AquaFortR: Streamlining Atmospheric Science, Oceanography, Climate, and Water Research with Fortran-accelerated R

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Welcome to the enlightening journey through the pages of "AquaFortR: Streamlining Atmospheric Science, Oceanography, Climate, and Water Research with Fortran-accelerated R". In this book, you will gain invaluable insights into seamlessly integrating Fortran into R scripts by harnessing the power of Fortran. You will acquire invaluable insights into how to speed up your package using simple C and Fortran codes. Furthermore, you will accumulate tweaks to further accelerate your scripts or packages, and further reading will prove to be both advantageous and highly beneficial for further optimization, and efficiency.

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Preface

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Chapter 1

Introduction

This chapter briefly introduces the R programming language and how to install R on different operating systems. Furthermore, we will have a look at the installation of RStudio. Finally, we will learn briefly about Fortran.

The book is designed to cater to individuals with a foundational understanding of programming, irrespective of their familiarity with a specific programming language.

1.1 R

R is a powerful and versatile open-source language and environment for statistical computing and graphics (R Core Team, 2023). R was developed to facilitate data manipulation, exploration, and visualisation, providing various statistical and graphical tools.

The R environment is designed for effective data handling, array and matrix operations, and is a well-developed and simple programming language (R Core Team, 2023). Its syntax is concise and expressive, making it an accessible language for newbies and seasoned programmers. R can perform tasks either by executing scripts or interactively. The latter is advantageous for beginners and during the first stages of script development. The interactive environment is accessible through command lines or various integrated development environments (IDEs), such RStudio.

Many factors play an important role in the popularity of R. For example, the ability to produce graphics with a publication's quality. Simultaneously, the users maintain full control over customising the plots according to their preferences and intricate details. Another significant factor is its ability to be extended to fit the user's demand. The Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN) contains an extensive array of libraries and packages to extend R's functionality for various tasks. With over 20447 available packages, the CRAN package repository is a testament to R's versatility and adaptability.

Tidyverse is the most popular bundle of R packages for data science. It was developed by Hadley Wickham and his team. The common shared design among tidyverse packages increases the consistency across functions and makes each new function or package a little easier to comprehend and utilise (Wickham et al., 2023).

Many packages have been developed for spatial data analysis to address various challenging tasks. R-spatial provides a rich set of packages for handling spatial or spatio-temporal data. For example, sf provides simple features access in R, which is a standardized method for encoding spatial vector data. The stars package aims to handle spatiotemporal arrays. Additionally, the terra package works with spatial data and has the ability to process large datasets on the disk when loading into memory (RAM) is not feasible.

Furthermore, research produces a large data sets; therefore, it is essential to store them according to the FAIR principles (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reuse of digital assets; Wilkinson et al. (2016)). NetCDF and HDF5 are among the most prominent scientific data formats owing to their numerous capabilities. The R package ncdf4 delivers a high-level R interface to data files written using Unidata's netCDF library. Additionally, rhdf5 provides an interface between HDF5 and R.

Regarding the integration of other programming languages, R has diverse interfaces, which are either a fundamental implementation of R or attainable via another R package (Chambers, 2016). The fundamental interfaces are .Call(), .C(), and .Fortran() to C and Fortran. The development of the Rcpp package has revolutionised seamless access to C++. Python is also accessible using the reticulate package. Finally, the Java interface was granted using the rJava package.

In conclusion, R is a valuable tool in the Earth System, as it can effectively tackle multifarious scientific tasks and address numerous outstanding research inquiries.

1.2 Fortran

Fortran, short for **For**mula **Tran**slation, is one of the oldest high-level programming languages. It was first developed in the 1950s, and is nonetheless widely used in scientific and engineering applications. Key features of Fortran include its ability to efficiently handle arrays and matrices, making it well-suited for numerical computations. Additionally, Fortran has a simple and straightforward syntax that makes it easy to learn and use, because it is possible to write mathematical formulas almost as they written in mathematical texts (Metcalf et al., 2018).

