
Subject: Re: How to read first and last line of an ascii file FAST

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 31 Aug 2010 16:08:14 GMT

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Am 29.08.2010 18:32, schrieb Heinz Stege:

> On Sun, 29 Aug 2010 08:32:15 -0700 (PDT), ahs wrote:

>

>> Hello group,

>>

>> My data is stored in a bunch of ascii files, each 5-10MB big. Each
>> line represent a sample with a timestamp. I would like to analyse all
>> my files by reading the timestamp from the first and last line of
>> every file. Getting the timestamp from the last line is the issue
>> here. Right now I'm doing it like

>>

>> readf, fid, firstline

>> nlines = FILE_LINES(fnames[i])

>> skip_lun, fid, nlines-2, /LINES

>> readf, fid, lastline

>>

did you tried reading the file in one string array of len file_lines

IDL> f = "example.txt"

IDL> n = file_lines(f)

IDL> data = make_array(n,/string)

IDL> openr, lun, /get_lun, f

IDL> readf, lun, data

IDL> free_lun, lun

IDL> print, data[n-1]

that needs 0.05 seconds to get that information

Reimar

>> skip_lun is really slow when the files are big and numerous. Does
>> anyone have a tip of I could do this faster? Is there a way to
>> directly point to the end of the file minus one line?

>>

>> regards,

>> Agnar
