
Subject: Re: How to speed up code which checks lots of values of an array

Posted by on Thu, 13 Jan 2011 16:26:35 GMT

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On Jan 13, 5:06 pm, Robin Wilson <ro...@rtwilson.com> wrote:

```
> Hi all,
>
> I've been writing some code which checks that all of the values in one
> half of an array are less than a threshold, and all of the values on the
> right half of an array are greater than a threshold. I've written the
> code below, which seems to be a fairly clean way of writing it, and
> works for any length of array (which is important for my use of it).
>
> However, it's not very fast. I wondered if it might be able to be sped
> up using some sort of magic like the Histogram command... Any ideas?
>
> ---CODE---
> ; Assume we're given a 1D array called line with our values in it
>
> len = N_ELEMENTS(line)
>
> section_len = (len - 1) / 2
>
> ; Get the left-hand half of the array
> LHS = line[0:section_len - 1]
> RHS = line[section_len + 1: len - 1]
>
> res = WHERE(LHS GT 180, LHS_count)
> res = WHERE(RHS LT 180, RHS_count)
>
> IF LHS_count EQ 0 AND RHS_count EQ 0 THEN BEGIN
>   ; Do stuff
> ENDIF
>
> ---END CODE---
>
> Cheers,
>
> Robin
```

Hi Robin,

Try that:

```
IF(MAX(line[0:section_len - 1]) LE 180) AND (MIN(line[section_len + 1:
len - 1]) GE 180) THEN
  ; Do stuff
ENDIF
```

Subject: Re: How to speed up code which checks lots of values of an array

Posted by [Robin Wilson](#) on Thu, 13 Jan 2011 16:43:09 GMT

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```
>  
> IF(MAX(line[0:section_len - 1]) LE 180) AND (MIN(line[section_len + 1:  
> len - 1]) GE 180) THEN  
>   ; Do stuff  
> ENDIF
```

Thanks for the idea. That increases the speed a bit - the overall time decreases by about a second.

I guess I've made that bit as fast as possible, and I need to deal with the other speed issues with the code...like the fact that the code above is being run inside a FOR loop, which is not the 'IDL way'.

So, does anyone have any idea how the following could be implemented without my FOR loop. I'll describe it in words first, and post code later if people need it:

For each pixel in the image (so, nested FOR loops going over the rows and the columns):

 Get a single 1D line centered on the pixel in question (the length is configurable, so it could be a 5 pixel long line, or a 100 pixel long line)

 Run the code in the last post on the line
Loop

At the moment I am using a function to extract the X pixel long line from the image. I have a suspicion that this could be done using CONVOL, but I can't see how...Any ideas?

Cheers,

Robin

Subject: Re: How to speed up code which checks lots of values of an array

Posted by [ben.bighair](#) on Fri, 14 Jan 2011 00:59:50 GMT

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On 1/13/11 11:06 AM, Robin Wilson wrote:

```
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>  
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```

```

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> res = WHERE(LHS GT 180, LHS_count)
> res = WHERE(RHS LT 180, RHS_count)
>
> IF LHS_count EQ 0 AND RHS_count EQ 0 THEN BEGIN
> ; Do stuff
> ENDIF
>
> ---END CODE---
>

```

Hi,

I vaguely recall a discussion much like this from years ago - one of the wizards (Craig? JD?) suggested that using TOTAL would reduce the number of comparison scans required. For example, you have the comparison scan of the line inside the WHERE (or MAX) (LHS GE threshold) and then the scan by WHERE (or MAX) itself. Using TOTAL still requires two traversals of the line: one by (LHS GE threshold) and one by TOTAL, but TOTAL doesn't have the overhead of doing a comparison as it scans.

It seems to pan out pretty well in the test code below.

Cheers,
Ben

```

IDL> .comp line_test
% Compiled module: MAX_TEST.
% Compiled module: TOTAL_TEST.
% Compiled module: WHERE_TEST.
% Compiled module: LINE_TEST.
IDL> line_test
MAX_TEST

```

```
result = 1 1
elapsed = 1.0753469
```

```
TOTAL_TEST
result = 2489 2472
elapsed = 0.82091904
```

```
WHERE_TEST
result = 2489 2472
elapsed = 1.3972421
```

```
;----- START HERE
```

```
FUNCTION max_test, line, threshold
```

```
len = N_ELEMENTS(line)
```

```
section_len = (len - 1) / 2
```

```
LHS = line[0:section_len - 1]
```

```
RHS = line[section_len + 1: len - 1]
```

```
x = [MAX(LHS GE threshold), MAX(RHS LT threshold)]
```

```
return, x
```

```
END;
```

```
FUNCTION total_test, line, threshold
```

```
len = N_ELEMENTS(line)
```

```
section_len = (len - 1) / 2
```

```
LHS = line[0:section_len - 1]
```

```
RHS = line[section_len + 1: len - 1]
```

```
x = [TOTAL(LHS GE threshold, /INT), TOTAL(RHS LT threshold, /INT) ]
```

```
Return, x
```

```
END
```

```
FUNCTION where_test, line, threshold
```

```

len = N_ELEMENTS(line)

section_len = (len - 1) / 2

; Get the left-hand half of the array
LHS = line[0:section_len - 1]
RHS = line[section_len + 1: len - 1]

res = WHERE(LHS GE threshold, LHS_count)
res = WHERE(RHS LT threshold, RHS_count)

x = [LHS_count, RHS_count]

return, x

END

```

PRO line_test

```

N = 10000
thresh = 180
x = RANDOMU(s, N) * (thresh * 2)

t0 = Systime(/SEC)
for i = 0L, N do mx = max_test(x, thresh)
dt_mx = Systime(/SEC) - t0

t0 = Systime(/SEC)
for i = 0L, N do tot = total_test(x, thresh)
dt_tot = Systime(/SEC) - t0

t0 = Systime(/SEC)
for i = 0L, N do wh = where_test(x, thresh)
dt_wh = Systime(/SEC) - t0

PRINT, "MAX_TEST"
PRINT, " result = ", mx
PRINT, " elapsed = ", dt_mx
PRINT, " "
PRINT, "TOTAL_TEST"
PRINT, " result = ", tot
PRINT, " elapsed = ", dt_tot
PRINT, " "
PRINT, "WHERE_TEST"
PRINT, " result = ", wh
PRINT, " elapsed = ", dt_wh

```

END;

;---- END HERE

Subject: Re: How to speed up code which checks lots of values of an array

Posted by [jkeller](#) on Fri, 14 Jan 2011 10:23:46 GMT

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When working with images/arrays needing a lot of comparisons I usually
calculate a field like

mask=(a GT 120)

and use this to manipulate the array with this mask:

$b = a * \text{mask} - 100 + a * (1 - \text{mask}) + 100$

Sincerely,

Jan
