
Subject: Re: Matching 2 lists

Posted by [David Baker](#) on Sat, 21 Aug 2010 17:03:39 GMT

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On Aug 21, 5:52 pm, Paulo Penteado <pp.pente...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Aug 21, 1:37 pm, David Baker <de...@le.ac.uk> wrote:

>

>>>> If you're using IDL 8.0, you could modify match_2d to return a list of

>>>> length n_a, where each element is an array of indices into b.

>

>>> Thanks for the advice, whilst I maybe comfortable programming basic

>>> stuff I can't even begin to follow the match_2d code so wouldn't know

>>> where exactly to code in what you suggest. But that is exactly what

>>> I'm after.

>

>>> -Cheers,

>>> David

>

>> You mentioned using IDL 8.0. My university is currently still on

>> 7.1.1, is there anything unique about IDL 8.0 to the solution you

>> propose?

>

> Lists and empty arrays. In that case, because each element of A can

> have a different number of matches, so each element of the list is an

> array of a different size (possibly empty, if there are no matches).

>

> The most direct way to do something similar in IDL 7 is a pointer

> array, where each element points to the array of indices that match

> the corresponding element of A. Which is more awkward to use due to

> the need to dereference the pointer, and the need to test (with null

> pointers, for instance) for the no-match case.

OK, but it should still be possible? You're suggesting something like a two element structure, one element contains the index from A the other element contains a pointer listing the indices of any object from list B that is within the search radius? The structure would just need to grow via a=[b,c] for each object in A that has matches to those in B (though this would obviously cause a speed penalty I think it might outweigh that caused by looping over my lists). The tricky part I guess (at least for me) is finding out where match_2d prints out the indices from B that match to each individual index in A.

-David
