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Subject: Re: large matrix operations

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Mon, 13 Oct 2008 21:17:10 GMT

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On Oct 13, 3:51 pm, "mgal...@gmail.com" <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Oct 13, 11:07 am, Vince Hradil <vincehra...@gmail.com> wrote:

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>

>

>> So much for that theory...

>

>> Hardware:

>> IDL> print, !version

>> { x86 Win32 Windows Microsoft Windows 7.0 Oct 25 2007 32 64}

>

>> Results:

>> % TEST: Allocating A array

>> % TEST: took 0.14000010 sec

>> % TEST: Allocating B array

>> % TEST: took 0.21899986 sec

>> % TEST: A#B

>> % TEST: took 40.878000 sec

>> % TEST: matrix\_multiply(A,B)

>> % TEST: took 42.284000 sec

>> % TEST: transpose(A)#B

>> % TEST: took 42.645000 sec

>> % TEST: matrix\_multiply(A,B,/atranspose)

>> % TEST: took 43.449000 sec

>> % TEST: transpose(temporary(A))#B

>> % TEST: took 43.387000 sec

>> % TEST: matrix\_multiply(temporary(A),B,/atranspose)

>> % TEST: took 50.029000 sec

>

> I think there are problems in the testing mechanism:

>

> \* you're only timing one execution of the operation

> \* you're timing MESSAGE which has an I/O component

> \* allocating B was 50% longer than allocating A? They are the same

> size, only 12 MB.

>

> I ran the same tests 10 times and averaged the results, also removing

> the MESSAGE statements from the timed portions.

>

> Here are my results:

>

> IDL> print, !version

> { i386 darwin unix Mac OS X 7.0 Oct 25 2007 32 64}

>

```

> % TEST: Allocating A: 0.0767788
> % TEST: Allocating B: 0.0775957
> % TEST: A # B: 7.68955
> % TEST: MATRIX_MULTIPLY(A, B): 7.62423
> % TEST: TRANSPOSE(A) # B: 7.64414
> % TEST: MATRIX_MULTIPLY(A, B, /ATRANSPOSE): 6.66077
> % TEST: TRANSPOSE(TEMPORARY(A)) # B: 7.51523
> % TEST: MATRIX_MULTIPLY(TEMPORARY(A), B, /ATRANSPOSE): 6.50667
>
> Here is my code:
>
> pro test
> nel = 2000L
> ntests = 10L
> times = fltarr(8, ntests)
>
> for i = 0L, ntests - 1L do begin
>   print, 'Running test ' + strtrim(i, 2) + '...'
>   t0 = systime(1)
>   a = randomu(seed,[nel,nel])
>   times[0, i] = systime(1)-t0
>
>   t0 = systime(1)
>   b = randomu(seed,[nel,nel])
>   times[1, i] = systime(1)-t0
>
>   t0 = systime(1)
>   c = a#b
>   times[2, i] = systime(1)-t0
>
>   t0 = systime(1)
>   c = matrix_multiply(a,b)
>   times[3, i] = systime(1)-t0
>
>   t0 = systime(1)
>   c = transpose(a)#b
>   times[4, i] = systime(1)-t0
>
>   t0 = systime(1)
>   c = matrix_multiply(a,b,/atranspose)
>   times[5, i] = systime(1)-t0
>
>   ahold = a
>
>   t0 = systime(1)
>   c = transpose(temporary(a))#b
>   times[6, i] = systime(1)-t0
>

```

```
> a = ahold
>
> t0 = systime(1)
> c = matrix_multiply(temporary(a),b,/atranspose)
> times[7, i] = systime(1)-t0
> endfor
>
> message, 'Allocating A: ' + strtrim(mean(times[0, *]), 2), /info
> message, 'Allocating B: ' + strtrim(mean(times[1, *]), 2), /info
> message, 'A # B: ' + strtrim(mean(times[2, *]), 2), /info
> message, 'MATRIX_MULTIPLY(A, B): ' + strtrim(mean(times[3, *]), 2), /
> info
> message, 'TRANSPOSE(A) # B: ' + strtrim(mean(times[4, *]), 2), /info
> message, 'MATRIX_MULTIPLY(A, B, /ATRANSPOSE): ' +
> strtrim(mean(times[5, *]), 2), /info
> message, 'TRANSPOSE(TEMPORARY(A)) # B: ' + strtrim(mean(times[6,
> *]), 2), /info
> message, 'MATRIX_MULTIPLY(TEMPORARY(A), B, /ATRANSPOSE): ' +
> strtrim(mean(times[7, *]), 2), /info
> end
>
> Mike
> --www.michaelgalloy.com
> Tech-X Corporation
> Software Developer II
```

Mike,  
Thanks for cleaning that up. I think the conclusions are the same -  
matrix\_multiply does not speed things up. I wonder what happens if we  
really push the envelope wrt RAM and matrix size. Unfortunately, I  
don't have a lot of time to play with this.

Vince

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