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Subject: Re: array concatenation in 2-D

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 18:57:21 GMT

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elwood writes:

> How do i achieve this without knowing the array size??

Pointers. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming ([www.dfanning.com](http://www.dfanning.com))

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: array concatenation in 2-D

Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 19:27:03 GMT

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"elwood" <[epolomsk@uwsp.edu](mailto:epolomsk@uwsp.edu)> wrote in message  
news:16c1abdd-df95-48b4-8bde-3310d5d19409@c65g2000hsa.google groups.com...

>

> I have a loop which calculates two variables x[i] and y[i]

>

> At each iteration of the loop I calculate

> x and y

> And I'd like to concatenate x and y into a 2 column, unknown numbers

> of rows

> output array.

> I'd like to dynamically grow the output array at each iteration.

>

> For example:

> x=1 y=5 on first iteration

> x=2, y=6 on 2nd iteration

> I want an output array that looks like the below:

>

> 1     5

> 2     6

>

If it is always 2 columns by whatever rows, then just concatenate the arrays.

(you may have to do some transposes)

If there is a variable number of columns, then as David says, pointers.

Cheers,  
bob

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Subject: Re: array concatenation in 2-D  
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 19:31:13 GMT  
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elwood wrote:

```
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> 1    5
> 2    6
>
> How do i achieve this without knowing the array size??
>
>
> Tx!
> -Elisha
```

Elisha,  
You can concatenate the arrays, as you suggest:

```
a = [[1,2],[3,4]]
a = [[a],[5,6]]
help,a
==>A INT = Array[2, 3]
```

However, if you have many elements, this can be very resources consuming. Another option is to create a "big" 2\*n array, to progressively fill it, to keep a counter on the number of entries, and finally to cut what you haven't used.... and similarly, if your array is

not big enough, add a large number of rows and keep filling them (use the same concatenation method as above)

Jean

---

---

Subject: Re: array concatenation in 2-D

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 19:40:09 GMT

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R.G. Stockwell writes:

- > If it is always 2 columns by whatever rows, then just concatenate the
- > arrays.
- > (you may have to do some tranposes)
- >
- > If there is a variable number of columns, then as David says, pointers.

Oh, here (for those you don't have time to read the Dimensional Juggling and Pointer tutorials):

PRO Example

```
arrayptr = Ptr_New()
```

```
seed = -3L
```

```
FOR j=0,9 DO BEGIN
```

```
  points = Randomu(seed, 2)
```

```
  Print, 'Points: ', points
```

```
  IF j EQ 0 THEN $
```

```
    arrayptr = Ptr_New(points) ELSE $
```

```
    *arrayptr = [[Temporary(*arrayptr)],[points]]
```

```
ENDFOR
```

```
Print, 'Print Values in Pointer'
```

```
Print, *arrayPtr
```

```
Ptr_Free, arrayPtr
```

```
END
```

Results in:

```
Points:  0.897916  0.558249
Points:  0.766930  0.589101
Points:  0.0603181 0.973112
Points:  0.0378892 0.218058
Points:  0.142394  0.984703
Points:  0.894904  0.947651
Points:  0.804079  0.160385
Points:  0.208246  0.818130
Points:  0.103716  0.741117
```

Points: 0.0134482 0.0960160

Print Values in Pointer

0.897916	0.558249
0.766930	0.589101
0.0603181	0.973112
0.0378892	0.218058
0.142394	0.984703
0.894904	0.947651
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0.103716	0.741117
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Cheers,

David

--

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Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---

Subject: Re: array concatenation in 2-D

Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 21:25:35 GMT

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On Apr 4, 3:31 pm, Jean H <[jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca](mailto:jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca)> wrote:

> elwood wrote:

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> Elisha,
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> However, if you have many elements, this can be very resources
> consuming. Another option is to create a "big" 2*n array, to
> progressively fill it, to keep a counter on the number of entries, and
> finally to cut what you haven't used.... and similarly, if your array is
> not big enough, add a large number of rows and keep filling them (use
> the same concatenation method as above)
>
```

Hi,

As a second to the method Jean suggests, you might want to consider using Mike Galloy's collections objects which are efficient resizable buckets for holding data. Check it out at ...

<http://michaelgalloy.com/2006/04/24/collection-package-mgarraylist.html>

Cheers,  
Ben

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Subject: Re: array concatenation in 2-D  
Posted by [elwood](#) on Wed, 09 Apr 2008 01:19:27 GMT  
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On Apr 4, 2:31 pm, Jean H <[jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca](mailto:jghas...@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca)> wrote:

```
> elwood wrote:
>> I have a loop which calculates two variables x[i] and y[i]
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> progressively fill it, to keep a counter on the number of entries, and
> finally to cut what you haven't used.... and similarly, if your array is
> not big enough, add a large number of rows and keep filling them (use
> the same concatenation method as above)
>
> Jean

```

Alas, this is a form of concatenation, but it does not produce the required results.

I need to concatenate by COLUMN, not row.

If I code the concatenation you show, it produces:

column 1:

```

1 2
3 4
5 6

```

Whereas I need it to paste the columns together such that I

get

```

1 3 5
2 4 6

```

To be specific, each iteration of the loop

I calculate new values of x and y

I want to do the following, but using concatenation

outputarray[0,0]=x1

```
outputarry[1,0]=y1
```

next iteration

```
outputarry[0,1]=x2
```

```
outputarry[1,1]=y2
```

to get a final array where x values are in column 0  
y values are in column 1

---