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Subject: Help requested in eradicating FOR loops  
Posted by [dplatten](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2007 16:06:26 GMT  
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Dear IDL users,

I would really appreciate some help in removing a nested FOR loop.

```
FOR x=0, image_width-1 DO BEGIN
  FOR y=0, image_height-1 DO BEGIN
    ; Write the current pixel value
    results[(x*mtf_region_height)+y, 1] = image[x,y]
    ; Calculate the distance of the current pixel from the
line defined
by the
    ; two points (x1, y1) and (x2, y2).
    results[(x*image_height)+y, 0] = ( (y1-y2)*x + (x2-
x1)*y + (x1*y2 -
x2*y1) ) / SQRT( (x2-x1)^2 + (y2-y1)^2 )
  ENDFOR
ENDFOR
```

'image' is a 2d image array

I want to work out the distance of each pixel from a line that is defined by the two points (x1, y1), (x2, y2) and store this distance, together with the pixel value in a 'results' array. The 'results' array has the dimensions [(image\_height\*image\_width), 2].

The above bit of code works but is a bit slow.

Any advice would be much appreciated.

Thanks,

David  
Northampton, UK

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Subject: Re: Help requested in eradicating FOR loops  
Posted by [Spon](#) on Tue, 18 Dec 2007 13:23:32 GMT  
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On Dec 18, 11:00 am, dplat...@gmail.com wrote:

```
>> Off the top of my head:
>> 1-reform the points to match the size of the image: x1 =
>> reform(x1,image_height,image_width)
>> 2-make in "index" array: idx = findgen(image_height,image_width)
>> 3-make x-index and y-index arrays: x = idx mod image_height & y = idx/
```

```

>> image_height (or maybe those should be image_width?)
>> 4-do the calculation: distance = ( (y1-y2)*x + (x2-x1)*y + (x1*y2-
>> x2*y1) ) / SQRT( (x2-x1)^2 + (y2-y1)^2 )
>> 5-put together the results matrix: results =
>> [[reform(image,image_height*image_width)],[distance]] (I'd have to
>> check the brackets, I always do)
>
> Thanks for the reply - as I understand it I need to make an array to
> hold x pixel positions and one to hold y pixel positions. For a 4 x 6
> array they would look like this:
>
> x locations: [0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3]
> y locations: [0,0,0,0, 1,1,1,1, 2,2,2,2, 3,3,3,3, 4,4,4,4, 5,5,5,5]
>
> I can make the x array by doing this:
>
> test_image = findgen(4, 6) ; a dummy test "image"
> temp = findgen(4 * 6)
> x_locations = temp mod 4
>
> but I am having problems creating the y locations array. Some help
> would be appreciated.
>
> Thanks, David

```

```
y_locations = fix(temp) / 4
```

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Subject: Re: Help requested in eradicating FOR loops  
 Posted by [dplatten](#) on Wed, 19 Dec 2007 15:57:15 GMT  
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```

On Dec 18, 1:23 pm, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Dec 18, 11:00 am, dplat...@gmail.com wrote:
>
>
>
>>> Off the top of my head:
>>> 1-reform the points to match the size of the image: x1 =
>>> reform(x1,image_height,image_width)
>>> 2-make in "index" array: idx = findgen(image_height,image_width)
>>> 3-make x-index and y-index arrays: x = idx mod image_height & y = idx/
>>> image_height (or maybe those should be image_width?)
>>> 4-do the calculation: distance = ( (y1-y2)*x + (x2-x1)*y + (x1*y2-
>>> x2*y1) ) / SQRT( (x2-x1)^2 + (y2-y1)^2 )
>>> 5-put together the results matrix: results =
>>> [[reform(image,image_height*image_width)],[distance]] (I'd have to
>>> check the brackets, I always do)

```

```

>
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>> hold x pixel positions and one to hold y pixel positions. For a 4 x 6
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>> x locations: [0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3, 0,1,2,3]
>> y locations: [0,0,0,0, 1,1,1,1, 2,2,2,2, 3,3,3,3, 4,4,4,4, 5,5,5,5]
>
>> I can make the x array by doing this:
>
>> test_image = findgen(4, 6) ; a dummy test "image"
>> temp = findgen(4 * 6)
>> x_locations = temp mod 4
>
>> but I am having problems creating the y locations array. Some help
>> would be appreciated.
>
>> Thanks, David
>
> y_locations = fix(temp) / 4

```

Thanks for the response. I initially was using  
y\_locations = REFORM( ROTATE( REFORM(temp MOD 6, 6, 4), 1), 4\*6)  
which does work, but your suggestion is much more elegant!

I have found that this works a bit better:  
y\_locations = FLOOR(temp / 4)

Many thanks for the friendly help.

David

Subject: Re: Help requested in eradicating FOR loops  
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Wed, 19 Dec 2007 16:18:04 GMT  
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```

>> y_locations = fix(temp) / 4

```

```

> I have found that this works a bit better:
> y_locations = FLOOR(temp / 4)

```

It is exactly the same thing.... since fix() simply removes the  
decimals (if used with no TYPE keyword), it acts like floor!

Jean

Subject: Re: Help requested in eradicating FOR loops  
Posted by [Kenneth Bowman](#) on Wed, 19 Dec 2007 21:45:05 GMT  
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In article <fkgb7s\$vb1\$1@news.ualgary.ca>,  
Jean H <jghasban@DELTHIS.ualgary.ANDTHIS.ca> wrote:

```
>>> y_locations = fix(temp) / 4
>
>> I have found that this works a bit better:
>> y_locations = FLOOR(temp / 4)
>
> It is exactly the same thing.... since fix() simply removes the
> decimals (if used with no TYPE keyword), it acts like floor!
>
> Jean
```

Be careful, FLOOR and FIX (or LONG) are not the same thing.

```
IDL> print, floor(3.5)
      3
IDL> print, long(3.5)
      3
IDL> print, floor(-3.5)
     -4
IDL> print, long(-3.5)
     -3
```

Cheers, Ken Bowman

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Subject: Re: Help requested in eradicating FOR loops  
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2007 03:02:01 GMT  
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Kenneth Bowman wrote:

```
> In article <fkgb7s$vb1$1@news.ualgary.ca>,  
> Jean H <jghasban@DELTHIS.ualgary.ANDTHIS.ca> wrote:  
>  
>>>> y_locations = fix(temp) / 4  
>>> I have found that this works a bit better:  
>>> y_locations = FLOOR(temp / 4)  
>> It is exactly the same thing.... since fix() simply removes the  
>> decimals (if used with no TYPE keyword), it acts like floor!  
>>  
>> Jean  
>
```

```
> Be careful, FLOOR and FIX (or LONG) are not the same thing.  
>  
> IDL> print, floor(3.5)  
>      3  
> IDL> print, long(3.5)  
>      3  
> IDL> print, floor(-3.5)  
>     -4  
> IDL> print, long(-3.5)  
>     -3  
>  
>  
> Cheers, Ken Bowman
```

oops... thanks for pointing that... thesis writing is bad for coding  
details memory :-)

Jean

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