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Subject: Re: Speedy way to get compare array elements. . .  
Posted by [Jaco van Gorkom](#) on Thu, 28 Nov 2002 16:13:58 GMT  
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"trouble" <the\_cacc@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:5f9f0a23.0211280658.71bff9f4@posting.google.com...  
> Craig Markwardt <craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote in message  
news:<on4raklqpk.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu>...  
>> ...The cool thing about the trick is that IDL \*automatically\* truncates  
>> the vector A so that it matches the length of A[1:\*].  
>  
> Ah, but is there any way to not make it do that? Say you have 2  
> vectors of different lengths:  
>  
> x = findgen(50)  
> y = findgen(100)  
>  
> and you want to form z = x \* y, but have z the same length as y  
> putting zeros where x has no value. The (sorry) way I am doing it is  
>  
> z = y \* 0  
> z[0:49] = x \* y  
>  
> which clearly is too much programmer work since I have to get the  
> lengths... Any ideas?

Well, inserting an array into a subrange of another array can also be  
done by specifying just the start index. So your

z[0:49] = x \* y

is equivalent to

z[0] = x \* y

In fact, the second option executes quite a bit faster.

cheers,  
Jaco

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