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Subject: Re: array concatenation and optimization  
Posted by [R.G.S.](#) on Wed, 26 Sep 2001 19:22:30 GMT  
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Sean Raffuse <[sean@me.wustl.edu](mailto:sean@me.wustl.edu)> wrote in message  
news:9ot613\$3ra\$1@newsreader.wustl.edu...

> Hello.  
>  
> I am trying to read a bunch of data from a file to a structure array. I'm  
> not sure many data entries the file will have until I have read it and so  
> I  
> am increasing the size of the structure array after reading each line. I  
> do  
> this by concatenating.  
>  
> adp\_struct\_single is the structure as a "scalar"  
> adp\_struct is the array  
>  
> I concatenate like so:  
> adp\_struct =[adp\_struct, adp\_struct\_single]  
>  
> This is working but it has increased the processing time of my loop by an  
> order of magnitude. Is there a better way to do this? Is there a reason  
> this is so slow?  
>  
> Thanks in advance.  
>  
> -Sean Raffuse

Some ideas:

1) estimate array size from file size (get that from fstat), and  
create an appropriately size array.

```
len = fstat(lun).size/nbytesperelement  
adp_struct =replicate(adp_struct, len)
```

2) "buffer the concatenate operation

```
len = 500 ; blocks of 500  
adp_struct_block =replicate(adp_struct, len)  
while not ( !eof) do begin  
  for i = 0,len-1 do begin  
    if stillreading then adp_struct_block(i) = adp_struct_single  
  endfor  
  adp_struct =[adp_struct, adp_struct_block]  
endwhile
```

This is just fakecode, merely illustrating the ideas.

Cheers,  
bob

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