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Subject: Re: Array intersections

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 26 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Robert Moss ([mossrm@texaco.com](mailto:mossrm@texaco.com)) writes:

> I'm sure there were some clever responses to this same question  
> just a few months ago, but for the life of me I cannot recall  
> what they were. Here's the question:  
>  
> What is the most efficient way (using IDL, of course) to return  
> the index at which two arrays intersect? e.g.  
>  
> a = [ 1B, 2B, 9B, 5B, 6B, 11B ]  
> b = [ 5B, 6B ]  
> idx = intersect( a, b )  
> idx = 3  
>  
> This is a highly simplified example, but the point is that I want  
> a function that will accept two array inputs (byte arrays in my specific  
> case) and return to me the index in array a where the subset b starts.  
>  
> Refresh my memory, please.

You can find the clever responses on my web page at:

[http://www.dfanning.com/tips/set\\_operations.html](http://www.dfanning.com/tips/set_operations.html)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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