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Subject: Re: Avoiding a for cicle  
Posted by [landsman](#) on Fri, 07 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article <B51278FB.4C3D%zamb@physics.ucla.edu>,  
Ricardo Fonseca <zamb@physics.ucla.edu> wrote:  
> Hi  
>  
> I'm looking for a more efficient way of implementing the following  
(i.e.  
> avoiding the for cycle) which is a routine for finding local maximuns  
>  
> ; Data is a 1D Array  
>  
> s = Size(Data)  
>  
> nx = s[1]  
>  
> max\_pos = [-1]  
>  
> for i = 1, nx-1 do \$  
> if ((Data[i] gt Data[i-1]) and (Data[i] gt Data[i+1])) then \$  
> max\_pos = [[max\_pos],i]  
>  
> ; and then throw away the first element...  
>  
> Any ideas? Thanks in advance, Ricardo  
>

And JD Smith gave the solution:

> max\_pos = where(data gt median(data,3))

Cool! I think this can be described as an almost literal example of  
"thinking outside of the box"

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