Fortran has been revised multiple times, with the most recent iteration being Fortran 2023. Another important feature of Fortran is its support for parallel programming, enabling developers to take advantage of multicore processors and high-performance computing architectures.

1.3. INSTALLATION 7

There are frequently numerous good reasons to integrate different programming languages to achieve tasks. Interoperability with C programming language is a feature that was introduced with Fortran 95 (Metcalf et al., 2018). Given that C is widely used for system-level programming, many of the other languages include support for C. Therefore, the C Application Programming Interface (API) can also be used to connect two non-C languages (Chirila & Lohmann, 2014). For instance, in atmospheric modelling, Fortran is used for its high performance and capcity to handle large data sets, while C is utilised for its efficiency and control over memory usage.

Noteworthy, developing software using Fortran necessitates utilisation of its primitive procedures and developing from scratch. This is because Fortran is not similar to scripting languages (i.e. R) that requires a special environment (Masuda, 2020). However, Fortran is privileged with its persistent backward compatibility, resulting in the usability of countless (legacy) codes written decades ago.

Since R was designed to streamline data analysis and statistics (Wickham, 2015) and Fortran is renowned for its high performance, it makes seance to integrate the two languages. It should be noted that both programming languages present arrays in column-major order, which makes it easier to bridge without causing confusion. Additionally, R is developed using Fortran, C, and R programming languages, and it features .Call and .External() functions that allows users to utilise compiled code from other R packages.

Despite the development of newer programming languages, Fortran remains a popular choice for many scientists and engineers due to its reliability, efficiency, and ability to handle large amounts of data.

1.3 Installation

\mathbf{R}

Installation of R differs according to the operating system:

- The webpage here provides information on installing R according to the Linux distribution.
- For Windows, The executable can be downloaded from here. Additionally, Previous releases of R for Windows exit.
- For macOS, various releases and versions are accessible here.

RStudio

As mentioned earlier, RStudio is an IDE for R. Although it is the most prominent, other IDEs exist, such as Jupyter Notebook and Visual Studio Code. In this book, RStudio will be the main IDE. To install Rstudio, visit the posit page to download the suitable installers.

Fortran

Fortran doesn't require an explicit installation, unlike interpreted languages such as R. The source code would be translated to the machine language using the Fortran compiler, and then it can be executed. Therefore, it is important to make sure that a Fortran compiler, i.e., the GNU Fortran (gfortran) compiler, exists in the working machine.

- In the majority of Linux distributions, the GCC compilers, including gfortran, come pre-installed.
- For Windows, installing RTools should ensure the existence of gfortran
- For macOS, binaires for gfortran are available here. Furthermore, more information is available on R for macOS here

Chapter 2

Accelerate R Scripts with Fortran

In this chapter, we will compare the efficiency of running three computationally demanding examples in pure R script versus using another R script with the core computations performed in Fortran.

2.1 2D Coss-Correlation

In signal processing, cross-correlation is a measure of the similarity between two signals as a function of the displacement of one relative to the other (Wang, 2019). It can deliver information about the time lag between the two signals. Cross-correlation is often applied in computer vision for visual tracking. For example, it is used in template matching, feature detection, and motion tracking. 2D cross-correlation also plays an important role in convolutional networks and machine learning.

In atmospheric science, oceanography, climate, and water research, 2D cross-correlation can be applied in various ways. For example, it can be used to estimate ocean surface currents (Warren et al., 2016), cloud tracking using satellite imagery (Seelig et al., 2021), and Particle Image Velocimetry (PIV) in fluid dynamics applications (Willert & Gharib, 1991).

The 2D cross-correlation of an array F, with dimension (M,N), and array G, with dimension (P,Q), can be given as the array CC that has a dimension of (M+P-1,N+Q-1).

$$CC_{(s,t)} = \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} F_{(m,n)} G_{(m-s,n-t)}$$
 (2.1)

where s varies between -(P-1) and (M-1) while t varies between -(Q-1) and (N-1). F and $G \in R$.

