## Subject: Re: Multi-dimensions without for loop? Posted by btt on Thu, 25 Mar 2004 14:09:06 GMT

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```
Emmanuel Christophe wrote:
> Hi,
>
 I'm trying to optimize some IDL code, removing for loops.
>
> I'm using the mean function to get the average of each line (this is for
 the example, could be another function). From a 2 dimensional array, I
 want to remove the mean of each column.
>
 Here is a sample using a loop:
 for j=0,size-1 do begin
    vect=data[i,*]
    datac[j,*]=vect-mean(vect)
> endfor
> How to do it in one instruction: if i'm using something like
 'mean(data)', i'll get the average for the whole array, and not line by
 line.
>
>
 the instruction 'total' give me something similar to what I want:
  'total(data,1)' will make the sum in only one direction.
>
> How to get that with ordinary function? and is it possible? I'm
  thinking of something like 'data[0:size-1,*]'...
```

Hello,

You can do it without a loop, but unfortunately not with the built-in statistics routines.

```
IDL > data = Findgen(4,6)
IDL> colTotal = TOTAL(data,2)
IDL> dim = Size(data, /dim)
IDL> colMean = Rebin(colTotal/dim[1], dim)
IDL> newData = data-colMean
```

But you could write your own routine to add the neat dimension handling to MEAN, MOMENT, etc that you already get with TOTAL, MAX, etc.

Ben