
Subject: idl variable naming

Posted by gareth.j.roberts@kcl on Wed, 17 May 2006 10:02:26 GMT

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Hi,

The background to the problem I am having is that I need to calculate the median value from several hundred images. However, the number of values with which to calculate the median for any given pixel may vary between 5 and 50. Also, many pixels don't have any values at all. Unfortunately, my computer doesn't have enough memory to read in all the images and then calculate the median.

The way I thought around this is to create a 1d array for each pixel which has a value and as a new value is encountered for that pixel, append it to the 1d array. This would result many 1000's of small 1d arrays. However, I'm not sure if this is possible or how to create this many arrays with respect to identifying (naming) them - eg something like

```
for j=0, nrows-1 do begin
  for k=0, ncols-1 do begin
    array_k_j=fltarr(1)
  endfor
endfor
```

So far the only way I have thought of doing something similar is to create a text file for each pixel and open, append, close each time a new value for a given pixel is encountered. Not ideal I know.

If anyone has any ideas on a potential solution that would be great.

cheers,
gareth
