
Subject: Re: Fast matrix filling in IDL
Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 11 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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Timm Weitkamp (weitkamp@my-dejanews.com) writes:

> What is the fastest way of filling a matrix with identical
> column vectors in IDL?
>
> More precisely, if A is a float matrix (m x n) and V is
> a vector with m elements, is there a faster way than
>
> FOR i=0,n-1 DO A[:,i]=V ?

I don't know about "fastest", but

```
vector = Replicate(1, n)
array = V ## vector
```

is about 5 times faster for a 1000 by 500 array.
Here is my example program:

```
***** *
PRO TEST

array = Fltarr(1000, 500)
v = RandomU(seed, 1000)

time = systime(1)
FOR i=0,500-1 DO array[:,i] = v
Print, 'Time for Loop: ', systime(1) - time

time = systime(1)
vector = Replicate(1, 500)
array = v ## vector
Print, 'Time for Matrix Operations: ', systime(1) - time
END
***** *
```

And the results:

```
IDL> test
Time for Loop:          0.10000002
Time for Matrix Operations: 0.019999981
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
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Subject: Re: Fast matrix filling in IDL
Posted by [Phillip & Suzanne](#) on Sat, 12 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

```
>
> Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan (steinhh@ulrik.uio.no) writes:
>>
>> A slight modification of David's program, and adding
>> my favourite speedup method:
>>
>> time = systime(1)
>> array = rebin(reform(v,m,1,/overwrite),m,n,/sample)
>> print, 'Time for Rebin Operations: ', systime(1) - time
>>
>> On { alpha OSF unix 5.2 Oct 30 1998}, this gives:
>>
>> Time for Loop:          0.27343702
>> Time for Matrix Operations:  0.093750000
>> Time for Rebin Operations:  0.067382932
>>
>> Note that the relative speeds can vary quite a lot on
>> different architectures.
>
> I guess. Here is what I get with Stein Vidar's modifications
> on my Windows NT machine:
>
> IDL> Print, !Version
> { x86 Win32 Windows 5.2 Oct 30 1998}
> IDL> test
> Time for Loop:    0.10000002
> Time for Matrix Operations:  0.019999981
> Time for Rebin Operations:  0.039999962
>
> The Rebin operations are twice as slow as the matrix operations.
> Hummm. Why!?
```

Here's another result from IDL 5.0.2 on the Mac:

Time for Loop: 0.30000007
Time for Matrix Operations: 0.13333333
Time for Rebin Operations: 0.50000000

Phillip

Subject: Re: Fast matrix filling in IDL
Posted by [davidf](#) on Sat, 12 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan (steinhh@ulrik.uio.no) writes:

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Posted by [steinhh](#) on Sat, 12 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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A slight modification of David's program, and adding
my favourite speedup method:

```
PRO TEST
  m = 1000
  n = 500

  array = Fltarr(m, n)
  v = RandomU(seed, m)

  time = systime(1)
  FOR i=0,n-1 DO array[* ,i] = v
  Print, 'Time for Loop: ', systime(1) - time

  time = systime(1)
  vector = Replicate(1, n)
  array = v ## vector
  Print, 'Time for Matrix Operations: ', systime(1) - time

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Note that the relative speeds can vary quite a lot on
different architectures.

Regards,

Stein Vidar

Subject: Re: Fast matrix filling in IDL

Posted by [Kevin Ivory](#) on Mon, 14 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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> David F. wrote:

>

>> You must have some hot machine, Kevin. Add more zeros!

>>

>> Print, systime(1) - time, Format='(F20.18)'

Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan wrote:

>

> ..or maybe he's just got a very "slow" clock (coarse
> granularity). Try repeating the operations a few (10)
> times in one-line loops.

I just sent in a bug report this morning. As usual, it was rejected by RSI and forwarded to our local distributor, so it might take a few weeks before I hear about this again.

At least on my machine & configuration (SuSE 5.3 + glibc extentions), systime() only returns full seconds. The output of the IDL time test is real fun, so I'll include it here:

```
IDL> print,!version
```

```
{ x86 linux unix 5.2 Oct 30 1998}
```

```
IDL> time_test
```

```
% Compiled module: TIME_TEST.
```

```
TIME_TEST is obsolete.
```

```
Use the newer, more accurate, TIME_TEST2, contained in this file.
```

```
|TIME_TEST performance for IDL 5.2:
```

```
| OS_FAMILY=unix, OS=linux, ARCH=x86
```

```
1 0.00000 Empty For loop, 1 million times
2 1.00000 Call empty procedure (1 param) 100,000 times
3 0.00000 Add 100,000 integer scalars and store
4 1.00000 25,000 scalar loops each of 5 ops, 2 =, 1 if)
5 0.00000 Mult 512 by 512 byte by constant and store, 10 times
6 0.00000 Shift 512 by 512 byte and store, 10 times
7 0.00000 Add constant to 512 x 512 byte array and store, 10 times
8 0.00000 Add two 512 by 512 byte images and store, 10 times
9 0.00000 Mult 512 by 512 floating by constant and store, 10 times
10 0.00000 Add constant to 512 x 512 floating and store, 10 times
11 1.00000 Add two 512 by 512 floating images and store, 10 times
12 0.00000 Invert a 100 by 100 random matrix
13 0.00000 Transpose 256 x 256 byte, FOR loops
14 0.00000 Transpose 256 x 256 byte, row and column ops
15 1.00000 Transpose 256 x 256 byte, transpose function
16 0.00000 Log of 100,000 numbers, FOR loop
17 1.00000 Log of 100,000 numbers, vector ops
```

```
18 1.00000 Add two 100000 element floating vectors, FOR loop
19 0.00000 Add two 100000 element floating vectors, vector op
20 0.00000 65536 point real to complex FFT
21 0.00000 Smooth 512 by 512 byte array, 5x5 boxcar
22 0.00000 Smooth 512 by 512 floating array, 5x5 boxcar
% Compiled module: FILEPATH.
23 0.00000 Write and read 10 512 by 512 byte arrays
6.00000=Total Time, 9.2245592e-29=Geometric mean, 23 tests.
IDL>
```

Best regards,
Kevin Ivory

--

Kevin Ivory Tel: +49 5556 979 434
Max-Planck-Institut fuer Aeronomie Fax: +49 5556 979 240
Max-Planck-Str. 2 mailto:Kevin@Ivory.de
D-37191 Katlenburg-Lindau, GERMANY http://ivory.de/

Subject: Re: Fast matrix filling in IDL
Posted by [steinhh](#) on Mon, 14 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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David F. wrote:

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Stein Vidar

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Kevin Ivory (Kevin@Ivory.de) writes:

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> Wow, this is fun. Linux is infinitely faster on matrix and rebin, but
> *real* slow on loops:
>
> IDL> Print, !Version
> { x86 linux unix 5.2 Oct 30 1998}
```

```
> IDL> test
> Time for Loop:      1.0000000
> Time for Matrix Operations:  0.0000000
> Time for Rebin Operations:   0.0000000
>
> ??? Am I missing something?
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You must have some hot machine, Kevin. Add more zeros!

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