Subject: Re: Merits of different ways of 'extending' arrays
Posted by David Fanning on Thu, 29 Aug 2013 16:29:43 GMT
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AMS writes:

> This has the drawback that I have to know in advance the maximum number of data points I could have (but I can set max_points to some arbitrary high number to be safe). Does anyone know whether any one method is better/less memory-intensive than the other, when it comes to largeish data volumes (tens of millions of points)? I only have a few percent of the final data so far, so am interested in the likely merits of each method. Google didn't help but perhaps I was using
the wrong search keywords.

You are MUCH better off to allocate memory in large chucks and then trim
or add to your arrays (in more large chunks) as necessary. This will
keep you from fragmenting your memory space, which is the single biggest
problem when working with large arrays.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.idlcoyote.com/
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")