Now, let us define the xcorr2D_r function as shown in Listing 2.1. The function receives

two matrices or arrays a & b and return the full cross-correlation plane cc.

Moving forward, we can define the xcorr2d_f subroutine in Fortran as shown in Listing 2.2. Subroutines are generally the approach for integrating Fortran in R. Function in Fortran return a single value with no option of altering the input arguments, while subroutines have the ability to perform complex tasks while altering input arguments. This proofs to be helpful e.g., in solving equations system.

Another imperative point is to define the dimension of the arrays when passing them to Fortran (i.e. explicit-shape arrays). To illustrate, m, n, p, q, k, 1 are the dimension of input arrays aand b, and the out array cc.

Since Fortran is a compiled language, we need to save the subroutine in xcorr2D.f90 file and compile it using: R CMD SHLIB xcorr2D.f90

Note

Please use the terminal tab in Rstudio or open a new terminal using Alt+Shift+R

As mentioned earlier, we need to pass the dimension of the arrays to Fortran. Therefore, it would logical to write a wrapping function for Fortran subroutine that provides other input arguments.

In the wrapper function (Listing 2.3), we initially require loading the shared object, which is the compiled Fortran subroutine, as dyn.load("path/to/xcorr2D.so"). Furthermore, it is important to prepare other input variables for Fortran such as the dimensions of the input and output arrays. Imperatively, data types should be approached carefully. Before calling .Fortran(), all storage mode of the variables in R was converted to the appropriate type using either as.double() or as.integer(). If the wrong type is passed, it can result in a hard-to-catch error or unexpected results¹.

Example

Now, we can use an example to compare the performance of the two functions. In order to do so, microbenchmark package needs to be installed, and ggplot2 is required for plotting.

The obtained benchmarking data allows (mbm) for a quantitative comparison of the computational efficiency between the two methods. By printing "mbm" in the console (print(mbm)) it is evident that Fortran outperforms the R implementation of 2D cross-correlation by a factor of 10. The significance of leveraging Fortran becomes evident in Figure 2.1.

¹Writing R Extensions, 5.2 Interface functions .C and .Fortran

```
library(microbenchmark)
library(ggplot2)
set.seed(72)
# Assume a
a <- structure(runif(64), dim = c(8L, 8L))
# Assume b
b \leftarrow structure(runif(64), dim = c(8L, 8L))
mbm <- microbenchmark(</pre>
  xcorr2D_r = xcorr2D_r0(a, b),
 xcorr2D_f = xcorr2D_f0(a, b)
autoplot(mbm) +
  stat_summary(
    fun = "median",
    geom = "crossbar",
    width = 0.6,
    colour = "red"
  )
```

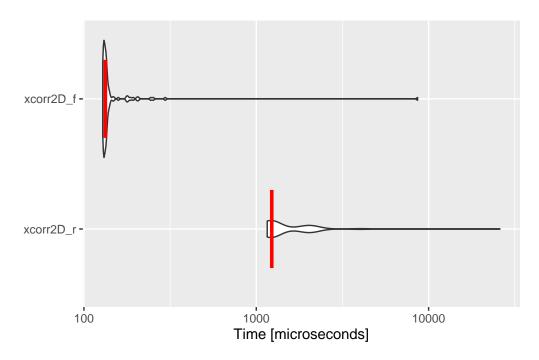


Figure 2.1: Performance comparison of 2D Cross-correlation in R and Fortran. Median is shown as red vertical line.

2.2 2D Convolution

Convolution and cross-correlation are both operations applied to images. Cross-correlation means sliding a kernel (filter) across an image while convolution means sliding a flipped kernel across an image. (Draelos, 2019). Therefore, the 2D convolution of an array F, with dimension (M, N), and array G, with dimension (P, Q), can be given as the array CC that has a dimension of (M + P - 1, N + Q - 1). hv means that G is flipped.

$$CC_{(s,t)} = \sum_{m=0}^{M-1} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} F_{(m,n)} G^{hv}_{(m-s,n-t)}$$

where s varies between -(P-1) and (M-1) while t varies between -(Q-1) and (N-1). F and $G \in \mathbb{R}$.

