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Subject: Re: Matching 2 lists

Posted by [penteado](#) on Sat, 21 Aug 2010 16:52:19 GMT

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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.

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