

---

Subject: Re: Another "IDL way to do this" question  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 08 Nov 2011 15:00:22 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Fabzou writes:

> This works fine, but is not very fast.

I guess I wouldn't expect 3D interpolation to be inherently fast, but have you tried GridData with this problem?

I don't know if it would be faster, but I usually assume anything is faster than three FOR loops. ;-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---

---

Subject: Re: Another "IDL way to do this" question  
Posted by [Fabzou](#) on Tue, 08 Nov 2011 16:38:30 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On 11/08/2011 04:00 PM, David Fanning wrote:

> I guess I wouldn't expect 3D interpolation to be inherently  
> fast, but have you tried GridData with this problem?  
> I don't know if it would be faster, but I usually assume  
> anything is faster than three FOR loops. ;-)

Well I thought about it, but then I've seen myself stupidly generating the required X, Y and time dimension indexes which are strictly regular and I stopped thinking too much. In my case, the memory access may be more a problem than the for loops themselves. (I interpolate on the third dimension of a 200\*200\*27\*24 array).

Thanks,

Fab

---

---

Subject: Re: Another "IDL way to do this" question

---

Posted by Brian Wolven on Tue, 08 Nov 2011 19:20:22 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Are your z values the same for each x-y-t slice? Would this help? Author/source info are in the header below.

```
;=====
=====
;+
; ROUTINE: findex
;
; PURPOSE: Compute "floating point index" into a table using binary
;           search. The resulting output may be used with INTERPOLATE.
;
; USEAGE: result = findex(u,v)
;
; INPUT:
;   u    a monitically increasing or decreasing 1-D grid
;   v    a scalar, or array of values
;
; OUTPUT:
;   result Floating point index. Integer part of RESULT(i) gives
;           the index into to U such that V(i) is between
;           U(RESULT(i)) and U(RESULT(i)+1). The fractional part
;           is the weighting factor
;
;           V(i)-U(RESULT(i))
; -----
;           U(RESULT(i)+1)-U(RESULT(i))
;
;
; DISCUSSION:
; This routine is used to expedite one dimensional
; interpolation on irregular 1-d grids. Using this routine
; with INTERPOLATE is much faster then IDL's INTERPOL
; procedure because it uses a binary instead of linear
; search algorithm. The speedup is even more dramatic when
; the same independent variable (V) and grid (U) are used
; for several dependent variable interpolations.
;
;
; EXAMPLE:
;
; ; In this example I found the FINDEX + INTERPOLATE combination
; ; to be about 60 times faster then INTERPOL.
;
; ; u=randomu(iseed,200000) & u=u(sort(u))
; ; v=randomu(iseed,10)    & v=v(sort(v))
```

```

; y=randomu(iseed,200000) & y=y(sort(y))
;
; t=systime(1) & y1=interpolate(y,findx(u,v)) & print,systime(1)-t
; t=systime(1) & y2=interpol(y,u,v)      & print,systime(1)-t
; print,f='(3(a,10f7.4/))','findx: ',y1,'interpol: ',y2,'diff: ',y1-y2
;
; AUTHOR: Paul Ricchiazzi          21 Feb 97
; Institute for Computational Earth System Science
; University of California, Santa Barbara
; paul@icess.ucsb.edu
;
; REVISIONS:
;
;
;-
;
;
=====
=====function findx,u,v
=====
=====
=====
nu = n_elements(u)
nv = n_elements(v)
us = u-shift(u,+1)
us = us(1:)
umx = max(us,min=umn)
if (umx gt 0) and (umn lt 0) then message,'u must be monotonic'
if (umx gt 0) then inc=1 else inc=0
=====
=====
; maxcomp = maximum number of binary search iterations
=====
=====
maxcomp = fix(alog(float(nu))/alog(2.)+.5)
jlim = lonarr(2,nv)
jlim(0,:) = 0      ; array of lower limits
jlim(1,:) = nu-1    ; array of upper limits
iter = 0
repeat begin
  jj = (jlim[0,:]+jlim[1,:])/2
  ii = where(v ge u[jj],n) & if (n gt 0) then jlim(1-inc,ii) = jj[ii]
  ii = where(v lt u[jj],n) & if (n gt 0) then jlim(inc,ii) = jj[ii]
  jdif = max(jlim[1,:]-jlim[0,:])
  if iter gt maxcomp then begin
    print,maxcomp,iter, jdif
    message,'binary search failed'
  endif

```

```
iter = iter+1
endrep until jdif eq 1
w = v-v
w[*] = (v-u[jlim[0,*]])/(u[jlim[0,*]+1]-u[jlim[0,*]]) + jlim[0,*]
return,w
end
```

---

Subject: Re: Another "IDL way to do this" question  
Posted by [Fabzou](#) on Wed, 09 Nov 2011 09:00:36 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi Brian,

On 11/08/2011 08:20 PM, Brian Wolven wrote:

> Are your z values the same for each x-y-t slice?  
>

No, that's the same problem than with Jeremy Bailin. I am sorry I was not clear enough in my first post...

