
Subject: Re: Using MIN on arrays : Exorcising loops?
Posted by [Andrew Cool](#) on Sun, 07 Oct 2001 23:25:38 GMT
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Martin Downing wrote:

```
>  
> "Craig Markwardt" <craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote in message  
> news:on3d4yw86j.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu...  
>>  
>> Andrew Cool <cooladjc@chariot.net.au> writes:  
>>  
> .....  
>  
> Hi Andrew & Craig  
>  
> For a simple case like this, why not just use:  
>   Min_array = data_array[*,* ,0] < data_array[*,* ,1] < data_array[*,* ,2]  
>  
> Martin
```

G'day Martin,

Now that I'm back at work, I regret to advise that your approach
doesn't work. Craig's, however, does :-

```
>   data_array = Fltarr(640,500,NZ)  
>   Min_array = data_array(*,* ,0)  
>  
>   for i = 1, NZ-1 do $  
>     min_array = min_array < data_array(*,* ,i)
```

It seems that you need to have an initial test condition before you
start applying those < operators. Not being a math-head, that might
not be the right jargon to describe it.

The use of the < operator has cut the time taken from about 1.03
seconds
for the double x,y loop to about 0.008 seconds using <, including the
initialisation statement Min_array = data_array(*,* ,0).

I'm happy!

Cheers,

Andrew
