
Subject: Re: reading and writing very slow
Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2011 15:27:53 GMT
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On 2/11/11 10:16 AM, geoff wrote:

> On Feb 11, 2:09 pm, Reimar Bauer<R.Ba...@fz-juelich.de> wrote:
>> Am 11.02.2011 14:12, schrieb geoff:
>>
>>> Hi
>>
>>> I have some 1-2 GB text files (lots of them!), each containing weather
>>> data for many thousands of stations for 1 year (per file). I need to
>>> get the data out of the year files and into files which have all the
>>> data for 1 weather station. It's easy but slow.
>>
>>> I am reading each year file line by line and appending that line to
>>> the filename of the station (which is one of the fields on the line).
>>> (openw.../append, close). Does opening and closing files so many
>>> times have such an overhead? Is there a quicker way?
>>
>> no
>>
>> but reading line by line has.
>>
> only way i know how. variable length ascii unfortunately :(

Hi,

I can't tell from your description if exactly how you are managing the output process so this might not be all that helpful. If I had to do this in IDL, I would use something like Mike Galloy's resizeable array list. See...

<http://michaelgalloy.com/2006/04/24/collection-package-mgarraylist.html>

I might use that array list to aggregate all of the data. When the aggregation is complete I would then dump it all to file at once.

For each input file you can read in all the data at a swipe and then parse as needed within IDL. That would might be a lot faster than trying to read in formatted lines one-at-a-time.

Cheers,
Ben
