
Subject: Re: a newbie question on code efficiency
Posted by [Dominic R. Scales](#) on Sat, 18 Aug 2001 12:44:32 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> Uh, I think you must have tried this:

>

> e = b > cutoff

>

> I can assure you that this:

>

> e = b GT cutoff

>

> gives you a mask of 0s and 1s. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

Hi David,

this seems to be not true as b = a > cutoff sets the values smaller than cutoff to cutoff and keeps the others as they are.

```
IDL> a=bindgen(10,10)
```

```
IDL> b = a > 50
```

```
IDL> print,a
```

```
 0  1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39
40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49
50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59
60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69
70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79
80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89
90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99
```

```
IDL> b= a > 50
```

```
IDL> print,b
```

```
 50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50
 50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50
 50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50
 50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50  50
 50  51  52  53  54  55  56  57  58  59
 60  61  62  63  64  65  66  67  68  69
 70  71  72  73  74  75  76  77  78  79
```

80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89
90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99

IDL>

the following does the trick:

IDL> b[where(a le 50)] = 0

IDL> b[where(a gt 50)] = 1

IDL> print,b

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

IDL>

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Dipl. Phys. Dominic R. Scales | Aero-Sensing Radarsysteme GmbH

Tel: +49 (0)8153-90 88 90 | c/o DLR Oberpfaffenhofen

Fax: +49 (0)8153-908 700 | 82234 Wessling, Germany

WWW: aerosensing.de | email: Dominic.Scales@aerosensing.de