
Subject: Re: Sorting a matrix

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Fri, 08 Mar 2013 23:51:30 GMT

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On 3/8/13 4:24 PM, Gianguido Cianci wrote:

> I was curious to compare this method with a more straightforward way. multisort.pro below does both.

> Jeremy's method is twice as fast for large arrays. However, the two methods only give the same result for smallish arrays.

```
>
> Any ideas what's going on?
>
> ;;;;;;;;;;; EXAMPLES ;;;;;;;;;;;
> multisort, round(randomu(s,20,1e1)*10)
> ; 1
> ; 0.00027489662 0.00026106834
>
> multisort, round(randomu(s,20,1e2)*10)
> ; 0
> ; 0.00072312355 0.00039005280
>
>
> ;;;;;;;;;;; CODE ;;;;;;;;;;;
> PRO multisort, matrix
>
> compile_opt idl2
>
>
> matrixshape = size(matrix, /dimen)
>
> t1 = systime(1)
>
>
> ; this gives you the range of each column:
> matrixord = lonarr(matrixshape)
> for i=0L,matrixshape[0]-1 do matrixord[i,*] = ord(matrix[i,*])
> ordmax = max(matrixord, dimen=2)
>
> ; what do you need to multiply by to get a unique range?
> column_multiply = [reverse(product(reverse(ordmax[1:]*+1), /int, /cumul)), 1]
>
> ; create a unique key and sort on it
> sortkey = total(matrixord * rebin(column_multiply,matrixshape, /sample), /int, 1)
> newmatrix = matrix[*, sort(sortkey)]
> t2 = systime(1)
>
>
> newmatrix2 = matrix
```

```
> FOR i = matrixshape[0]-1, 0, -1 DO BEGIN  
>   s = bsort(newmatrix2[i, *]); use bsort which maintains order of identical elements  
>   newmatrix2 = newmatrix2[*, s]  
> ENDFOR  
> t3 = systime(1)  
>  
> print, array_equal( newmatrix, newmatrix2)  
>  
> print, t3-t2, t2-t1  
>  
>  
> RETURN  
> END  
>
```

Bwahahah.... oh dear.

The problem is that in this case, column_multiply ends up being a LONG64 in order to fit the maximum value of the PRODUCT. But when you multiply:

matrixord * rebin(column_multiply, matrixshape, /sample)
the values are larger than the maximum LONG64... and wrap around to become negative numbers!

```
IDL> print, minmax(matrixord)  
      0      10  
IDL> print, minmax(column_multiply)  
      1  5054470284992937710  
IDL> print, minmax(matrixord * rebin(column_multiply, matrixshape, /sample))  
-8337803503723676196  8596744417517336158  
IDL> help, matrixord, column_multiply  
MATRIXORD    LONG    = Array[20, 100]  
COLUMN_MULTIPLY LONG64  = Array[20]
```

In principle there are 10^{20} possible rows, and it's trying to make sure it has a unique integer for each possibility.

I guess my advice is to cap it at 19 columns and maybe do it in chunks if there are more columns.

-Jeremy.
