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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.