Subject: Using value_locate with a non-monotonic vector! And it's working!??!
Posted by cgguido on Sun, 31 Dec 2006 06:03:21 GMT

Hi all,

I am using value_locate on a unsorted vector and I am a little worried
because the IDL manual does not really say what happens in that case. I
would greatly appreciate your opinion and suggestions...

Say I have an unsorted vector of non-unique sparsely distributed
numbers a:

    a=[4.3, 4.3, 2.1, 10000,2.1]

and I want to create a 1 to 1 map to a list of consecutive numbers that
indicate ranking...
What I do is:

```
b=a[uniq(a,sort(a))]
c=value_locate(b,a)
print, c
1       1       0       2       0
```

the variable c is exactly what I want in this case.

The arrays I am going to deal with are much longer (10x1e6 elements) so
i can't really check them...

I am just worried that by not using value_locate as the RSI/ITTVIS
people intended I might be getting my self into trouble.

Any advice?

Thanks,
Gianguido