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Subject: Re: Where and lists of regions  
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Tue, 12 Oct 2004 04:39:15 GMT  
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On Mon, 11 Oct 2004 14:47:23 +0200, Ben Panter wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I'm in the middle of trying to simplify a large body of code which I  
> inherited a few years ago and have been mangling ever since. Among other  
> things, I'd be interested in anyone's thoughts on simplifying the case  
> statement I use (full code below). Basically I have a list of regions  
> which I want to remove from a vector. At the moment I use CASE to call  
> WHERE to remove the regions elements (case to choose how many where  
> statements are required). This is fine for a few regions, but I'm sure  
> there must be a neater way, as when I need 10 regions, or even 20, this  
> code is going to look terrible...  
>  
> I've written a code with EXECUTE, but I may want to use VM in the future  
> so I'd like to avoid it if possible.

How about:

```
flag=bytarr(n_elements(wave))
for i=0,n_regions-1 do $
    flag+=wave gt reg[i,0] AND wave lt reg[i,1]
return, where(~flag)
```

There are other methods for removing more complicated lists of unwanted items. From the HISTOGRAM tutorial:

Problem: Remove some elements, listed in random order, from a vector.

```
IDL> vec=randomu(sd,10)
IDL> remove=[3,7,2,8]
IDL> keep=where(histogram(remove,MIN=0,MAX=n_elements(vec)-1) eq 0,cnt)
IDL> if cnt ne 0 then vec=vec[keep]
IDL> print,keep
      0      1      4      5      6      9
```

We've used HISTOGRAM and WHERE to simply generate a list of kept indices.

JD

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