
Subject: Re: matching coordinates

Posted by [jradavenport](#) on Mon, 30 Jul 2007 10:36:30 GMT

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On Jul 29, 7:53 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> jradavenp...@gmail.com writes:

>> Hello, I'm a long time lurker of this group, and finally have a
>> problem I can't solve efficiently enough! I have coordinates for stars
>> (RA and DEC for us astronomers out there), from two sources. i.e.
>> (x1,y1) and (x2,y2). These lists are huge, like 150k for one and
>> 5million in the other (a lot of stars!). I need to find the matches
>> from these catalogs within a tolerance. I've tried a few programs
>> I've found online (close_match_radec for instance) and they have not
>> given me results I believe (multiple matches and such). Here is some
>> horrible code I wrote just now which solves the problem VERY slowly:
>

> Here is an article that might help:

>

> http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/matchlists.html

>

> For background, you might want to read the precursor
> article, and one of my personal favorites:

>

> http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/slowloops.html

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Thanks David, Big fan of your site and of yours and JD Smith's code...

I guess it really is time to learn that Histogram function (something
I've put off for over a year!)

I'm turning that example code into a workable program, but am confused
on where the results are. Which Variable do I want to return with the
answers?
