


```

; VALUE --> compute specified percentiles
; default is a standard set of min, 25%, median (=50%), 75%, and max
; which can be used for box- and whisker plots.
; The values in the VALUE array must lie between 0. and 1. !
;
; OUTPUTS:
; The function returns an array with the percentile values or
; -1 if no data was passed or value contains invalid numbers.
;
; SUBROUTINES:
;
; REQUIREMENTS:
;
; NOTES:
;
; EXAMPLE:
; x = (findgen(31)-15.)*0.2 ; create sample data
; y = exp(-x^2)/3.14159 ; compute some Gauss distribution
; p = percentiles(y,value=[0.05,0.1,0.9,0.95])
; print,p
;
; IDL prints : 3.92826e-05 0.000125309 0.305829 0.318310
;
;
; MODIFICATION HISTORY:
; mgs, 03 Aug 1997: VERSION 1.00
; mgs, 20 Feb 1998: - improved speed and memory usage
; (after tip from Stein Vidar on newsgroup)
;
;
;-
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; please contact the author to arrange payment.
; Bugs and comments should be directed to mgs@io.harvard.edu
; with subject "IDL routine percentiles"
;-----

```

```
function percentiles,data,value=value
```

```
result = -1
```

```
n = n_elements(data)
```

```
if (n le 0) then return,result ; error : data not defined
```

```

; check if specific percentiles requested - if not: set standard
if(not keyword_set(value)) then value = [ 0., 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.0 ]

; create a temporary copy of the data and sort
; tmp = data
; tmp = tmp(sort(tmp))
; NO: simply save the sorted index array
ix = sort(data)

; loop through percentile values, get indices and add to result
; This is all we need since computing percentiles is nothing more
; than counting in a sorted array.
for i=0L,n_elements(value)-1 do begin

    if(value(i) lt 0. OR value(i) gt 1.) then return,-1

    if(value(i) le 0.5) then ind = long(value(i)*n) $
    else ind = long(value(i)*(n+1))
    if (ind ge n) then ind = n-1L ; small fix for small n
                                ; (or value eq 1.)

    ; if(i eq 0) then result = tmp(ind) $
    ; else result = [result, tmp(ind) ]
    ; ## change number 2
    if(i eq 0) then result = data(ix(ind)) $
    else result = [result, data(ix(ind)) ]
endfor

return,result
end

```

File Attachments

1) [percentiles.pro](#), downloaded 161 times