It is true that we can just flip the second array and use the functions from Section 2.1. However, we are interested in the complete workflow.

Listing 2.4

Listing 2.5

You might need some flags when compile Fortran subroutine, For example, to enable the generation of run-time check -fcheck=all. The code below shows two options to compile conv2D.f90 either by R or gfortran compiler.

```
# R
R CMD SHLIB conv2D.f90

# gfortran
gfortran -fpic -shared conv2D.f90 -o conv2D.so
```

Listing 2.6

Similar to cross-correlation calculation, the Fortran implementation of convolution outperforms the R one by

```
library(microbenchmark)
library(ggplot2)

set.seed(72)
# Assume a
a <- structure(runif(64), dim = c(8L, 8L))
# Assume b</pre>
```

```
b <- structure(runif(64), dim = c(8L, 8L))
mbm <- microbenchmark(
    conv2D_r = conv2D_r0(a, b),
    conv2D_f = conv2D_f0(a, b)
)

autoplot(mbm) +
    stat_summary(
    fun = "mean",
    geom = "crossbar",
    width = 0.6,
    colour = "red"
)</pre>
```

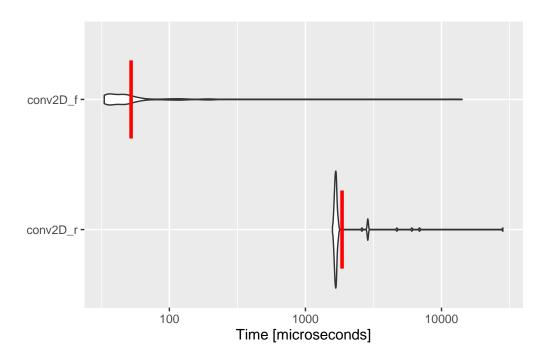


Figure 2.2: Performance comparison of 2D Convolution in R and Fortran. Median is shown as red vertical line.

Question

After learning about .Fortran() and .C64(), you can use one of the two examples above and compare the performance of the two interfaces using microbenchmark(). Which function is faster?

2.3 Convective Available Potential Energy (CAPE)

The maximum buoyancy of an undiluted air parcel, related to the potential up-draft strength of thunderstorms.

```
#|
if (!require(AquaFortR)) {
  remotes::install_github("AHomoudi/AquaFortR", subdir = "RPackage")
}
library(AquaFortR)
data("radiosonde")
Temperature <- radiosonde$temp + 273.15 # K
Dewpoint <- radiosonde$dpt + 273.15 # K
Pressure <- radiosonde$pressure # hPa
# Mixing ratio
MixingRatio <- mixing_ratio_from_dewpoint(Dewpoint, Pressure)</pre>
t_parcel <- Temperature[1]</pre>
dwpt_parcel <- Dewpoint[1]</pre>
mr parcel <- MixingRatio[1]</pre>
source("AquaFortR_Codes/cape_r.R")
source("AquaFortR_Codes/cape_f.R")
```

```
library(microbenchmark)
library(ggplot2)

mbm <- microbenchmark(
    cape_r = cape_r0(t_parcel, dwpt_parcel, mr_parcel,
        Pressure, Temperature, MixingRatio,
        vtc = TRUE
    ),
    cape_f = cape_f0(t_parcel, dwpt_parcel, mr_parcel,
        Pressure, Temperature, MixingRatio,
        vtc = TRUE
    )
)

autoplot(mbm) +
    stat_summary(</pre>
```

```
fun = "mean",
  geom = "crossbar",
  width = 0.3,
  colour = "green"
)
```

