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

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 08 Feb 2007 17:53:40 GMT

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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 tkelvl 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.

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