Subject: Re: Writing arrays to text file - format code trickery?
Posted by Yngvar Larsen on Mon, 28 Nov 2011 13:29:30 GMT
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On Nov 28, 1:36 pm, Rob <rj...@le.ac.uk> wrote:
> I've inherited some code which does something along the lines of the
> following:
>
> FOR i = 0L, 359 DO printf,unit,A[0,0,i],
> A[0,1,i],A[0,2,i],A[0,3,i],A[0,4,i],A[0,5,i],format='(6(2X, E15.8))'
>
> where A is [2, 6, 360]
>
> Now this is done quite a lot and becomes horribly slow. Is there a
> clever way I can use the format code to do it with fewer (one?) print
> statements? (Maybe by juggling the array around first?)

In this case:

printf, unit, reform(a[0,*,*]), format='(6(2X, E15.8))'

Not sure what you mean by "along the lines of ...", though. If you
also need to write, e.g., a[1,*,*], you may have to rearrange your
array with TRANSPOSE and/or modify the format description, depending
on which order the rows are to be written and what each row in your
file should contain.

Also, you don't save much processing time with only 360 rows, see
below. If the loop was much longer, you would save a lot.

```
IDL> .r test_ascii
% Compiled module: $MAIN$.
Average processing time, method #0:    0.0038861408
Average processing time, method #1:    0.0029639530
```

I used the following test script:

```
8<----------------------------------------
A = randomu(seed,2,6,360)
nTests = 1000L

t0 = systime(/seconds)
for j=0, nTests-1 do begin
  openw, unit, '/tmp/test0.txt', /get_lun
  for i = 0L, 359 do $

 printf,unit,A[0,0,i],A[0,1,i],A[0,2,i],A[0,3,i],A[0,4,i],A[0 ,5,i],$
          format='(6(2X, E15.8))'
  free_lun, unit
```

```
endfor
t1 = systime(/seconds)
print, 'Average processing time, method #0:', (t1-t0)/nTests

t0 = systime(/seconds)
for j=0, nTests-1 do begin
  openw, unit, '/tmp/test1.txt', /get_lun
  printf, unit, reform(a[0,*,*]), format='(6(2X, E15.8))'
  free_lun, unit
endfor
t1 = systime(/seconds)
print, 'Average processing time, method #1:', (t1-t0)/nTests
8<---------------------------------------
```

--
Yngvar