
Subject: Re: Matrix algebra and index order, A # B vs A ## B
Posted by on Thu, 05 Apr 2012 17:29:33 GMT
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Kenneth P. Bowman:

> David Fanning:

>

>> Mats Löfdahl writes:

>>

>>> I'm writing some code where matrix algebra is at the heart of things so I
>>> really wanted to understand the conventions and convince myself that I can
>>> use them in a consistent way.

>

> The "Manipulating Arrays" section of the documentation is some help.

>

> As is so often the case with IDL, the ultimate solution to understanding
> how it actually works is to create a trivial example and make sure
> that you understand it.

>

> This is easier than trying to figure out row-major, column-major, etc.

>

> Such as

>

> IDL> a = FINDGEN(3,3)

> IDL> x = REPLICATE(1.0, 3)

> IDL> print, x

> 1.00000 1.00000 1.00000

> IDL> print, TRANSPOSE(a)

> 0.00000 3.00000 6.00000

> 1.00000 4.00000 7.00000

> 2.00000 5.00000 8.00000

> IDL> print, a#x

> 9.00000 12.0000 15.0000

> IDL> print, a

> 0.00000 1.00000 2.00000

> 3.00000 4.00000 5.00000

> 6.00000 7.00000 8.00000

> IDL> print, a##x

> 3.00000

> 12.0000

> 21.0000

I guess everybody has to understand various concepts in their own way. To me, your example just demonstrates one thing I tried to avoid: having to memorize when an array can be printed as it is and look like the matrix it is intended to represent and when it has to be transposed.

/Mats
