table below MUST be used or endian swapping will fail. Length is always the number of 32-bit longwords to follow (i.e. bank length minus one). New to this version of EVIO is the **pad** for both BANK and SEGMENT banks which indicates the number of bytes used for padding when type indicates 8 or 16 bit integers.

**BANK HEADER**

MSB 32 bits LSB

|  |
| --- |
| **length** |
| **tag | pad | type | num** |

Bits: 16 2 6 8

**SEGMENT HEADER**

|  |
| --- |
| **tag | pad | type | length** |

Bits: 8 2 6 16

**TAGSEGMENT HEADER**

|  |
| --- |
| **tag | type | length** |

Bits: 12 4 16

**CONTENT TYPES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **contentType** | **Primitive Data Type** |
| 0x0 | 32-bit unknown (not swapped) |
| 0x1 | 32 bit unsigned int |
| 0x2 | 32-bit float |
| 0x3 | 8-bit char\* |
| 0x4 | 16-bit signed short |
| 0x5 | 16-bit unsigned short |
| 0x6 | 8-bit signed char |
| 0x7 | 8-bit unsigned char |
| 0x8 | 64-bit double |
| 0x9 | 64-bit signed int |
| 0xa | 64-bit unsigned int |
| 0xb | 32-bit signed int |
| 0xc | TAGSEGMENT |
| 0xd | SEGMENT |
| 0xe | BANK |
| 0xf | Composite |
| 0x10 | BANK |
| 0x20 | SEGMENT |
| 0x21 | Hollerit\* |
| 0x22 | N value\* |
| 0x23 | n value\* |
| 0x24 | m value\* |

\*this type is only used internally for composite data

There are a few more things that the user must keep in mind:

* bank contents immediately follow the bank header
* the first bank in a buffer or event must be a BANK
* the CODA DAQ system defines specific conventions for tag and num values.

## B.2 Changes From Previous Versions

There are a few changes from previous EVIO versions to take note of. A backwards-compatible change has been made for strings (type 0x3). Previously, a single ASCII, null-terminated string with undefined padding was contained in this type. Starting with version 4, an array of strings may be contained. Each string is separated by a null-termination (value of 0). A final termination of at least one 4 (ASCII char of value 4) is required in order to differentiate it from the earlier versions and to signify an end to the array. It is a self-padded type meaning it always ends on the 32 bit boundary.

Another change is that the type of 0x40, which was redundantly defined to be a TAGSEGMENT, has been removed since its value uses bits necessary to store the padding. This is unlikely to cause any problems since it was never used.

The pad in the BANK and SEGMENT types indicates the number of bytes used for padding to 32 bit boundaries when type indicates 8 or 16 bit integers (type = 0x4, 0x5, 0x6, or 0x7). For 16 bit types pad will be 0 or 2 while for the 8 bit types it will be 0-3. Unlike previous versions, this allows EVIO to contain odd numbers of these types with no ambiguity. For example, since a bank of 3 shorts is the same length as a bank of 4 shorts (banks must end on a 32 bit boundary) previously there was no way to tell if the last short was valid data or not. Now there is. Note, however, this is **not** the case with the TAGSEGMENT bank and so it is not recommended for storing these types.

## B.3 Composite Data Type

### B.3.1 General Type Info

A new type - Composite - has been added which originated with Hall B but also allows for future expansion if there is a need. Basically, the user specifies a custom format by means of a string. Although in practice it acts like a primitive type in that you can have a bank containing an array of them, a single Composite type looks more like 2 banks glued together. The first word comprises a TAGSEGMENT header which is followed by a string describing the data to come. After this TAGSEGMENT containing the data format string, is a BANK containing the actual data.

**COMPOSITE TYPE**

|  |
| --- |
| **tag | type | length** |
| data format string ... |
| **length** |
| **tag | pad | type | num** |
| actual data ... |

The routine to swap this data must be provided by the definer of the composite type - in this case Hall B. This swapping function is plugged into the EVIO library's swapping routine. Currently its types, tags, pad, and num values are not used. Only the lengths are significant.

There is actually another new type defined - the Hollerit type, but that is only used inside of the Composite type and refers to characters in an integer form. Following is a table of characters allowed in the data format string.

