
Subject: Re: Randomize array order

Posted by [mattf](#) on Thu, 26 Jul 2007 12:50:25 GMT

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On Jul 25, 3:17 pm, Conor <cmanc...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi everyone!

>

> Anyone know an efficient way to randomize an array (I have a
> sorted array that I want unsorted). Initially, I tried something like
> this:

>

> array = findgen(1000000)

> unsort = array[sort(randomu(seed,1000000))]

>

> It works, but sorting on a million elements is rather slow. Anyone
> know a faster way?

I think this is one of those vectorization cases where you have a trade-off between processor time and memory-- the one 'obvious' faster way that occurs to me is to pre-compute a sequence of a few billion random integers-- and then just select sub-sequences as needed. It's possible that there's some intermediate strategy that's not quite so extravagantly wasteful of memory.
