Subject: Re: error reading a large number of binary files
Posted by Nigel Wade on Tue, 24 Apr 2007 08:38:27 GMT
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mark@atmos.colostate.edu wrote:

>
> Hi Paul. Thanks for taking an interest in this. On Friday I actually
> tried something similar to your idea of just reading the files and not
> doing any computations, and that also failed. And just now I took the
> program you created above, saved it as readudaily2.pro and tried it
> three times. Here are the results:
>
> attempt #1:
> daily_4/u196112.bin
> daily_4/u196201.bin
> daily_4/u196202.bin
> % READUDAILY2: READU: Corrupted f77 unformatted file detected. Unit:
> 100, File: daily_4/u196202.bin
>
> attempt #2:
> daily_4/u198409.bin
> daily_4/u198410.bin
> daily_4/u198411.bin
> % READUDAILY2: READU: Corrupted f77 unformatted file detected. Unit:
> 100, File: daily_4/u198411.bin
>
> attempt #3:
> daily_4/u199610.bin
> daily_4/u199611.bin
> % READUDAILY2: READU: Corrupted f77 unformatted file detected. Unit:
> 100, File: daily_4/u199611.bin
>
> As you can see, it fails on a different file each time. Although
> since it seemed to get further along on each successive trial, maybe I
> should try one or two more times and perhaps I'll get lucky??? :)
> Actually, I think this is just random and not a trend.
>
> I wonder if the same error would occur if I generated a large number
> of binary files of a smaller size (say a 5x5 array of random numbers),
> because maybe it's not how large the files are but how many of them
> there are. ?????
>
> Thanks,
> Mark

Just one more suggestion plucked out of the air.

Have you checked your system logs to see if you are getting read errors on the disk? Or perhaps you have a faulty memory module (if it were a PC I'd suggest memtest86, is there an equivalent for Macs?), or perhaps processor/memory overheating, a bad IDE/SCSI cable or some other hardware problem. It would be quite unusual for these to result in random corruption of the data returned by a read, but not beyond the bounds of wild speculation...

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