**DATA FORMAT CHARACTERS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Data format char** | **Meaning** |
| ( | ( |
| ) | ) |
| i | 32-bit unsigned int |
| F | 32-bit floating point |
| a | 8-bit ASCII char |
| S | 16-bit short |
| s | 16-bit unsigned short |
| C | 8-bit char |
| c | 8-bit unsigned char |
| D | 64-bit double |
| L | 64-bit int |
| l | 64-bit unsigned int |
| I | 32-bit int |
| A | Hollerit |
| N | Multiplier as 32-bit int, |
| n | Multiplier as 16-bit int |
| m | Multiplier as 8-bit int |

    
In the format string, each of the allowed characters (except **)**, **N**, **n**, **m**) may be preceded by an integer which is a multiplier. Items are separated by commas. Instead of trying to explain the format abstractly, let's look at the following example:

i,L,2(s,2D,mF)

This format translates into the data being read and processed in the following order: a single 32-bit unsigned int, a single 64-bit int, a multiplier of 2 (32 bit int) of everything inside the parentheses which ends up being an unsigned short, 2 doubles, an 8-bit multiplier, multiplier number of 32-bit floats, an unsigned short, 2 doubles, an 8-bit multiplier, multiplier number of 32-bit floats. The data is read in according to this recipe.

There are a couple of data processing rules that are very important:

1. If the format ends but the end of the data is not reached, the format in the last parenthesis will be repeated until all data is processed. If there are no parentheses in the format, data processing will start again from the beginning of the format until all data is processed.
2. The explicitly given multiplier must be a number between 2 and 15 - inclusive. If the number of repeats is the symbol 'N' instead of a number, that multiplier will be read from data assuming 'I' format and may be any positive integer.

The Composite data type allows compact storage of different primitive data types and eliminates the need for extra banks and their accompanying headers. It does, however, pay a penalty in the amount of computing power needed to read, write, and swap it. For example, each time a Composite bank needs to be swapped, EVIO must read the format string, process it, and convert it into an array of ints. Then, with the converted format as a guide, EVIO must read through the data item-by-item, swapping each one. It is quite compute intensive.

### B.3.1 Creating Events with Composite Data

Handling composite data is best done through the ***CompositeData*** and its contained ***CompositeData.Data*** classes. Generally one defines a CompositeData.Data object and uses that to create an instance of the CompositeData class which can , in turn, be used when building an event. The building can be done with either the EventBuilder or CompactEventBuilder class. It’s easiest to look at a couple examples to see how it’s done.

// Format to write a N shorts, 1 float, 1 double a total of N times

String format1 = "N(NS,F,D)";

// Now create some data

CompositeData.Data myData1 = new CompositeData.Data();

// First N (describing # of groups) is 2

myData1.addN(2);

// Next N (describing # of shorts) is 3

myData1.addN(3);

// Since N=3, there are 3 shorts and we must provide them all

myData1.addShort(new short[]{1, 2, 3}); // use array for convenience

myData1.addFloat(1.0F);

myData1.addDouble(Math.PI);

// Since the first N says there are 2 groups, this is N (1) to describe the

// number of shorts in the second group

myData1.addN(1);

// Add the single short in the second group

myData1.addShort((short) 4); // use array for convenience

myData1.addFloat(2.0F);

myData1.addDouble(2. \* Math.PI);

The next example is tricky because it uses strings. An array of strings in evio is described by the DATACHAR8 data type and we don’t immediately know how long it is because evio does some internal packaging of the strings into a form which falls on a 4 byte boundary. Thus we don’t know the format right off the bat but need to do a little work to figure it out.

// We want a format for writing an unsigned int, unsigned char,

// and N number of M (to be found) ascii characters & 1 64-bit int.

// We need to wait before we can create this format string because we

// don't know yet how many String characters (M) we have.

