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Subject: Re: Find Closest Coincident Measurements In Time And Space Between Two Data Sets

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Thu, 16 Oct 2008 01:32:25 GMT

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On Oct 13, 8:14 am, "|Rob|" <r08...@gmail.com> wrote:

> I was hoping that somebody could help and apply some magic to this  
> problem.  
>  
> I have two sets of satellite measurement data and for dataset A want  
> to find the value in dataset B that are closest to it in time and  
> space.  
>  
> If that's easy enough to speed it it'd also be useful to find ALL  
> values in databaset B that were within a certain spatial and temporal  
> distance of each point in dataset A (for example, 5deg lat/lon and 2  
> hours).  
>  
> As both datasets are quite large I have a feeling that this problem is  
> quite similar to the one found here[http://www.dfanning.com/code\\_tips/slowloops.html](http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/slowloops.html)  
> but I don't think I understand it quite well enough to solve and  
> eliminate the FOR loops.  
>  
> My (working but slow) code is below.  
>  
> Any help would be great.  
>  
> Cheers  
>  
> ;datasetA structure contains lat, long, time and values  
> ;datasetB has lat, long, time and value arrays  
>  
> count=0L  
> final\_lat=fltarr(100000)  
> final\_lon=fltarr(100000)  
> final\_datasetA=fltarr(100000)  
> final\_datasetB=fltarr(100000)  
> final\_time=strarr(100000)  
> final\_date=strarr(100000)  
>  
> ;value in hms of datasetB meas. either side of datasetA meas. time  
> where time is still considered coincident  
>  
> time\_margin=010000  
>  
> ;value in degrees of datasetB meas. either side of datasetA meas.  
> location where location is still considered coincident  
>

```

> space_margin=2. ;degrees lat/long
>
> print, 'Starting to loop through dataset A to find coincident dataset
> B points'
> FOR i=0L, n_elements(datasetA.lats)-1 DO BEGIN
>
> ;find measurement in datasetB that is within time and space margin of
> datasetA
> coin=where(datasetB_hms GE datasetA.time[i]-time_margin AND
> datasetB_hms LE datasetA.time[i]+time_margin AND $
>         datasetB_lat GE datasetA.lats[i]-space_margin AND
> datasetB_lat LE datasetA.lats[i]+space_margin AND $
>         datasetB_lon GE datasetA.lons[i]-space_margin AND
> datasetB_lon LE datasetA.lons[i]+space_margin)
>
> ;account for no coincident matches between datasets
> if coin[0] NE -1 THEN BEGIN
> final_lat[count]=datasetA.lats[i]
> final_lon[count]=datasetA.lons[i]
> final_datasetA[count]=datasetA.value[i]
>
> ;store mean of datasetB values that are coincident to datasetA
> measurments
> final_datasetB[count]=mean(datasetB_values[coin])
> final_time[count]=datasetA.time[i]
> final_date[count]=datasetA.date
> count=count+1L
> END
> ENDFOR
> print, 'Finished looping through datasetA data to find coincident
> datasetB data'

```

While not the full solution, you might find WITHINSPHRAD useful:  
<http://astroconst.org/jbiu/jbiu-doc/astro/withinsphrad.html>  
 within JBIU:  
<http://web.astroconst.org/jbiu>

-Jeremy.