
Subject: Re: Succinct way of testing array membership
Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Thu, 30 Aug 2012 19:16:06 GMT
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For very large vectors, WHERE() methods are slow because (1) you compute the index of where the member is found, even if you just care about membership, and more important (2) WHERE operates on the entire vector, and does not exit as soon as the member is found. A faster method would be

```
function array_contains,v,x
;Is x an element of V?
return,~array_equal( (v eq x), 0b)
end
```

since ARRAY_EQUAL exits as soon as the first match is found. I can't imagine the speed difference is significant for normal size vectors, though.

--Wayne

On Thursday, August 30, 2012 12:51:48 PM UTC-4, godber wrote:

```
> Is there a more succinct way of testing array membership than using where and n_elements on
the indexes? Something like array_contains(a, 'pancakes')?
>
>
>
> Austin
```
