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Subject: Re: simple vectorizing problem

Posted by [Spon](#) on Thu, 11 Sep 2008 12:15:11 GMT

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> I thought the trick with an indexing array ('a' in the example above)  
> would work because if I say  
> b = indgen(101)/(!pi/100)  
> print, cos(b)  
>  
> I get not one number out but an array of cos() evaluated from 0 to pi  
>  
> I guess I don't understand how the cos() example gives me an array  
> back, and  
> myFuncThatDoesSomeAnalysis(image(\*,\*,a)) gives me just one number.

Simply put, the IDL function COS() has been specifically written so it can take either scalars or arrays as arguments. If you want myFuncThatDoesSomeAnalysis() to do the same, you have to write it in such a way that it can also handle arrays.

Whether this can be done without expensive FOR loops depends entirely on what your function does. If it can be done, it's probably worthwhile doing it though.

> Thanks,  
> David M.

Regards,  
Chris

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