Subject: Re: speed of n_elements
Posted by Craig Markwardt on Wed, 03 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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Pavel Romashkin <promashkin@cmdl.noaa.gov> writes:
> So, briefly: if you want to get the size of an array of structures,
> examine the size of an array of scalar fields (if available) and you
> will have 10X5 faster n_elements.

Two things:

* I can't repeat your experience on Sun or Linux. On both those machines n_elements(data.flag) is much slower than n_elements(data), at least in a loop.

* I've always found that putting large data arrays into structures is a big loser. In my experience it's slow to create such structures and slow to extract the fields later. Thus I was surprised by your observation (but unfortunately I can't confirm it); however because of that I still avoid large arrays in structures. Use pointers or handles instead.

Craig

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