
Subject: Problem making large (~3GB) .sav files over NFS

Posted by [JJ](#) on Wed, 03 Feb 2010 18:13:01 GMT

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I seem unable to generate a very large save file in IDL that is not corrupted when writing to an NFS mounted disk.

In this case, both machines are running fedora 9, running IDL V7.0. The size of the .sav file is ~3GB. If I save to a disk on the local machine, everything seems to work fine. I can restore a correctly-saved file either from a local disk or nfs mounted disk with no problems. However, when I save to an nfs mounted disk, I seem to get one of two problems.

a)

```
IDL> save,filename='test.sav'
```

```
% SAVE: Error closing file. Unit: 100, File: test.sav  
Input/output error
```

b)

```
IDL>save,filename='test.sav'
```

```
IDL> .reset
```

```
IDL> restore,'test.sav'
```

```
% RESTORE: Unexpected item code found in save file.
```

```
% RESTORE: Error changing file pointer. Position: 4512370557230081036,  
Unit: 100, File: test.sav
```

```
Invalid argument
```

```
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

In the first case, it is clear that the file was not correctly saved.

In the second case, IDL thinks the file was correctly saved, but trying to restore it (either across NFS or locally) shows the file to be corrupt.

Both machines appear to be speaking to each other using NFS protocol version 3, which should not have any trouble with large files.

The workaround is to save to a local disk and copy the file later to where it should be. But I'm trying to work out if there is any corrective solution. If this is a known problem with an impatient IDL (and not fixed in the latest release), I guess there's nothing I can do. On the other hand, maybe it's something I can fix in my NFS.

I did find one very old thread (2001) in this forum about a similar problem with truncated .sav files in which Reimar Bauer responded "I know this problem too. ... I got this failure often if my server has to much NFS traffic. "

Any info/advice appreciated. Thanks.

-Jonathan