// The format will be something like "i,c,N(Ma,L)";

// Now create some data

CompositeData.Data myData2 = new CompositeData.Data();

// Add unsigned int

myData2.addUint(21);

// Add unsigned char

myData2.addUchar((byte) 22);

// Group of 1 (string + long)

myData2.addN(1);

// Now define our ascii data

String s[] = new String[2];

s[0] = "str1";

s[1] = "str2";

// Find out what the composite format representation of these strings is

String asciiFormat = CompositeData.stringsToFormat(s);

// Full format is:

String format2 = "i,c,N(" + asciiFormat + ",L)";

// Add string data now

myData2.addString(s);

// Finally the long

myData2.addLong(24L);

We now have two composite data items and we can add them to the event we’re creating.

// Create CompositeData array

CompositeData[] cData = new CompositeData[2];

try {

// fTag is the tag in tagsegment header describing format string.

// dataTag and dataNum are tag and num of bank describing actual data

cData[0] = new CompositeData(format1, fTag1, myData1, dataTag1, dataNum1);

cData[1] = new CompositeData(format2, fTag2, myData2, dataTag2, dataNum2);

}

catch (EvioException e) {

e.printStackTrace();

}

// Using a CompactEventBuilder do something like:

builder.openBank(tag, num, DataType.COMPOSITE);

builder.addCompositeData(cdata);

builder.closeStructure();

// Using an EventBuilder do something like:

EvioBank bankComps = new EvioBank(tag, DataType.COMPOSITE, num);

bankComps.appendCompositeData(cdata);

builder.addChild(bankBanks, bankComps);

Appendix

C

# EVIO Dictionary Format

Since names are easier for humans to deal with than pairs of numbers, the basic idea behind the dictionary is to associate a single string, a name, with 2 integers, an evio tag and an evio num. The xml protocol was used to accomplish this. The following gives the different xml formats used by the different versions of evio.

## C.1 Evio versions 2 & 3

The xml format has been evolving. Originally, because EVIO data is stored in a hierarchical manner with banks containing banks containing data, the dictionary format was also hierarchical. In other words, a string was associated with not only the 2 numbers but a place in the hierarchy as well. The idea was that a given pair of tag/num values could occur in more than one location in the hierarchy and must be distinguishable from each other. Following is an example of the first format used:

<xmlDict>

<xmldumpDictEntry name="event\_1" tag="1" num="1"/>

<!-- DC -->

<xmldumpDictEntry name="DC" tag="500" num="0"/>

<xmldumpDictEntry name="DC\_id" tag="500.1" num="0.0"/>

<xmldumpDictEntry name="DC\_output" tag="500.2" num="0.100"/>

<xmldumpDictEntry name="sector5" tag="500.2.5" num="0.100.23"/>

</xmlDict>

There is only one possible element - ***xmldumpDictEntry***. Notice the dotted notation of the ***tag*** & ***num*** attributes. This notation, for example the tag 500.2.5, simply means that this dictionary entry has a tag value of 5, its parent has a tag value of 2, and its grandparent has a tag value of 500. Basically it is a way of specifying a place in the evio tree or hierarchy.

## C.1.1 Jevio problems

The jevio-1.0 software package did **not** allow dotted notation for the tag, but did allow it for the num. The rules that jevio uses to determine whether a bank, event, segment, or tagsegment object matches a particular dictionary entry is:

1. if it is an EvioSegment or EvioTagSegment object, the first entry that matches its tag value is returned
2. if it is an EvioEvent object, the first entry that matches its tag value and the first level num value is returned
3. if it is an EvioBank object, the first entry that matches its tag value and the complete hierarchy of num values is returned

Although this works after a fashion, it unfortunately does not match tag values in a hierarchical manner.

## C.1.2 C++ Evio problems

The C++ library's handling of the dictionary's tags & nums is not perfect either. The difficulty arises from the fact that when **creating** an evio tree of banks, segments, and tagsegments, C++ evio does not distinguish between them. Each container is simply a node that may be added, removed, cut, and pasted anywhere in the tree. Only upon serializing the tree to a file does the fact that a node is one of the 3 types come into play. In order for this model to function, all segments and tagsegments are essentially treated as banks with num = 0. Thus a dictionary entry with tag = 1 & num = 0 will match both a bank with those parameters and a segment with tag = 1 but no num. Worse yet, a node can set num = 1, be written out as a segment, and then be read back in with num = 0. This limitation must be taken into consideration when creating dictionaries & evio trees.

