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Subject: Re: slow file-handling

Posted by [Marty Ryba](#) on Tue, 03 Sep 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <322ABD58.3F93@ic.ac.uk>, Jorn Helbert <jorn@ic.ac.uk> writes:

|> line by line it takes nearly ten minutes on a sparc twenty. my read

|> block is the following

```
|> b_temp = double([0.,0.,0.])
|> t_temp = [0.0]
|> WHILE NOT eof(u1) DO BEGIN
|>   readf,u1,t_temp,foo,foo,foo,b_temp
|>   t_u = [t_u,t_temp]
|>   b_u = [b_u,b_temp]
|> END
```

You may be getting slowed by all the reallocation. You will also get horrendous memory fragmentation. Do this:

```
t_u = fltarr(50)
b_u = dblarr(50,3)
npts = 0L
cursize = 50L
b_temp = dblarr(3)
t_temp = 0.0
WHILE NOT eof(u1) DO BEGIN
  readf,u1,t_temp,foo,foo,foo,b_temp
  t_u(npts) = t_temp
  b_u(npts,*) = b_temp
  npts = npts + 1L
  IF npts EQ cursize THEN BEGIN
    t_u = [temporary(t_u), fltarr(50)]
    b_u = [temporary(b_u), dblarr(50,3)]
    cursize = cursize + 50L
  ENDIF
ENDWHILE

t_u = (temporary(t_u))(0:npts-1L)
b_u = (temporary(b_u))(0:npts-1L,*)
```

I generally use 50 as a block size, but you could go larger.

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Dr. Marty Ryba | Of course nothing I say here is official  
MIT Lincoln Laboratory | policy, and Laboratory affiliation is  
ryba@ll.mit.edu | for identification purposes only,  
| blah, blah, blah, ...

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