Subject: Re: Interesting property of sort
Posted by cmancone on Wed, 16 May 2007 16:52:24 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Interesting.  That explains a lot.  I had checked the results of my
sort to see whether or not it maintained order for equal value points,
and I didn't see any loss of order.  When it was suggested to use
bsort to maintain the order, I just assumed that sort happened to get
it right for the things I checked.  I guess I really just didn't have
to worry, since I'm on linux.

On May 16, 11:55 am, "wlands...@jhu.edu" <wlands...@gmail.com> wrote:
>>  Humm. Well, I haven't looked at it in a long time.
>>  Looks to me like BSORT uses the IDL SORT command to
>>  get the initial cut. (And I have NO idea what algorithm
>>  is used for that. It is the standard OS SORT routine,
>>  I'm sure.)
>
> That's right, the IDL SORT uses the sort algorithm of the OS, so the
> way it treats equal values depends on the OS.    From previous
> discussions here, I believe that most Linux systems preserve order for
> equal values, but Windows and Mac OSX do not.     I've been tempted to
> update bsort.pro to just call SORT if the user is on the "right" OS,
> but that sort ( pun intended) of coding is difficult to maintain.   --
> Wayne