Subject: Re: Parallelise FOR loop in IDL
Posted by Kenneth P. Bowman on Tue, 20 Sep 2011 14:21:27 GMT
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In article <j57e3h$9sv$1@speranza.aioe.org>,
 Robin Wilson <robin@rtwilson.com> wrote:

> Hi,
>
> I have some IDL code like the following, which implements a Monte Carlo
> ray-tracing model:
>
>
> FOR i = 0, 1000 DO BEGIN
> ; Start a new ray from source
> ; Do all sorts of complicated processing on it
> ; Record where it lands
> ENDFOR
>
> I want to be able to run it for more iterations while still keeping it
> fairly fast. If I was writing this in C I'd use OpenMP to split the
> iterations of the loop between the available cores (as they are
> independent) and then use a reduction to join all of the records of
> where the rays end up together.

If it is trivially parallel, why not run, for example, ten separate IDL
jobs with

  FOR i = 0, 99 DO BEGIN ...

Simple minded, but probably much easier to implement than a true
parallel solution.

Ken Bowman