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Subject: Larger arrays or more dimensions?

Posted by [David Higgins](#) on Thu, 26 Nov 2009 13:49:36 GMT

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I have a large data set which can be organised into sub categories, where in each sub category an experimental variable was different.

(For anyone who cares, it's MRI data which are multiple echoes, in multiple phases, in multiple dynamics, through multiple RF channels, over multiple signal averages.)

The data is essentially a 3D set, repeated over these various degrees of freedom ("phases", "dynamics", etc).

Here's my question. In terms of memory management, and program speed, would it be better to have a 3D array, and extend the 3rd dimension over and over for all these degrees of freedom, or would it be better to use a multiple dimension array?

(I shall be performing FFTs on the data.)

Thanks  
Dave Higgins

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