

Performance of loops (A caching question)

Consider below two C language functions to compute sum of elements in a 2D array. Ignoring the compiler optimizations, which of the two is better implementation of sum?

```
// Function 1
int fun1(int arr[R][C])
{
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i=0; i<R; i++)
        for (int j=0; j<C; j++)
            sum += arr[i][j];
}

// Function 2
int fun2(int arr[R][C])
{
    int sum = 0;
    for (int j=0; j<C; j++)
        for (int i=0; i<R; i++)
            sum += arr[i][j];
}

Run on IDE
```

In C/C++, elements are stored in Row-Major order. So the first implementation has better spatial locality (nearby memory locations are referenced in successive iterations). Therefore, first implementation should always be preferred for iterating multidimensional arrays.

Please write comments if you find anything incorrect, or you want to share more information about the topic discussed above

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