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Subject: Re: Alternatives to griddata()

Posted by [Andrew\[3\]](#) on Fri, 25 May 2007 18:26:42 GMT

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On May 24, 5:25 pm, Andrew <Andrew.B.La...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi everyone,  
>  
> I'm currently using IDL to process remote sensing data of arctic sea  
> ice. Recently, I've been modifying an existing set of IDL programs to  
> handle some new high-resolution data. The main program does work with  
> the new data set, but it runs much more slowly. i.e. from under one  
> minute to about 4 minutes per image. (the images have gone from  
> 400x340 to 1000x850)  
>  
> I've gone through that program eliminating for loops wherever  
> possible, but it's still quite slow. Yesterday, I got the bright idea  
> to use the systime() function and figure out which part of the program  
> is taking so long. It turns out that the griddata() function is the  
> culprit. For one image, that one function takes up 80-90% of the total  
> program run time! (According to the time outputs anyway.)  
>  
> I am wondering if there is an alternative method to take irregularly  
> spaced data stored as 3 vectors (xindex, yindex, and data), plot it on  
> a 2D grid and interpolate it that is a bit faster. I'd like to keep  
> using the inverse distance method of interpolation or something with  
> similar behaviour to compare the high-res and low-res data. I've tried  
> some IDL programming of my own, but nothing that I come up with is as  
> fast as griddata.  
>  
> Any ideas?  
>  
> Andrew

Ok, turns out I answered my own question. I just have to make use of the SEARCH\_ELLIPSE keyword, and it gives me the result I'm looking for. The images are virtually identical and produced in less than a quarter of the time. Leave it to IDL to provide some extremely handy non-intuitive functionality :)

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