Subject: Re: Zero... THANKS Pavel and J.D.
Posted by Frank Morgan on Thu, 01 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Pavel and J.D.,

Thanks to both of you for some useful information.

Pavel mentioned the 0-at-the-end problem with the loop approach. After some analysis of my problem (a directed graph search), I've discovered that most of the vectors I search will contain a non-zero within the first 10% or so of the length. I would have thought then that the loop would be faster than 'where' but J.D.'s timing results prove me wrong - looks like even with loop halt at 10% (where his test halted at 50%), the timing would be 0.99/5 = 0.2, still twice the time of 'where' searching the whole vector - boy, IDL loops really are bad!

For now I'm settling on 'where' - it's just fast enough for the biggest graphs I'm searching so far. J.D.'s timing for external code indicates that with 10% lengths typical, I might get 10X speedup over 'where' but for now the DLL compilation isn't worth it. But it gives me an out if I need to search bigger graphs.

Incedentally, I'd never realized you can say (where())[0] to get that first element - that's a handy statement.

Thaks,
Frank