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Subject: spawn,cmd

Posted by [oxfordenergyservices](#) on Tue, 02 Mar 2010 11:04:23 GMT

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Hi All

Just a query which I think I have the answer to, in which case it is just a comment.

I have to do stuff on about 10,000 files, hundreds of times over and it takes a while

In playing, I have found that...

```
spawn,'cat in_filename |uniq >out_filename'
```

actually takes a lot more time than

reading each file in and uniq and writing out in idl

I haven't really use spawn too much until recently when I found it is simple to use for certain unix commands but hadn't considered what the overhead might be. Is there a standard response to this? Avoid spawns within loops?

Cheers

Russ

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