
Subject: Re: Handle big data files

Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Mon, 02 Nov 2015 09:13:39 GMT

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Hi,

I think that this line is responsible for making things slow:

```
data=[[data],[line]]
```

If the array data gets to be lon, then it will take a long time to copy the previous data to a new variable and add one element...

You have two options:

1) only valid for IDL version >8.0. Use a list(). before the for use:

```
data = list()
```

then instead of data=[[data],[line]] use:

```
data->add, line
```

Then at the end:

```
PrintF, outLun, data->toArray(), FORMAT= '...'
```

2) it's more complicated, but general. Create the data array loooong, then fill it up. You could also actually guess it's length:

```
nData = 0l
```

```
FOR i=0,nfiles-1 DO BEGIN
```

```
  nlines = FILE_LINES(files[i])
```

```
  nData += nlines-1 ;one line you always disregard
```

```
ENDFOR
```

Now create data so that it is long enough:

```
myDataStructure = make_array(17,1, type=5)
```

```
data = replicate(myDataStructure, nData)
```

and in the cycle you fill up. You will also need a "fill-up" counter:

```
fillCounter = 0l
```

```
FOR...
```

```
...
```

```
while...
```

```
...
```

```
  data[fillCounter] = line
```

```
  fillCounter++
```

```
endwhile
```

```
...
```

```
endfor
```

I hope it helps...

Cheers,

