
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
