
Subject: Re: Improving a piece of code with arrays and for-loops

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 08 Feb 2007 17:59:11 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Feb 8, 11:53 am, "hradilv" <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

> On Feb 8, 7:23 am, "Halfdan" <halfd...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> Hello

>

>> I have been looking at my same piece of IDL-code for quite a while now
>> and I have yet not found any good method to improve it. I want to
>> improve the speed and rid the code of the nested for-loops. Maybe
>> there is someone here who has good ideas and is willing to point me in
>> the right direction?

>

>> The problematic code is below. It is a part of a method to estimate
>> wind gusts in output from an atmospheric model. The i and j
>> dimensions are the x- and y-locations of the model-points in the
>> horizontal and s are the model level heights in the vertical (starting
>> from the model top and growing towards the surface).

>

>> The code works in the vertical, starting from the surface (largest
>> value of s) and works upwards (towards smaller s) to where the value
>> of the variable tke is less than tke_{lvl} or tke_{diff} is less than a
>> very small number. The code has to do the following three things:

>

>> 1. Choose the greatest value of wsp (windspeed) where the value of
>> int_{diff} exceeds 0.

>> 2. Choose the greatest value of wsp where the value of int_{diffver}
>> exceeds 0.

>> 3. Choose the greatest value of wsp.

>

>> This has to be repeated for every grid-point in the horizontal (I have
>> to assume that I have very little a priori knowledge of the behaviour
>> of any of my variables at any gridpoint and model height).

>

>> Any ideas on improving this?

>

>> Thanks in advance,

>> Halfdan

>

>> ps. The problematic code:

>

>> for i=1,ni-2 do begin
>> for j=1,nj-2 do begin
>> s = ns-1

```

>> REPEAT BEGIN
>>   if int_diff(i,j,s) GE 0. AND wsp(i,j,s) GT fgtmp(i,j,
>> 0) then $
>>     fgtmp(i,j,0) = wsp(i,j,s)
>>     if wsp(i,j,s) GT fgtmp(i,j,1) then $
>>       fgtmp(i,j,1) = wsp(i,j,s)
>>       if int_diffver(i,j,s) GE 0. AND wsp(i,j,s) GT
>> fgtmp(i,j,2) then $
>>         fgtmp(i,j,2) = wsp(i,j,s)
>>         s=s-1
>>     ENDREP UNTIL tke(i,j,s) LT tkelvl(i,j) OR
>> tke_diff(i,j,s) LT eps
>>   endfor
>> endfor
>
> First thing that comes to mind is the invert the loop order. Granted
> I've spent about 30 s looking at this, though.

```

Another thing that comes to mind is trying to make a "mask" of the of the layers and applying that mask:

instead of if int_diff[i,j,s] gt 0, use id_mask = int_diff[,*,s] > 0
then idx = where(id_mask gt 0, count) - then change only those idx points.
