
Subject: collapsing 3-d arrays

Posted by [deb](#) on Wed, 10 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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I have a pretty large 3-D data array (~10 million pts). I'd like to collapse the data and look at a 2-d image that contains the max value encountered along the third coordinate. I can write a nested loop that looks thru the array and pulls out the max data value along the z-axis for each x,y coordinate pair, but that's pretty cumbersome. It seems like IDL should have a built-in function for doing this kind of thing, but i can't seem to find it. The project_vol command looks like it might do what i want but i can't seem to convince it to give projections along the (x,y), (x,z) and/or (y,z) planes..it does some weird pseudo-isometric thing. Does anyone have any hints on how to accomplish this efficiently within IDL?

Subject: Re: collapsing 3-d arrays

Posted by [hahn](#) on Thu, 11 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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deb <summa@lanl.gov> wrote:

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> collapse
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> x,y coordinate pair, but that's pretty cumbersome. It seems like IDL
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> a built-in function for doing this kind of thing, but i can't seem to
> find it.

The IDL function is MAX. It accepts an array as argument and returns a scalar. Thus you need two nested loops to make a 2-d matrix.

Let's assume your 3-D data array is named D3, you may write:

```
si = size ( D3 )
```

```
D2 = fltarr(si(1),si(2), /nozero)
```

```
for i=0,si(1)-1 do begin
  for j=0,si(2)-1 do      D2(i,j) = max ( D3(i,j,* ) )
endfor
```

Hope this helps
Norbert

Subject: Re: collapsing 3-d arrays
Posted by [paritosh](#) on Sun, 14 Jul 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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Perhaps VOXEL_PROJ with maximum_intensity keyword
will be appropriate built-in function.

Paritosh
