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

Posted by [Halfdan](#) on Thu, 08 Feb 2007 13:23:53 GMT

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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
```