## C.2 Evio version 4

A number changes to the previous evio dictionary format have been made. Let's start with what has been eliminated. Previously the num and tag values could be hierarchical with each level separated by a period such as:

tag = '1.2.3' num = '2.5'

These types of values for tag and num were stored in the dictionary making the matching of a bank to a dictionary entry tricky since now the parents and children of the bank became involved. Not only was the matching complicated but a dictionary entry would have to change depending on where a particular bank was moved to in an evio event tree - very inconvenient and prone to error.

The first change eliminates these hierarchical tags & nums. Each dictionary entry is a single name associated with a single tag value and a single num value (with segments and tagsegments given a num value of 0). It becomes a simple matter to build hierarchies into the name as will be demonstrated below.

The C/C++ dictionary and the Java dictionary now have identical formats. In the old xml format, there was only one entry type namely, the xml element of ***xmldumpDictEntry***. There are now 3 types of XML dictionary elements: ***dictEntry*** (replaces xmldumpDictEntry which is too long), ***bank*** and ***leaf***.

For each of these elements, the only attributes a dictionary parser will look at are ***name***, ***tag***, ***num,*** and the newly added ***type*** (of contained data). All other elements and attributes are ignored, so the XML can be used to define whatever else is desired. Note that only the following case-independent values are valid for type with all other values being ignored:

int32, unint32, long64, ulong64, short16, ushort16, char8, uchar8, charstar8, float32, double64, bank, segment, tagsegment, composite, unknown32

The simplest xml element is dictEntry, it just makes an entry into the map of names vs tag/num pairs:

<dictEntry name="fred" tag="1" num="1" />

Here the name "fred" is a synonym for the tag/num pair (1,1).

The elements "bank" and "leaf" are used for describing hierarchical bank structures. Take a look at the following:

<bank name="CLAS12" tag="1" num="0">

<bank name="DC" tag="20" num="0">

<leaf name="xpos" tag="20" num="1"/>

<leaf name="ypos" tag="20" num="2"/>

<leaf name="zpos" tag="20" num="3"/>

</bank>

<bank name="SC" tag="30" num="0">

<leaf name="xpos" tag="30" num="1"/>

<leaf name="ypos" tag="30" num="2"/>

<leaf name="zpos" tag="30" num="3"/>

</bank>

</bank>

where "bank" means an evio container (bank, segment, or tagsegment), and "leaf" means an evio container with no children. The parser will generate map entries equivalent to the following:

<dictEntry name="CLAS12" tag="1" num="0"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.DC" tag="20" num="0"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.DC.xpos" tag="20" num="1"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.DC.ypos" tag="20" num="2"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.DC.zpos" tag="20" num="3"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.SC" tag="30" num="0"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.SC.xpos" tag="30" num="1"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.SC.ypos" tag="30" num="2"/>

<dictEntry name="CLAS12.SC.zpos" tag="30" num="3"/>

This scheme works well if all tag/num pairs are unique. That way there is a unique string associated with each tag/num pair. If multiple names are linked with the same pair, then searching for a particular name may not return the appropriate values, and searching for a tag/num pair may not return the appropriate name. Likewise, if a single name is linked with multiple pairs, the same confusion can result. In order to avoid these problems, both the C++ and Java implementations of the dictionary only allow unique mappings.

In addition to the tag, num, and name attributes, the dictionary can also hold the type information about the contents of an evio container (unknown types are ignored). For example the following associates "fred" with 32 bit signed integers:

<dictEntry name="fred" tag="1" num="1" type="int32" />

The new composite type of data requires even more information about the format of the data inside. To accommodate this, all dictionary entries may now have a ***description*** xml subelement defined. These descriptions may have the ***format*** attribute defined as well:

<xmlDict>   
 <dictEntry name='myName' tag='123' num ='456' type='composite' >   
 <description format='F,D,Ni' >   
           F  TDC  
                D  ADC min=5.0 max=10.0  
                N  multiplier

i scaler bits0-15=counter1 bits15-32=counter2

          </description>   
     </dictEntry>

</xmlDict>

The description and format can be anything meaningful to the user. Hall D will use a set format for both entries when using composite type data so they can be parsed and additional information extracted from it. This is done to allow flexibility to the user but not in a way that would be a constantly changing specification for evio.

