Subject: Re: changing array dimensions
Posted by Mark Hadfield on Thu, 17 Mar 2005 19:46:47 GMT
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anu wrote:
> I have a problem or sorting out data from one array and putting them
> into individual arrays
>
> a = [1,2,1,1,2,3,3,3,4,4,3,2,1,2]
> i am able to sort out the numbers of same values... but i am not able
> to put them into separate arrays
>
> since : number of a[1] = 4 which is different from number a[4]=2
>
> so if i try putting it in a two dimensional array .. i get a lot of 0
> values which i dont want
>
> does anybody have an idea if it is possible to sort out data into
> single dimensional or two dimensional arrays?

Please explain further what you're trying to do and why.

It's true that you cannot have a 2-dimensional array in which the rows have different lengths. That's a fundamental limitation of arrays. There are data structures that you could use, if this is really what you want, eg a 1-D array of pointers, each referencing a 1-D array of values. But then, are you saying each of these value of arrays would be filled with the same value, repeated according to its number of occurrences in the original array? That seems like a waste of space. What do you really want to know? How many times each value occurs? Where each occurrence is? How many different values there are and what they are?

You can use the SORT function to sort your array and you can use SORT together with UNIQ to return a list of the unique values--see the documentation for both these functions.

You can use HISTOGRAM to count the occurrences of each value. Actually, you can do a great deal more with HISTOGRAM, see

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

It all depends on what you're *really* trying to do.

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Mark Hadfield "Ka puwaha te tai nei, Hoea tatou"
m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)