
Subject: Re: How to read a file in zip or gz format using IDL?

Posted by [tai](#) on Wed, 03 Aug 1994 21:03:42 GMT

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Tan, Jun (j.tan@rutherford.ac.uk) wrote:

: I am asking for help to read a file in zip or gz format using IDL. At the
: moment, I have a huge data file in ASCII format about 10 Mbytes, it thus
: takes a long time to read in all the data. I wonder it may take less time if
: the data is compressed using either zip or gzip methods. But how can I read
: such compressed file? Any advice over there is highly appreciated.

10 megs, yikes! I would recommend using restore (after an initial
save); i.e. load your ASCII data into memory, then do a

```
save, bigdata, filename = 'bigdata.sav'
```

Then, whenever you need to load it in, use

```
restore, filename = 'bigdata.sav'
```

I've found this to be faster than any other method.

Alan