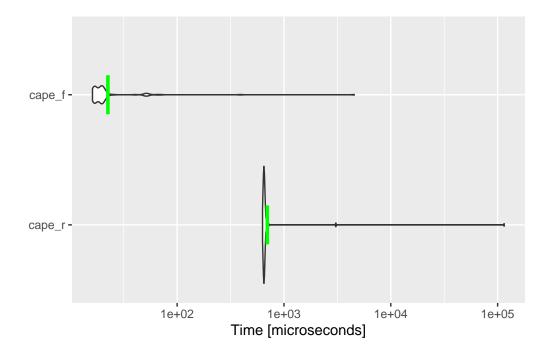


Figure 2.3: Performance comparison of CAPE in R and Fortran

https://www.f5wx.com/pages/CAPECalc.htm

https://geo.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Meteorology_and_Climate_Science/Practical_Meteorology_(

https://journals.ametsoc.org/view/journals/clim/33/6/jcli-d-19-0461.1.xml

 $https://www.weather.gov/source/zhu/ZHU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Page/convective_parameters/Sounding_Stuff/2HU_Training_Stuff/2H$

Listing 2.1 Cross-correlation in R

```
xcorr2D r0 <- function(a, b) {</pre>
  # the full CC matrix
  cc row \leftarrow nrow(a) + nrow(b) - 1
  cc_col \leftarrow ncol(a) + ncol(b) - 1
  cc <- matrix(1:c(cc_row * cc_col),</pre>
    byrow = FALSE, ncol = cc_col
  )
  # obtain possible shifts
  min row shift <- -(nrow(b) - 1)
  max_row_shift <- (nrow(a) - 1)</pre>
  min_col_shift <- -(ncol(b) - 1)
  max col shift <- (ncol(a) - 1)</pre>
  # Padded matrix
  rows padded <- abs(min row shift) +
    nrow(a) + abs(max row shift)
  cols_padded <- abs(min_col_shift) +</pre>
    ncol(a) + abs(max_col_shift)
  padded_a <- matrix(0,</pre>
    nrow = rows padded,
    ncol = cols_padded
  )
  padded a[
    (abs(min_row_shift) + 1):(abs(min_row_shift) + nrow(a)),
    (abs(min_col_shift) + 1):(abs(min_col_shift) + ncol(a))
  ] <- a
  for (icol in 1:cc_col) {
    for (irow in 1:cc row) {
      icc <- irow + ((icol - 1) * cc_row)</pre>
      cols \leftarrow (icol):(icol + ncol(b) - 1)
      rows <- (irow):(irow + nrow(b) - 1)
      # b
      padded b <- array(0,
        dim = c(rows_padded, cols_padded)
      padded_b[rows, cols] <- b</pre>
      cc[irow, icol] <- sum(padded_a * padded_b)</pre>
    }
  }
  return(cc)
```

Listing 2.2 Cross-correlation in Fortran

```
subroutine xcorr2d_f(m, n, p, q, k, l, a, b, cc)
   implicit none
   integer
                                           :: m, n, p, q, k, l
   double precision, dimension(m, n)
                                           :: a
   double precision, dimension(p, q)
                                           :: b
   double precision, dimension(k, 1)
                                           :: cc
         dummy vars
                                          :: min row shift, min col shift
   integer
                                          :: max_row_shift, max_col_shift
   integer
                                          :: rows_padded, cols padded
   integer
                                          :: icol, irow, icc, icol2, irow2
   integer
   real, allocatable, dimension(:, :)
                                          :: padded_a, padded_b
         obtain possible shfits
   min row shift = -1*(p - 1)
   max_row_shift = m - 1
   min col shift = -1*(q - 1)
  \max col shift = n - 1
       Padded arrray
   rows padded = abs(min row shift) + m + abs(max row shift)
   cols_padded = abs(min_col_shift) + n + abs(max_col_shift)
   allocate (padded_a(rows_padded, cols_padded))
   padded_a = 0.0
   padded_a((abs(min_row_shift) + 1):(abs(min_row_shift) + m), &
            (abs(min_col_shift) + 1):(abs(min_col_shift) + n)) = a
        В
   allocate (padded_b(rows_padded, cols_padded))
   padded_b = 0.0
   do icol = 1, 1
      do irow = 1, k
         icc = irow + ((icol - 1)*k)
         icol2 = icol + q - 1
         irow2 = irow + p - 1
         padded b(irow:irow2, icol:icol2) = b
         cc(irow, icol) = sum(padded_a*padded_b)
         padded_b = 0.0
      end do
   end do
end subroutine xcorr2d f
```

