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Subject: Re: Help with getting rid of a FOR loop

Posted by [nathan12343](#) on Wed, 21 May 2008 03:02:48 GMT

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On May 20, 8:36 pm, nathan12343 <nathan12...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On May 20, 5:48 pm, nathan12343 <nathan12...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>

>

>> On May 20, 5:33 pm, pgri...@gmail.com wrote:

>

>>> Jean H wrote:

>>>> > dist=sqrt((xx-xcenter)^2+(yy-ycenter)^2) ;array of radii

>

>>>> > mask=fltarr(imsz,imsz)-1

>

>>>> > FOR i=0,num-1 DO BEGIN

>>>> > wh=where(dist GE r[i] and dist LE r[i+1])

>>>> > mask[wh]=i

>>>> > ENDFOR

>

>>>> > END

>

>>>> > I would like to find some way to get rid of the FOR loop at the end.

>>>> > All I'm doing in that loop is going through the annuli one by one,

>>>> > finding the pixels in that annuli, and setting the corresponding

>>>> > pixels in mask to the correct mask value.

>

>>>> > Thanks for any help anyone can provide!

>

>>>> > Nathan Goldbaum

>

>>>> Hi Nathan,

>

>>>> if your computer memory permits it, you can

>>>> 1) reform your dist array so it is now a n\_elements(dist) \*

>>>> n\_elements(r) array. basically, you will copy the distances

>>>> n\_elements(r) times.

>>>> 2) reform your r array so it is now a n\_elements(dist) \* n\_elements(r)

>>>> array.

>>>> 3) shift the array from (2) by 1

>>>> 4) do where(new\_dist GT new\_r and new\_dist LT new\_r\_plus\_1)

>>>> 5) divide the returned index by n\_elements(r). You will know, for each

>>>> r, which elements satisfies your condition!

>

>>> I guess that the original problem is not so much that for loops are

>>> slow,

>>> but that "where" is slow. So I fear that the above strategy won't gain

```
>>> much speed, as now where must work on a much larger array...
>
>>> Ciao,
>>> Paolo
>
>>>> Sorry if it is not too clear... that's a "quick answer before to leave"...
>>>> Jean
>
>> Will histogram work with unevenly spaced bins?
>
> Histogram does work for irregular binsizes if you use VALUE_LOCATE, I
> think I'll be able to do this using histogram.
```

Thanks for the histogram suggestion!

This code is about 15 times faster than it was before, I'm glad I  
learned about histogram :)

-Nathan

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