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Subject: Concatenating arrays - speed issues?

Posted by [rjp23](#) on Tue, 07 Jun 2011 15:48:29 GMT

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Hi

This is a pretty basic question but I'm trying to speed up some code and at the minute it's quite ugly and does this:

- 1) Loop over input data
- 2) Perform some calculations based on input data which may or may not produce a result we want to use
- 3a) If a result is produced and it's the first time within the loop, create an array to hold it
- 3b) If a result is produced but it's not the first time within the loop, concatenate the result to the array that's already been created.

I'm doing the concatenation with something like:

```
array = [[array],value]
```

Now this works fine but as we get more input data it seems the concatenation is becoming quite slow (presumably as the arrays are getting larger and larger).

The alternative I guess would be to define an array at the start with some arbitrarily large size, subscript the values to it and then check at the end to trim empty elements but that doesn't seem much nicer and in this case estimating an arbitrary size isn't that straight-forward.

Is there an "IDL way" way to do this?

Cheers

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