## C.2.1 Pretty Printing

Dictionary entries without the ***num*** attribute may be defined in order to beautify any printed output:

<dictEntry name="GeneralTag" tag="1" />

<dictEntry name="SpecificTag" tag="1" num="1" type="int32" />

For example, say the 2 dictionary entries above are the only ones defined for tag = 1. Now, if an evio data file is being printed and contains a bank with tag = 1 and num = 2, what this does is assigned the name “GeneralTag” to such a bank whose specific tag/num pair has no corresponding dictionary entry.

## C.2.2 Behaviors

There are a few other issues that need to be addressed. The use of the "leaf" element is optional and may be replaced by "bank". However, if "leaf" is used, it may not have any children. Even though XML is case-sensitive, in the parsing of the dictionary, all the accepted elements' and attributes' cases are ignored.

The rules that jevio now uses to determine whether a bank, event, segment, or tagsegment object matches a particular dictionary entry is:

1. if it is an EvioEvent, EvioBank, EvioSegment or EvioTagSegment (any kind of container) object, the first and only entry that matches its "tag" value and its "num" value is returned
2. if it is an EvioSegment or EvioTagSegment object, its num value is assumed to be 0 (zero) for purposes of matching

The xml representation of a dictionary can be embedded in a larger xml document. Giving this larger document as the dictionary to be parsed is perfectly acceptable and the code will pick out the dictionary portion. If multiple dictionaries are included, only the first is used and the rest are ignored.

Furthermore, irrelevant xml elements and attributes may be present and are simply ignored. When the jevio toXml() method of a dictionary is called, only the dictionary portion of the original, full xml document is returned as a String.

## C.2.3 Differences between C++ and Java

There still are a couple differences between Java and C++. The first is if a "leaf" entry has any children, jevio will print a warning and ignore any such children while evio will throw an exception. Similarly, if there are duplicate entries - either names or tag/num pairs - an exception is thrown in C++ but in Java they are ignored (including any of their children) and a warning is printed. These differences are allowed for backwards compatibility purposes in jevio. Be aware that in jevio all the dictEntry elements are processed before the bank and node elements. So if there are duplicate entries, any dictEntry elements are given preference over the bank or leaf.

Appendix

D

# EVIO Function Objects

A number of useful adaptable function objects for applying STL algorithms to the lists returned by getNodeList() are provided. Adaptable means they can be used with STL function object adaptors (see the STL documentation). Their constructors are:

operator() returns bool:

typeIs<T>(void)

typeEquals(int aType)

tagEquals(unsigned short aTag)

numEquals(unsigned char aNum)

tagNumEquals(unsigned short aTag, unsigned char aNum)

parentTypeEquals(int aType)

parentTagEquals(unsigned short aTag)

parentNumEquals(unsigned char aNum)

parentTagNumEquals(unsigned short aTag, unsigned char aNum)

isContainer(void)

isLeaf(void)

operator() returns void:

toCout(void)

Appendix

E

# Revision History

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Date** | **Comment** |
| **1.0** | **Early 1990’s** | **Original C version** |
| **2.0pre-beta** | **Mid-2002** | **XML utilities, bug fixes, I/O enhancements, etc.** |
| **2.0beta** | **Oct 2005** | **C++ API, stream and DOM parsing and trees, etc.** |
| **2.0** | **Jan 2007** | **Full tree manipulation API implemented** |
| **4.0** | **Aug 2012** | **Random access, append mode, new file format** |
| **4.1** | **Nov 2012** | **Read and write files > 2.1 GB** |
| **4.3** | **Jan 2014** | **Merge evio-4.1 and jevio-4.3 into evio-4.3** |
| **4.4** |  | **Lots of bug fixes, add methods, iterate through dictionary entries, reimplement sequential reading, MacOS compilation** |
| **5.0** | **Oct 2015** | **Define first event, bug fixes** |
| **5.1** | **Apr 2016** | **Allow removal of banks/events from buffer using EvioCompactReader, bug fixes** |