Subject: Re: My code is way to slow.. How can I optimize!?
Posted by David Fanning on Mon, 28 Nov 2005 23:42:39 GMT
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jelle.ferwerda@rmit.edu.au writes:

> Anyway. It basically is a series of nested routines, within which I
> perform regressions on subsets, and generate statistics of these
> regressions.

I assume you mean nested loops, which is the usual culprit with
slow routines written in IDL. And you are right, we have (as a group)
had some success speeding this kind of code up:

http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/slowloops.html

> Since about 300 lines of the code fall within these loops,
> i am not particularly sure which parts take most of the time.

Since it takes a day to run, I can understand not wanting to
run it with timing code. :-)

Still it would be worth while knowing what is slow and what
is REALLY slow.

> It probably is part of an array concenation part, which in a normal
> dataset is performed about 500,000 times. But it could also be the
> regression which is also performed about 500,000 times.

I expect you could find tips for improving the array concatenation
part up by searching through the archives of this newsgroup. If JD
hasn't written about it 50 times it would be a small miracle.

> I am convinced that my code is sub-sub-sub optimal. Just do not know
> where to start optimizing it, as I am not a programmer, but a mere
> ecologist :-(

I'll take your word for its optimized nature. I'm just saying I
don't care to look at 400 lines of code unless I'm also looking at your
credit card details. :-)

But why speed it up? It's served its purpose, it sounds like.
Maybe this is one mess that should just be buried and forgotten.
Let those guys who read your paper figure it out! :-)

Cheers,

David

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