
Subject: Re: How do you sort an array in IDL?
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 02 Apr 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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Robert A. Lematta (lematta@nosc.mil) writes:

> Does anyone know how to sort an array in idl (ala excell) while preserving
> the order of the other columns.

Here is a little example in which a two-column array is sorted by the values in the second column, it can easily be converted to a function that returns an array sorted by any column.

Cheers,

David

PRO SortColumn

 ; Create example data.

```
array = FltArr(2, 10)
array[0,*] = IndGen(10) + 1      ; Number
array[1,*] = RandomU(seed, 10) * 10 ; Value
```

```
Print, 'Unsorted Array---'
Print, array
Print, "
```

 ; Sort the data by value.

```
sortIndex = Sort(array[1,*])
sortedArray = FltArr(2,10)
FOR j=0,1 DO sortedArray[j,*] = (array[j,*])[sortIndex]
```

```
Print, 'Array Sorted by Value---'
Print, sortedArray
Print, "
```

END

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