Subject: Re: Is it really more efficient to work with arrays than FOR loops?
Posted by David Fanning on Thu, 23 Nov 2006 17:13:11 GMT
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Alvin writes:

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>  I was wondering if it is really that more efficient to work with arrays
>  (large ones that is). For example I have the following simple code,
>  which takes about 30 min to run:
>
>  FOR z=0L, 400 DO BEGIN
>      FOR y=0L, 400 DO BEGIN
>          FOR x=0L, 400 DO BEGIN
>              fn=f(z)     ;a function of z
>              gn=f(z)    ;another function of z
>              IF ( f(z) * x + g(z) * y GE f(z) * g(z) )  THEN BEGIN
>                  blah
>                  blah
>                  blah
>              ENDIF
>           ENDFOR
>       ENDFOR
>  ENDFOR
>
>  Now if I tried to vectorize the above, would it do me any good in
>  saving time and possibly memory? If I say something like  f(z) # x +
>  g(z) # y, where these are all vectors, I have a feeling that I am not
>  covering all the possible combinations as the FOR loop above. Does
>  anyone have any ideas, or suggestions?
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http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/slowloops.html

Cheers,

David
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")