
Subject: Re: Optimising $A = B + C$?

Posted by [chase](#) on Fri, 31 May 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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>>>> > "Karl" == Karl Glazebrook <kgb@aaoepp.aao.gov.au> writes:

In article <[4oll84\\$318@pa.jach.hawaii.edu](mailto:4oll84$318@pa.jach.hawaii.edu)> kgb@aaoepp.aao.gov.au (Karl Glazebrook) writes:

Karl> Does anyone know how IDL optimises $A = B + C$ where

Karl> A, B and C are arrays?

Karl> I did a test a while ago and it was several times faster

Karl> than C code along the lines of:

Karl> `i=n;`

Karl> `while (i--)`

Karl> `*a-- = *b-- + *c--`

Karl> (This was on a 2048x2048 array and everything fitted into

Karl> physical memory.)

Karl> Is it just that it is done in assembler or something?

Karl> just curious...

I don't really know. But RSI may using a vector library for the particular machine architecture. For example, HP 7000 workstations (PA RISC architecture) come with a vector library optimized for performance on that machine. RSI may have used this or built an optimized version of their own. This type of library covers linear vector operations like those in the BLAS (Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms) collection.

Chris

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