Listing 2.3 Cross-correlation wrapping function

```
xcorr2D_f0 <- function(a, b) {
  # Please adjust the path to your setup. In my machine,
 dyn.load("AquaFortR_Codes/xcorr2D.so")
  # the full CC matrix
  cc_row <- nrow(a) + nrow(b) - 1
  cc col \leftarrow ncol(a) + ncol(b) - 1
  cc <- matrix(1:c(cc_row * cc_col), byrow = FALSE, ncol = cc_col)</pre>
 result <- .Fortran("xcorr2d_f",</pre>
   m = as.integer(dim(a)[1]),
    n = as.integer(dim(a)[2]),
    p = as.integer(dim(b)[1]),
    q = as.integer(dim(b)[2]),
    k = as.integer(cc row),
    1 = as.integer(cc_row),
    a = as.double(a),
    b = as.double(b),
    cc = as.double(cc)
  )$cc
 return(result)
```

Listing 2.4 Convolution in R

```
conv2D r0 <- function(a, b) {</pre>
  # the full convolution matrix
  conv row <- nrow(a) + nrow(b) - 1</pre>
  conv_col \leftarrow ncol(a) + ncol(b) - 1
  conv <- matrix(1:c(conv_row * conv_col), byrow = FALSE, ncol = conv_col)</pre>
  # obtain possible shifts
  min_row_shift <- -(nrow(b) - 1)</pre>
  max row shift <- (nrow(a) - 1)</pre>
  min_col_shift <- -(ncol(b) - 1)</pre>
  max_col_shift <- (ncol(a) - 1)</pre>
  # Padded matrix
  rows_padded <- abs(min_row_shift) + nrow(a) + abs(max_row_shift)</pre>
  cols_padded <- abs(min_col_shift) + ncol(a) + abs(max_col_shift)</pre>
  padded_a <- matrix(0, nrow = rows_padded, ncol = cols_padded)</pre>
  padded a[
    (abs(min_row_shift) + 1):(abs(min_row_shift) + nrow(a)),
    (abs(min col shift) + 1):(abs(min col shift) + ncol(a))
  ] <- a
  for (icol in 1:conv col) {
    for (irow in 1:conv_row) {
      iconv <- irow + ((icol - 1) * conv row)</pre>
      cols \leftarrow (icol):(icol + ncol(b) - 1)
      rows <- (irow):(irow + nrow(b) - 1)
      # b
      padded_b <- array(0, dim = c(rows_padded, cols_padded))</pre>
      # flip the kernel i.e. b
      padded b[rows, cols] <- b[nrow(b):1, ncol(b):1]</pre>
      conv[irow, icol] <- sum(padded_a * padded_b)</pre>
    }
  }
  return(conv)
```

