
Subject: Re: idl2matlab translate-o-matic

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Wed, 23 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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David McClain wrote:

>
> I knew that if you thought about it you would begin to understand my
> point...
>
> Try this one... Give me a function to return the array result of removing
> selected items from an argument array.
>
> Since I can't pass a testing function to that routine (IDL doesn't have
> higher order functions), I will accept a routine, for illustrative purposes,
> that removes all even values from the array.
>
> Now suppose some joker passes an array containing only even values to that
> routine...
>
> - DM
>

```
wh=where(array mod 2, cnt)
if cnt gt 0 then return,array[wh] else return, -1
```

I use scalars (often -1) as cheap and easy to use empty arrays. Anything with:

```
size(x,/N_DIMEN) eq 0
```

is patently *not* an array.

And as far as the lack of "higher order testing functions":

```
function evens, arr
  return, arr mod 2 eq 0
end
```

```
function odds, arr
  return, arr mod 2
end
```

```
function exclude,arr, exc_func
  wh=where(call_function(exc_func,arr) eq 0,cnt)
  if cnt gt 0 then return,arr[wh] else return,-1
end
```

and to get rid of the odds, e.g.:

```
IDL> a=exclude(b,"odds")
```

JD

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