
Subject: Re: The IDL way, summing variable sized slices of array.

Posted by [Russell\[1\]](#) on Wed, 04 Apr 2012 14:59:54 GMT

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On Apr 4, 4:00 am, d19997...@gmail.com wrote:

> Hi,

>

> I've recently been learning how to use REBIN/REFORM etc. to do the heavy lifting rather than loops, (saving me at least an order of magnitude in execution time in some of the code I'm working with). I have a situation now where I don't know if it's possible to completely remove loops so I was hoping someone more experienced could illuminate me.

>

> In essence the problem is that I have a 3D array which I want to reduce to a 2D array by summing over elements of the first dimension. This wouldn't be an issue apart from the fact that the range of elements that I wish to sum over varies depending on the value of the second dimension.

>

> In code what I have at the moment looks a bit like:

>

> d=DBLARR(nt,nl,ne) ;Array of data

> t=DBLARR(nt) ; Array of "axis" values

> b=DBLARR(nl,2) ;Array of summation limits

> p=DBLARR(nl,ne) ; Array of answer

>

> ;<<BIT OF CODE TO FILL THESE ARRAYS>>

>

> FOR i=0L,nl-1 DO BEGIN

> tmp=TOTAL(d[b[i,0]:b[i,1],i,*],1) ;Sum elements

> p[i,*]=tmp/TOTAL(t[b[i,0]:b[i,1]]) ;Store sum divided by sum of axis (i.e. get average value over summation range)

> ENDFOR

> RETURN,p

>

> Any help will be appreciated,

>

> Note whilst nl is not necessarily large in the cases I'll be looking at, i'm still interesting in "the IDL way" for this as part of my learning!

>

> Thanks,

> David

Not, sure... This sounds like the rare case where loops are useful.

BTW, I'm guessing you have a loop to fill the arrays? If so, then why not stick this part in that loop?

Russell
