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Subject: Re: a vector of indices of the largest elements in a vector not exceeding the elements of some other vector

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 12 Jul 2001 18:58:48 GMT

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derek@milkyway.gsfc.nasa.gov (Derek Hullinger) writes:

- > I have two vectors of different sizes (say, A and B):
- >
- > A contains floating point values that increase with index
- > B contains floating point values
- >
- > I'd like to create a third vector, C (which would be the same size as
- > B) such that:
- >
- > The nth element in C contains the index of the largest element in A
- > that does not exceed the nth element in B.

What you are asking for is *\*exactly\** what is provided by the VALUE\_LOCATE function, which appeared in IDL 5.3. If you are not so up-to-date, then check out the slick replacement for VALUE\_LOCATE on my web page.

```
c = value_locate(a, b)
```

Craig

<http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html> (under Arrays)

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