Subject: Re: looking for sort procedure
Posted by thompson on Thu, 16 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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kak@sat.ipp-garching.mpg.de (Karl Krieger) writes:

> "R. Bauer" <r.bauer@kfa-juelich.de> writes:

>> It was surprising me that's idl's build-in sort procedure is very very
>> slow.

>> for this example it needs on may RS6000 AIX more than 2 minutes.

>> a = indgen(10000)
>> b = [a,a]
>> print,systime(0)
>> s = b(sort(b))
>> print,systime(0)

>> end

>> This is much too long.

> Hi all,

> there seems to be a bug in the implementation of this routine:
> I tested it on a SUN Ultrasparc and on an IBM RS6000, which
> has about the same speed (at least for the Monte Carlo simulation
> coded in F77, which usually runs on these boxes).

> Result for SUN: below 1 second, 6 seconds for a=lindgen(100000L)
> Result for IBM: about 145 seconds

> Is this a known bug/feature? There seems to be a major problem
> either in the implementation of sort or in the way it uses
> the machine's resources (bad optimization?).

I also tried the above example on a DEC AXP 3000/600 where it took about 60 seconds. I wonder if there's something in the code that is optimized for Sun workstations, maybe going back to the days when the first Unix port of IDL was called SunIDL?

Bill Thompson