
Subject: Array operation question

Posted by [Edd Edmondson](#) on Fri, 07 Feb 2003 12:08:54 GMT

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It's yet another question about how to get an efficient operation on an array:

I have one array

`q=[num1,num2,num3,num4]`

and an array

`r=[ [num1a,num1b,num1c...],[num2a,num2b..],[num3a...],[num4a..] ]`

and I want to find `w=r-q` such that

`w=[ [num1a-num1,num1b-num1,num1c-num1...],[num2a-num2..],[num3a- num3..].]`

Is there an efficient way of doing it without expanding `q` so that it is the same dimension as `r`? That'd be very expensive in terms of memory for me, unfortunately. I could loop over the 4 elements of `q` and `r` and do that seperately but I'd quite like to eliminate that last loop.

I've tried various things but all fall victim to the 'feature' mentioned earlier that IDL will make the result have the dimensions of the smaller array.

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Edd