Listing 2.5 Convolution in Fortran

```
subroutine conv2d_f(m, n, p, q, k, l, a, b, conv)
   implicit none
   integer
                                           :: m, n, p, q, k, l, i, j
   double precision, dimension(m, n)
                                           :: a
   double precision, dimension(p, q)
                                          :: b, b flipped
   double precision, dimension(k, 1)
                                          :: conv
         dummy vars
                                          :: min row shift, min col shift
   integer
                                          :: max row shift, max col shift
   integer
                                          :: rows padded, cols padded
   integer
                                          :: icol, irow, iconv, icol2, irow2
   integer
                                          :: padded_a, padded b
   real, allocatable, dimension(:, :)
         obtain possible shfits
   min_row_shift = -1*(p - 1)
   max_row_shift = m - 1
   min_col_shift = -1*(q - 1)
  \max_{col\_shift} = n - 1
      Flip the kernel i.e. B
   b flipped = 0.0
   do i = 1, p
      do j = 1, q
         b flipped(p - i + 1, q - j + 1) = b(i, j)
      end do
   end do
       Padded arrray
   rows_padded = abs(min_row_shift) + m + abs(max_row_shift)
   cols padded = abs(min col shift) + n + abs(max col shift)
   allocate (padded a(rows padded, cols padded))
   padded_a = 0.0
   padded_a((abs(min_row_shift) + 1):(abs(min_row_shift) + m), &
            (abs(min col shift) + 1):(abs(min col shift) + n)) = a
   allocate (padded_b(rows_padded, cols_padded))
   padded b = 0.0
   do icol = 1, 1
      do irow = 1, k
         iconv = irow + ((icol - 1)*k)
         icol2 = icol + q - 1
         irow2 = irow + p - 1
         padded_b(irow:irow2, icol:icol2) = b_flipped
         conv(irow, icol) = sum(padded a*padded b)
         padded b = 0.0
      end do
   end do
end subroutine conv2d f
```

Listing 2.6 Convolution wrapping function

```
conv2D_f0 <- function(a, b) {</pre>
  require(dotCall64)
 dyn.load("AquaFortR_Codes/conv2D.so")
 # the full convolution matrix
  conv row <- nrow(a) + nrow(b) - 1</pre>
  conv_col \leftarrow ncol(a) + ncol(b) - 1
  conv <- matrix(0, byrow = FALSE, ncol = conv_col)</pre>
 result <- .C64("conv2d_f",
                  SIGNATURE = c(rep("integer",6),
                                rep("double",3)),
                  m = dim(a)[1],
                  n = dim(a)[2],
                  p = dim(b)[1],
                  q = dim(b)[2],
                  k = integer(conv row),
                  1 = integer(conv_col),
                  a = as.double(a),
                  b = as.double(b),
                  conv = as.double(conv))$conv
  return(result)
}
```

Chapter 3

Accelerate R Packages with Fortran

This chapter will focus on wrapping the developed routines from the previous chapter in an R package.

3.1 Brief Introduction to R Packages

- 3.1.1 devtools package
- 3.2 Developing AquaFortR Package
- 3.2.1 R function
- 3.2.2 Fortran subroutine
 - iso_c_binidng

3.2.3 C funtions

- C to Fortran
- R to C

3.2.4 Package's files

Chapter 4

Summary

- positive features of R
- positive features of Fortran
- Why .Fortran() should not be used. dotCall64 is recommended for scripts.
- Mention the memory allocation issues related to .Fortran
- OpenMp implementation in Fortran, Romp
- Explain how beneficial R, Fortran with OpenMP is. For examples calculating cape for each vertical profile in a high resolution (1-4km) climate simulation (years) output (nlat, lon, nlevels, ntime) can be accelerated by passing the whole input arrays from R to Fortran, then loop over (nlat, lon, ntime) with OpenMP.
- The cross-correlation can be speed up by using FFT. Also, in Fortran, the FFTW C library can be used. In summary, this book has no content whatsoever.
- Possibility of calling BLAS, LAPACK and LINPACK linear algebra functions Fortran using C (R_ext/BLAS.h, R_ext/Lapack.h and R_ext/Linpack.h)
- Final words why packaging is better.

4.1 Further Reading

- Fortran and R Speed Things Up
- The Need for Speed Part 1: Building an R Package with Fortran (or C)
- The Need for Speed Part 2: C++ vs. Fortran vs. C
- Writing R Extensions
- Extend R with Fortran
- Advanced R by Hadley Wickham
- Fortran 90 Tutorial

- Modern Fortran Tutorial
- Fortran Wiki Libraries
- Fortran Best Practices
- Hands-On Programming with R
- Spatial Data Science
- R for Data Science (2e)
- Introduction to Environmental Data Science

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