
Subject: Re: Merits of different ways of 'extending' arrays
Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Thu, 29 Aug 2013 16:59:51 GMT
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Thanks; happily, this was a simple recode to make. :)

Andy

On Thursday, August 29, 2013 12:29:43 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:

> AMS writes:

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>> 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

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> the wrong search keywords.

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> You are MUCH better off to allocate memory in large chunks and then trim

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> or add to your arrays (in more large chunks) as necessary. This will

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> keep you from fragmenting your memory space, which is the single biggest

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> problem when working with large arrays.

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> Cheers,

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> David

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- > David Fanning, Ph.D.
 - >
 - > Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
 - >
 - > Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
 - >
 - > Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
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