Thanks a lot,

Fab

```
>
> =====
=====
> ;+
> ; ROUTINE: findex
> ;
> ; PURPOSE: Compute "floating point index" into a table using binary
> ;           search. The resulting output may be used with INTERPOLATE.
> ;
> ; USEAGE: result = findex(u,v)
> ;
> ; INPUT:
> ;   u    a monitically increasing or decreasing 1-D grid
> ;   v    a scalar, or array of values
> ;
> ; OUTPUT:
> ;   result Floating point index. Integer part of RESULT(i) gives
> ;           the index into to U such that V(i) is between
> ;           U(RESULT(i)) and U(RESULT(i)+1). The fractional part
> ;           is the weighting factor
> ;
> ;                           V(i)-U(RESULT(i))
```

```

> ; -----
> ;          U(RESULT(i)+1)-U(RESULT(i))
> ;
> ;
> ;
> ; DISCUSSION:
> ;      This routine is used to expedite one dimensional
> ;      interpolation on irregular 1-d grids. Using this routine
> ;      with INTERPOLATE is much faster then IDL's INTERPOL
> ;      procedure because it uses a binary instead of linear
> ;      search algorithm. The speedup is even more dramatic when
> ;      the same independent variable (V) and grid (U) are used
> ;      for several dependent variable interpolations.
> ;
> ;
> ; EXAMPLE:
> ;
> ;;; In this example I found the FINDEX + INTERPOLATE combination
> ;;; to be about 60 times faster then INTERPOL.
> ;
> ; u=randomu(iseed,200000)& u=u(sort(u))
> ; v=randomu(iseed,10)& v=v(sort(v))
> ; y=randomu(iseed,200000)& y=y(sort(y))
> ;
> ; t=systime(1)& y1=interpolate(y,findex(u,v))& print,systime(1)-t
> ; t=systime(1)& y2=interpol(y,u,v)& print,systime(1)-t
> ; print,f='(3(a,10f7.4/))','findex: ',y1,'interpol: ',y2,'diff: ',y1-y2
> ;
> ; AUTHOR: Paul Ricchiazzi           21 Feb 97
> ;       Institute for Computational Earth System Science
> ;       University of California, Santa Barbara
> ;       paul@icess.ucsb.edu
> ;
> ; REVISIONS:
> ;
> ;-
> ;
> ;=====
=====
```

> function findex,u,v

> =====

> =====

> =====

>   nu = n\_elements(u)

>   nv = n\_elements(v)

>   us = u-shift(u,+1)

>   us = us(1:\*)

>   umx = max(us,min=umn)

```

> if (umx gt 0) and (umn lt 0) then message,'u must be monotonic'
> if (umx gt 0) then inc=1 else inc=0
> =====
=====
> ; maxcomp = maximum number of binary search iterations
> =====
=====
> maxcomp = fix(alog(float(nu))/alog(2.)+.5)
> jlim = lonarr(2,nv)
> jlim(0,*) = 0      ; array of lower limits
> jlim(1,*) = nu-1   ; array of upper limits
> iter = 0
> repeat begin
>   jj = (jlim[0,*]+jlim[1,*])/2
>   ii = where(v ge u[jj],n)& if (n gt 0) then jlim(1-inc,ii) = jj[ii]
>   ii = where(v lt u[jj],n)& if (n gt 0) then jlim(inc,ii) = jj[ii]
>   jdif = max(jlim[1,*]-jlim[0,*])
>   if iter gt maxcomp then begin
>     print,maxcomp,iter, jdif
>     message,'binary search failed'
>   endif
>   iter = iter+1
> endrep until jdif eq 1
> w = v-v
> w[*] = (v-u[jlim[0,*]])/(u[jlim[0,*]+1]-u[jlim[0,*]]) + jlim[0,*]
> return,w
> end

```

---