
Subject: Re: Fast editing of text file?

Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Thu, 16 Jun 2005 02:55:51 GMT

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t_314159@yahoo.com wrote:

- > Hi,
- > I have a text file that I must access many times during program
- > execution (1000's of times, really!) and I *always* only need to change
- > the the text on the 12th line of the file. My question, how to
- > efficiently access and alter the text of ONLY the 12th line without
- > altering even a single space or comma on any of the rest of the lines?
- > And did I mention fast since i've got to loop through this many times?

If lines[0:10] and lines[12:~] don't change, why not hold those permanently in memory as two string arrays, array_top and array_bottom.

Concoct Line 12 with your 3 new numbers, and then printf to a new version of the file :-

```
printf,outlun, array_top    ; lines 1..11
printf,outlun, line12      ; line 12
printf,outlun, array_bottom ; lines 13..end of file
```

This way you've only got 1 read, at the very start of your program, and then 1 write per change of numbers.

Sounds easy.

Andrew C.
