
Subject: Re: Speed-up of code

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 25 Aug 2009 15:42:29 GMT

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On Aug 25, 10:16 am, Philip Elson <philipel...@googlemail.com> wrote:

> Dear All,

>

> I have a question relating to the optimization of some code which

> averages an array based on the values in another array.

> Its much easier to explain in an example:

>

> day = [1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3]

> value = [2, 4, 5, 2, 3, 2, 1]

>

> Which should return, depending on which is easier, either

> avg = [3, 5, 2]

> or

> avg = [3, 3, 5, 2, 2, 2, 2]

>

> This is fairly straightforward using a for loop, but how to do it in

> the IDL way?

>

> You can see two examples of the basic code below:

>

> ; =====

> ; FIRST EXAMPLE

> ; =====

> unique = uniq(day)

> avg = intarr(n_elements(unique))

> FOR i=0, n_elements(unique) -1 DO BEGIN

> res = WHERE(day EQ day[unique[i]], count)

> if count GT 0 THEN avg[i] = total(value[res],/DOUBLE) / count

> ENDFOR

> print, avg

>

> ; =====

> ; SECOND EXAMPLE

> ; =====

> h = histogram(day, REVERSE_INDICES=ri)

> avg = h*0

> FOR i=0, n_elements(h)-1 DO BEGIN

> data_inds = ri[ri[i]:ri[i+1]-1]

> avg[i] = total(value[data_inds],/DOUBLE) / h[i]

> ENDFOR

> print, avg

>

> At this stage I open the floor; I essentially want to achieve the

> results as above without the need for the for loop.

>
> My assumption is that the HISTOGRAM function will be helpful, but
> having spent quite some time on this I am beginning to think that it
> cannot be done - though I would love to be proved wrong by any
> histogram guru out there.

Those are the techniques I would have tried! Be careful: in your second example, you don't handle the case where the histogram bin $h[i]$ is empty. You just need an "if $h[i]$ GT 0" test there.

Craig
