
Subject: SHA-1, MD5, etc inquiry
Posted by [cgh1](#) on Wed, 09 Jul 2008 02:50:35 GMT
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Hello:

I am using a homegrown implementation of ISODATA to cluster data in IDL. As the program runs, an array is created that is the same size as the data (ie, same # of elements) to track the cluster assignment of each point. I would like to check for the possibility of being caught in a loop with the clustering. I strongly suggest that, in some cases, my data might be passing back and forth between up to 20 or 25 states. I tried the checksum32.pro routine, but that didn't do what I needed (ie, if only 2 points are flipped, the checksum is the same value). I don't think I have the memory to store full state information for each step - I'm working with up to 100,000 data points and frequently will allow the ISODATA program to loop up to 10,000 times.

I'm looking for an IDL implementation of SHA1 or MD5 - or, any suggested equivalent. I realize that there is a hit to the runtime for computing the checksum, but, it is a lot less memory needed to store the hash. I'm hoping that loops are fairly common, and can save more time from finding the loops than I spend on checking for them.

Does anyone know of an implementation in IDL of either of these algorithms, or some other equivalent?

Thanks for any replies!

--Topher Hughes
