
Subject: Re: Optimization Question: Sum at each element of array

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Tue, 15 Feb 2011 14:31:29 GMT

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On Tuesday, February 15, 2011 12:58:02 AM UTC-5, Charles Steinhardt wrote:

> Hello,
>
> I'm trying to optimize the following:
>
> for i=0, 100 do begin
> y = y + myfunc(x, x + sigma * (i-50)/10.0, P[2]*myfunc2(x + sigma
> * (i-50)/10.0), sigma)
> endfor
>
> Here, x, y, and sigma are arrays of the same cardinality. I know the
> for loop is slow in IDL compared to array operations, but I'm having
> problems finding a faster way to do this. Is it really faster to make
> an array of findgen(101) and then do some sort of summation over
> that?
>
> I'm hoping somebody has run into this before - I'd appreciate any
> advice you have!
>
> Thank you,
>
> -Charles

It depends on myfunc and myfunc2. It looks like myfunc currently takes 3 arguments of the same cardinality, and myfunc2 takes one argument? If they can be written in such a way that they can take an extra dimension (of length 101, in this case), then yes, it would be faster to just do a total. So, for example:

```
xsize = size(x, /dimen)
ndimen = n_elements(xsize)
fullsize = [xsize,101]
xfull = rebin(x, fullsize, /sample)
sigmafull = rebin(sigma, fullsize, /sample)
ifull = rebin( (findgen(101)-50)/10., fullsize, /sample)
```

```
y = total( myfunc(xfull, xfull + sigmafull * ifull, $
  P[2]*myfunc2(xfull + sigmafull * ifull), sigmafull), ndimen )
```

-Jeremy.
