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Subject: Re: Changing values of one image from ENVI  
Posted by [Jonathan Greenberg](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 18:37:49 GMT  
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Again, the question is do you need to use a full image to do spatial analysis? There are \*some\* analyses that really require in the entire image, but local neighborhood spatial analyses are not one of the ones that need ENVI\_GET\_DATA -- its much more scalable to simply pull a set of lines using ENVI\_GET\_SLICE the size of your window into an array rather than running on the entire dataset. If you have the memory and small enough images, ENVI\_GET\_DATA can work fine, but with increasing image sizes (I routinely work with images that range from 1gb to 100gb), I come across a lot of code that does not scale because of that one command, when it only takes a few more lines of code to perform tiled analyses.

Is the overhead incurred by repeated use of ENVI\_GET\_SLICE vs. ENVI\_GET\_DATA significant as compared to the total time of processing an image (assuming memory issues are not an issue)? Has anyone done any tests on this?

--j

On Aug 31, 8:30 am, "devin.wh...@gmail.com" <devin.wh...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Aug 29, 8:15 pm, Jonathan Greenberg <jgrn...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

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>

>> Txomin:

>

>> I need to write a thread at some point extolling how much I hate  
>> "ENVI\_GET\_DATA" -- its one of the most useless commands in the ENVI  
>> language. I am a HUGE fan of ENVI\_GET\_SLICE and, if you want to get  
>> more complicated, use the built-in envi tiling routines (which are  
>> really just envi\_get\_slice x a number of lines dependent on memory).  
>> The idea is, you read one line at a time, process it, write the output  
>> one line at a time... No memory issues, fast read/write, all good.

>

>> --j

>

>> On Aug 29, 8:20 am, txominher...@gmail.com wrote:

>

>>> Hello,

>>> I would like to change some pixel values of one image loaded with  
>>> ENVI\_OPEN\_FILE, but I cannot load the entire image in memory (this is  
>>> a very big image).

>>> What I do is to access and process some specific regions of the image

>>> using ENVI\_GET\_DATA, by defining subsets in DIMS.  
>>> I really wonder if there is any keyword in the procedure  
>>> ENVI\_WRITE\_ENVI\_FILE, or other procedure (something inverse to  
>>> ENVI\_GET\_DATA) to perform this, because the only choice that I know is  
>>> to load the whole image in memory in IDL and write it again.  
>  
>>> Thanks  
>  
>>> Txomin- Hide quoted text -  
>  
>> - Show quoted text -  
>  
> ENVI\_GET\_DATA, ENVI\_GET\_SLICE, and the ENVI tiling mechanism represent  
> three different ways to access image data. I sometimes will use all  
> three in the same program--depending on what kind of processing I need  
> to do. They each have their strengths and weaknesses. For example,  
> if I was interested in multi-scale spatial processing (not spectral),  
> ENVI\_GET\_SLICE would be pretty useless since I can only retrieve one  
> line at a time at full spatial resolution and the data is ordered in  
> BIL or BIP. ENVI\_GET\_DATA is perfect for that task. The tiling  
> mechanism is very flexible and can go either way, but requires more  
> programming overhead and is often overkill for the task at hand.  
> However, there are times when it is the best option. I wouldn't  
> recommend it for this task, though.

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