
Subject: Re: Speed penalty using START and COUNT with HDF_SD_GETDATA
Posted by [Bob Fugate](#) on Sat, 08 Sep 2001 15:29:10 GMT

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> One strategy you might consider is
>
> data = fltarr(32,32,8000)
> for i=0,7999 do begin
> hdf_sd_getdata,arrayid, frame, start=[0,0,i], count=[128,128,1]
> data[*,*,i] = frame[46:77,43:74,0]
> endfor
>
> The motivation for this is that reading data along the final dimension is
> slow in any case (for reasons explained by Reimar) so the loop won't hurt
> you too much. By reading a full frame of data on each step you are reading
> contiguous data, which is fast. And by looping you avoid having to store
> large amounts of unneeded data.
>
> But test it for yourself!
>
> ---
> Mark Hadfield
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Thanks to Mark and Reimar for the suggestions. The SDS's are definitely dimensioned, so I am not sub-sampling an array having dimensions=[0]. I have settled on reading the entire 128x128 array and then extracting the part I need. It turns out that I have enough RAM to read the entire 8000 frames without using a loop as you suggest above, Mark, so the whole operation is fast.

Thanks again for your help.

Bob
