
Subject: Re: how to get index of array B data in array A
Posted by [Hermann Mannstein](#) on Mon, 15 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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Gary Fu wrote:

```
>
> David,
>
> Thanks for your quick response. Is there any other methods without
> using
> the FOR loop, since my A and B array may have more than 250000 elements
> ?
>
> Thanks.
>
> Gary
>>
>> Gary Fu (gfu@seadas.gsfc.nasa.gov) writes:
>>
>>> Is there a simple way to get the index of the array B data in array A ?
>>>
>>> For example : A = [10,20,30,40,50], B = [10, 20, 33, 10, 30, 40, 9]
>>> I want like to get the index array of B in A [0, 1, -1, 0, 2, 3, -1]
```

If the values in A are confined to a reasonable range, you could do the following:

```
a_index = indgen(n_elements(a)) ; the array with the index numbers
c= lonarr(max(a) + 1) - 1      ; some kind of a look-up table,
initialize to -1
c(a) = a_index                ; set every value to it's index number
```

```
index_a_in_b = c(b < max(a))
```

With negative numbers in a you will have add the min(a) to both,
A and B

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Regards,

Dr. Hermann Mannstein

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```

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