
Subject: Writing a lot of data to ASCII file without a loop?

Posted by [rjp23](#) on Tue, 12 Jul 2011 10:11:02 GMT

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I need to write a large array of values to an ASCII file in two long columns and wondered if there was a quick way of doing it.

Currently we do:

```
FOR i = 0, n_elements(s1)-1 DO BEGIN
    printf, unit, s1[i], n1[i], format = '(1x,G15.9,1x,G15.9)'
ENDFOR
```

It works and is quick (0.06 seconds per file) but during our processing we're creating tens of thousands of these files and the time adds up.

Unfortunately we can't change the code that these are required as input into (otherwise we'd write them all to a single HDF file for example).

Is there a way to get rid of that loop?

Cheers

Rob
