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Subject: Re: matching lists

Posted by [Andy Loughe](#) on Fri, 10 Mar 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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; RESTRICTIONS:

; if the indices are not unique some matching elements may be  
skipped...  
; or is it worse than that?

Maybe worse than that...

Isn't a significant restriction that the lists must be numeric?

Or does it actually work for alpha-numeric lists?

Mark Fardal wrote:

>  
> Hi,  
>  
> I have been looking at properties of particles in a simulation, and  
> sometimes need to match up the particles in two different subsets. I  
> typically have (quantity A, index #) for one set of particles, and  
> (quantity B, index #) for another set, and want to compare quantities  
> A and B for the particles that are in both sets.  
>  
> As of late last night I could not think of a good way to do this;  
> WHERE inside a for-loop would be very slow. Maybe I'm missing  
> something easy, but in any case here's a solution inspired by the  
> recently submitted SETINTERSECTION function. Hope somebody finds  
> it useful.  
>  
> Mark Fardal  
> UMass  
>  
> ;+  
> ; NAME:  
> ; LISTMATCH  
> ;  
> ; PURPOSE:  
> ; find the indices where a matches b  
> ; works only for SETS OF UNIQUE INTEGERS, e.g., array indices  
> ;  
> ; for example: suppose you have a list of people with their ages and  
> ; social security numbers (AGE, AGE\_SS), and a partially overlapping  
> ; list of people with their incomes and s.s. numbers (INCOME,  
> ; INCOME\_SS). And you want to correlate ages with incomes in the  
> ; overlapping subset. Call  
> ; LISTMATCH, AGE\_SS, INCOME\_SS, AGE\_IND, INCOME\_IND

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> ; then AGE[AGE_IND] and INCOME[INCOME_IND] will be the desired
> ; pair of variables.
> ;
> ; AUTHOR:
> ; Mark Fardal
> ; UMass (fardal@weka.astro.umass.edu)
> ;
> ; CALLING SEQUENCE:
> ; LISTMATCH, a, b, a_ind, b_ind
> ;
> ; INPUTS:
> ; a and b are sets of unique integers (no duplicate elements)
> ;
> ; OUTPUTS:
> ; a_ind, b_ind are the indices indicating which elements of a and b
> ; are in common
> ;
> ; RESTRICTIONS:
> ; if the indices are not unique some matching elements may be skipped...
> ; or is it worse than that?
> ; EXAMPLE:
> ; a = [2,4,6,8]
> ; b = [6,1,3,2]
> ; listmatch, a, b, a_ind, b_ind
> ; print, a[a_ind]
> ; 2 6
> ; print, b[b_ind]
> ; 2 6
> ;
> ;
> ; MODIFICATION HISTORY:
> ; none
> ; BUGS:
> ; tell me about them
> ; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:
> ; trivial modification of SETINTERSECTION from RSI
> ;
> pro listmatch, a, b, a_ind, b_ind
> minab = min(a, MAX=maxa) > min(b, MAX=maxb) ;Only need intersection of ranges
> maxab = maxa < maxb
> ;If either set is empty, or their ranges don't intersect:
> ; result = NULL (which is denoted by integer = -1)
> if maxab lt minab or maxab lt 0 then begin
> a_ind = -1
> b_ind = -1
> return
> endif
>

```

```
> ha = histogram(a, MIN=minab, MAX=maxab, reverse_indices=reva)
> hb = histogram(b, MIN=minab, MAX=maxab, reverse_indices=revb)
>
> r = where((ha ne 0) and (hb ne 0), count)
> if count gt 0 then begin
>   a_ind = reva[revb[r]]
>   b_ind = revb[revb[r]]
>   return
> endif else begin
>   a_ind = -1
>   b_ind = -1
>   return
> endelse
>
> end
>
>
```

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