Subject: Re: Array concatenation
Posted by David Fanning on Wed, 07 Jun 2006 13:41:44 GMT
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maye writes:

> I was searching for an effective way to do this, but can't find anybody
> writing about what (as usual) seems to be an obvious problem/task to
> me. :)
> I don't know how many elements I will collect while scanning a bunch of
> images, so I want to use array concatenation to collect the values like
> this:
> means = [means, currMean]
> But for this to compile/run properly, I need mean to exist before.
> If I do a
> means = 0.
> before the loop, I will always have a zero-element in the beginning
> that I don't want at plotting time. Of course I could remove it with
> means = means[1:*]
> but not only does this waste resources, it also becomes cumbersome if I
> collect 20 different data values, for that I ALL have to remove the
> first value?
> Surely there must be a better way?
> Please help me to program IDL efficiently! :)

I think most people do something like this:

```
  IF N_Elements(means) EQ 0 THEN means = [currMean] ELSE $
     means = [Temporary(means), currMean]
```

Or, did you mean something that doesn't involve any coding? :-)

Be aware that if your loop is large, it is much more
efficient to allocate the memory for your array in chucks
of say 100 or 1000, and then fill it up, then it is to
continuously re-define your array like this.

Cheers,

David
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David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/