
Subject: Re: Assignment Time for a 3d Variable

Posted by [David Streutker](#) on Wed, 23 Nov 2005 16:52:46 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> The speed differences have to do with how you access different
> parts of the array in memory. If the parts you want are contiguous,
> then you can get them faster than you can if they are far apart in
> memory. (Think how much faster it is to pick up the poker
> chips when they are stacked than when they are scattered all
> around the table.)
>
> To make these kinds of assignments as fast as possible, use
> the TRANSPOSE function to organize the data into the fastest
> possible position:
>
> IDL> Help, data
> DATA BYTE = Array[3, 227, 149]
> IDL> data = Transpose(Temporary(data), [2,3,1])
> IDL> Help, data
> DATA BYTE = Array[227, 149, 3]

How does one know which is the fastest possible position? Should the largest dimension be first? Nuno's example seems to imply that the first dimension is not the fastest accessed.

-Dave
