Subject: Re: array chicanery
Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 16 Nov 2001 00:20:21 GMT
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Rochelle Hatton (nrh@imag.wsahs.nsw.gov.au) writes:

> I've experienced some wierd business with arrays, and I'm hoping somebody can explain.
> I have been using the IDL function PCOMP, calculating the pricipal components of some data.
> If I feed in a float array to the function,
> eg.
> result=PCOMP(data,coefficients=eigenvectors,eigenvalues=eige
nvalues,/covariance,/standardize)
>
> I get a result, but when I redisplay the data array, it has changed. Since PCOMP only returns
> a result, what is it doing to my original array, and why? There are no common variables, as far
> as I know, so the original data should not change. I apologise in advance if this is blindingly
> obvious, and of course, I can just make a copy of the original data into another variable to use
> later, I am just curious as to what is going on.
> Any thoughts?

Lousy programming. On someone's part other than yours. :-)

Try this:

```
IDL> result=PCOMP(data+0,coefficients=eigenvectors,$
     eigenvalues=eigenvalues,/covariance,/standardize)
IDL> Help, data
```

Does that help?

Cheers,

David
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