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Subject: Re: Speedy Julia Set Fractals

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Tue, 08 Sep 2009 04:23:29 GMT

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On Sep 6, 6:33 pm, Chris <beaum...@ifa.hawaii.edu> wrote:

> On Sep 6, 11:44 am, Caleb <calebwhe...@gmail.com> wrote:

>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>> Hello!  
>  
>> I have a quick question about some fractal work I am doing. I know  
>> that doing matrix multiplications and histograms can exponentiate  
>> processes that are historically done with for loops. I have been  
>> trying to think of a way to do this with a fractal program I just  
>> wrote. Here is a snippet of the code that I want to speed up:  
>  
>> <code>  
>  
>> ; Loop through and do calculations on each point:  
>> FOR i = 0, x\_size-1 DO BEGIN  
>  
>> FOR j = 0, y\_size-1 DO BEGIN  
>  
>> ; Initialize number of iterations:  
>> num = 0  
>  
>> ; Complex value of the current coordinate point:  
>> z = COMPLEX(FLOAT(i-X\_OFFSET)/(X\_OFFSET\*SCALE),FLOAT(j-Y\_OFFSET) /  
>> (Y\_OFFSET\*SCALE))  
>  
>> ; Calculate value of F(z) at above z:  
>> z1 = z^K + c  
>  
>> ; Take magnitude of the above value (z1):  
>> mag = ABS(z1^K + c)  
>  
>> ; Do loop until mag is greater than threshold or max iterations  
>> have been calculated:  
>> WHILE ((mag LE THRESH) AND (num LT MAX\_ITERATION)) DO BEGIN  
>  
>> ; Re-Calculate value of F(z) at above z1:  
>> z1 = z1^K + c  
>  
>> ; Take magnitude of the above value (z1):  
>> mag = ABS(z1^K + c)

```

>
>> ; Increment iteration variable:
>> num++
>
>> ENDWHILE
>
>> ; Value of matrix is set to iteration number:
>> grid(i,j) = num
>
>> ENDFOR
>
>> ENDFOR
>
>> </code>
>
>> My problem is that I have a while loop for every iteration of my
>> matrix which can run up to 256 iterations if need be. Can I speed of
>> these calculations without going to multiple cores?
>
>> Oh and if you need more of the code let me know and I'll post it.
>
>> Thanks!
>
>> Caleb Wherry
>
> This might work (untested)
>
> xs = rebin( indgen(x_size), x_size, y_size)
> ys = rebin(1#indgen(y_size), x_size, y_size)
> z = COMPLEX(FLOAT(xs-X_OFFSET)/(X_OFFSET*SCALE),FLOAT(ys-Y_OFFSET)/
> (Y_OFFSET*SCALE))
>
> grid = intarr(x_size, y_size)
> todo = grid + 1
>
> for num = 0, num lt maxiter, 1 do begin
>   z1 = z^K + c
>   mag = ABS(z1^K + c)
>
>   hit = (mag le thresh)
>   grid = num * todo * hit + grid * (1 - todo)
>   todo = 1 - hit
> endfor
>
> This avoids the nested loop over x indices and y indices. It pays an
> extra penalty of running the iteration on every pixel MAXITER times.
> This code assumes that MAG decreases at every step, even after THRESH
> is crossed. I'm not sure if this is guaranteed to be true or not,

```

- > depending on K and C. Unless most pixels are supposed to be iterated
- > far fewer than MAXITER times, my guess is that this code will be
- > faster
- >
- > Chris

You can be clever about only performing the calculation for the pixels that haven't yet converged... here's a (also untested) modified version of your for loop that should be more efficient in that case:

```
for num = 0, maxiter-1 do begin
  unconverged = where(todo eq 1)
  z1 = z[unconverged]^K + c
  mag = ABS(z1^K + c)

  hit = (mag le thresh)
  grid[unconverged] = num * hit
  todo[unconverged] = 1 - hit
  if total(todo,/int) eq 0 then break
endfor
```

-Jeremy.

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