Subject: Array intersections

Posted by Robert Moss on Thu, 26 Feb 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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.

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