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Subject: Re: Solve memory problems

Posted by [corinnefrey](#) on Thu, 15 Jan 2009 11:45:01 GMT

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Hi Jean,

Jap, got it! This is indeed an advantage. Will try to implement that in my next programme.

Have a nice day,  
Corinne

On Jan 14, 3:53 pm, "Jean H." <jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca> wrote:

```
> Corinne,
>
> setting var=0 or *ptr_var = 0 will have the same effect on memory.
> Now, let's say you have 10 bands, 4000*5000. If you try to create an
> array like this data = bytarr(4000,5000,10), you might run out of
> memory, or, for the same reason, can not create any other variable (not
> enough contiguous space in memory). With this example, you would need
> about 8 bits * 4000 * 5000 * 10 = 1 600 000 000 bits of contiguous
> memory. Now, if you use points, you can create an array of 10 pointers,
> each holding a band.
> ptr_data = ptrarr(10)
> ptr_data[0] = ptr_new(bytarr(4000,5000))
> ptr_data[1] = ptr_new(bytarr(4000,5000))
> ....
>
> so now, the contiguous memory you need is only 8 bits * 4000 * 5000 =
> 160 000 000 bits.
>
> If band 2 has a different size, no problem:
> ptr_data[2] = ptr_new(bytarr(12,25))
>
> Jean
>
> Corinne wrote:
>> hi jean,
>
>> i have never used pointers, so my question is: do you use separate
>> pointers or whole pointer-arrays for your bands? what do you do, if
>> your bands have different sizes due to different spatial resolutions
>> (which you might interpolate later in the programme)?
>
>> i'm still trying to figure out, what the advantage of pointers is.
>
```

>> example: i have created an float array a with 4000x5000 elements and  
>> don't need it anymore. so i want to get rid of it. does it make a  
>> difference, if i put a=0 or if i set the value of the pointer of the  
>> array to zero?

>

>> regards,  
>> corinne

>

>>> In my own program, I do all the analysis on a modified version of my  
>>> original image (a classified land-use map, with the background values  
>>> removed so the data is a 1D array), then, at the very end, I  
>>> re-transform it to save and display it. I save a lot of memory!  
>>> Moreover, all bands are saved in pointers, allowing the program to run  
>>> on almost any computer, while the original version, which did not use  
>>> much pointer, was making my work-beast run out of memory fairly quickly!

>

>>> Jean

>

>

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