
Subject: Re: Indices ?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 01 Dec 2004 12:58:44 GMT

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Pepe writes:

- > On this very newsgroup Matt McCabe once wrote: " I always get nervous
- > posting to this site for fear of asking a particularly stupid
- > question....well, here goes."
- >
- > Well, let me say that I feel the very same way...

Oh, well, fear. We'd probably all be better off never getting out of bed. :-)

- > I have the following situation:
- > a = fltarr(x, y) ;say satellite sea surface temperature data
- > b = fltarr(x) ;say the longitude points of the grid
- > c = fltarr(y) ;say the latitude points of the grid
- >
- > data_valid = where(a GT 0.0) ;search for the valid sst values
- >
- > I need to know the longitude "b(lon_valid)" and latitude
- > "c(lat_valid)" points of the valid sst values "a(data_valid)".
- > How can I get to them ?

It is not totally clear to me exactly why you think you need them. There will certainly be points on an X grid (for example) that contain both valid and invalid points. So, I can't see that having a(data_valid) would be very helpful in any particular application that I can envision.

But that said, you can turn your 1-D subscripts into, for example, column and row subscripts by using any of the routines mentioned on this newsgroup over the years, for example:

http://www.dfanning.com/tips/where_to_2d.html

Or, just use the built-in IDL routine ARRAY_INDICES:

```
r = Array_Indices(data_valid)
col_indices = Reform(r[0,*])
row_indices = Reform(r[1,*])
```

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
