
Subject: Re: fstat update

Posted by [ashmall](#) on Fri, 29 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Thanks for the response; since we can't have the program creating the data on the same machine as the IDL machine I think we might try having the "data program" write the data file onto the IDL machine's hard drive, via the network.

I think, however, that the problem isn't solely one of NFS (or equiv) update frequency since fstat reported the same file size every few seconds for the whole 8 hour run!

Thanks again,

Justin

In article <88iuduugyk.fsf@catspaw.jpl.nasa.gov>,

Vapuser<vapuser@catspaw.jpl.nasa.gov> wrote:

> ashmall@my-dejanews.com (Justin Ashmall) writes:

>

>> Dear All,

>> Has anyone had a problem like this?

>

>> We have a widget prog that periodically checks a file for new data,

>> it does this by monitoring the file size as returned by fstat. This

>> usually works fine but we have found on some (network) drives fstat

>> always returns the same value, namely the file size it first saw,

>> even though the file is growing. The only fix we've found is to

>> constantly close and re-open the file which is a rather inelegant,

>> if not inefficient, solution. It doesn't appear to be a buffering

>> problem since we can see the file size changing (across the network)

>> using the command line or a file manager.

>

>> Any suggestions?

>> (We're using IDL 5.1.1 under NT4)

>>

>> Many thanks,

>>

>> Justin

>

> I've seen this problem in a UNIX environment when running an IDL

> routine on one machine that was querying the size of a file which

> resided on a disk that was NFS mounted from another machine. I am

> unfamiliar with NT, so I don't know if 'network disk' is a fair

> analog of NFS. In this case it was a feature of the operating

> system/NFS, the file size didn't change as frequently on the NFS

> client, therefore fstat reported EOF correctly as far as it could

> see. The work around was to run the program on the machine which

> hosted (i.e. for which the disk was local) the disk containing the
> file in question.
>
> Hope this helps in some small way.
>
> whd
>
