
Subject: Re: IDL sorting

Posted by [Wox](#) on Thu, 18 Oct 2007 12:20:42 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Wed, 17 Oct 2007 09:38:12 -0600, David Fanning <news@dfanning.com> wrote:

> I'm not sure it's more elegant, but the NASA BSORT
> routine certainly takes a lot of the work out of it. :-)

It does the same I subscribed: resorting each subarray of equal values by its original subscript. I was hoping that there would be a better solution.

If I had to sort 32-bit longs, I could e.g. make 64-bit longs with HO DWORD equal to the value and the LO DWORD equal to the subscript. Sorting the resulting 64-bit longs would do the trick, wouldn't it?

```
function sort,array  
array64=ishft(long64(array),32)+lindgen(n_elements(array))  
return,sort(array64)  
end
```

However, I want to sort 64-bit values. Maybe there is another way, so that sort will do the right thing. Btw, I didn't want to ask this, but why is IDL's sort doing this? Is there any situation where mixing up the order of equal values has a benefit?
