
Subject: Re: Read Zipped files

Posted by [mchinand](#) on Tue, 29 Aug 2006 20:52:52 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <1156870907.629435.73050@i3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>, loknath <ladhikari@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi,

> I have huge satellite data stored in zipped files and unzipping would
> be costly for my hard drive. Is there a way IDL can unzip these files
> and read or read these files without unzipping in the hard drive.

> Thanks

>

I'm not sure if this is the best way to do this, but on Linux (and other Unix flavors?) you could use named pipes:

from the shell prompt (only has to be done once):

> mkfifo pipe_filename

then in IDL for each file you want to unzip and read (filename is a string variable with containing the filename of zipped file you want to read):

```
spawn,'unzip -p '+filename+' >pipe_filename&'
```

<insert read commands here, using pipe_filename as if it were a regular file containing your unzipped data>

If your files used gzip compression instead, you could just use the /COMPRESS option for OPENR.

I don't think any of this would work in Windows but probably in OS X. Didn't someone have a Windows DLM that supported zipped files?

Good luck,

--Mike

--

Michael Chinander, PhD
m-chinander@uchicago.edu
Department of Radiology
University of Chicago
