
Subject: Re: Initialize new variable array with nan or -9999 values

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 21 Feb 2014 14:58:04 GMT

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John Correia writes:

```
> MAKE_ARRAY is faster on my machine:
>
> IDL> tic
> IDL> for i=0,9 do a=fltarr(1000,1000,100)-9999.
> IDL> toc
> IDL> help, a
>
> Elapsed time is 3.018326s
> A          FLOAT    = Array[1000, 1000, 100]
>
> IDL> tic
> IDL> for i=0,9 do a=make_array(1000,1000,100,value=-9999.)
> IDL> toc
> IDL> help, a
>
> Elapsed time is 2.075103s
> A          FLOAT    = Array[1000, 1000, 100]
>
> IDL> print,!version
> { x86_64 linux unix linux 8.2 Apr 10 2012    64
>    64}
```

I think you have to be a little careful how you do this experiment. But, starting IDL from scratch each time (.reset) and then running the Make_Array method or the Add-To method, I get these results on my Windows 64-bit machine with IDL 8.2.3:

Make_Array Method: 1.572

Add-To Method: 1.811

Maybe 15% faster. I don't think I would be losing sleep over it. :-)

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.")
