Part 1:

The zlib compression compressed my sample file by ~55%, which was about 143mb originally.

This system's resources:
CPU: Intel Broadwell, 2200 Mhz, 2 cores, 4 threads
Memory: 4GB
Swap space: 0b
Disk: 20GB

Keeping track of network availability may also be important to prevent silent failures when querying for data.