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Subject: Re: Finding strings values common to two (large!) arrays

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 07 Oct 2015 22:19:43 GMT

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On Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 3:57:23 PM UTC-4, [rj...@le.ac.uk](mailto:rj...@le.ac.uk) wrote:

> CMSET\_OP looks to be working but I'm not 100% sure due to this comment in the header:

>

> ; INDEX - if set, then return a list of indices instead of the array

> ; values themselves. The "slower" set operations are always

> ; performed in this case.

> ;

> ; The indices refer to the \*combined\* array [A,B]. To

> ; clarify, in the following call: I = CMSET\_OP(..., /INDEX);

> ; returned values from 0 to NA-1 refer to A[I], and values

> ; from NA to NA+NB-1 refer to B[I-NA].

>

>

> When using the code like this, it is returning an array of indices that only seem to relate to the first array.

>

> e.g. (massively simplified) A has 10 elements, B has 20 and the returned indices are an array of 7 values such as [0,1,2,5,7,8,9]

>

> Would I not also expect indices for the elements in the second array (10-29) to also be returned going by the statement in the header?

If you are using 'AND', CMSET\_OP() only returns indices to the first array. It doesn't ever return duplicates, so it doesn't need to tell you \*again\* the same values.

You might also want to check MATCH2 in the IDL astronomy library. I wrote that also, and it is designed to match large catalogs against each other and return the matching indices on both sides.

Craig

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