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Subject: Re: How to improve the efficiency of IDL on cluster  
Posted by [Kenneth Bowman](#) on Tue, 04 Jun 2013 21:26:42 GMT  
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On 2013-06-03 15:09:00 +0000, Chang Liao said:

> Hi!  
> I am currently running IDL on a Linux cluster.  
> Due to the massive mount of remote sensing dataset, it takes days to  
> finish just one year's calculation.  
> I can specific the computer node, memory(48G/96G), and cores(24 cores)  
> for my QBS job. So I am thinking shall I use multi-threading or other  
> ways to speedup the calculation.  
> Does anyone have any suggestion or experience in this related topics, I  
> couldn't find too much on Exelis or Google. I do remember IDL has some  
> demo in earlier version, but it's gone in IDL 8.0 +.  
>  
> Please help, thanks in advance!

You can get some benefit from multi-threading, and you can go to fully parallel, as Mike Galloy suggests, but first, can you trivially parallelize the job by splitting it into independent parts. Such as, process January as one job and February as a separate job?

If so, and memory permitting, you will probably do much better than multi-threading.

And, of course, always vectorize first, as Craig suggested.

Ken Bowman

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