
Subject: Re: 3d matrices and LUSOL

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Fri, 25 Jan 2002 17:18:07 GMT

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M wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> I am in desperate need of help!!
>
> I have a set of linear equations represented as matrix arrays which need to
> be solved using the LU decomposition technique. The two arrays consist of a
> 14 x 14 array, and a 14 x 1 array, but each element in the matrices itself
> is an array of 221 elements (ie the matrices are 3dimensional...?)
>
> So i need to solve the system using LUDC and LUSOL, but i have to do it 221
> times (ie a solution for each 'layer' of the matrices)
>
> The first question is, is there a way to declare the two input arrays as
> 3-d? I tried defining the matrix using matrix=[[a,b,...],[...,...,...] etc]
> where a,b,... = arrays, but this isn't recognised as a 14 x14 square matrix
> which is 221 elements 'deep'. Instead, it expands each array across the
> row, making it a 3094 x 14 matrix. (it needs to be square to run LUDC)
>
> Is there a way i can force IDL to see it as a 'layered' 3-d matrix?

Yes. If 'a', 'b', 'c' etc are 221-element arrays, then

```
[ [[a],[b]], [[c],[d]] ]
```

defines a (221,2,2) array. If you need a different ordering of indices (I suspect that you want (2,2,221)), then you need to use `transpose()` and `reform()`. In APL, which is part of IDL's ancestry, the equivalent of `transpose()` could handle arrays of any dimension. However, in IDL `transpose()` won't work on arrays of rank higher than 2. Therefore, do the following:

```
big = reform(transpose([[a],[b],[c],[d]]),2,2,221)
```

You'll need to call LUDC and LUSOL separately for each of the 221 layers. Therefore, if there's any advantage to forming them all into one big array, that advantage will have to lie in some other part of the code.
