
Subject: Finding the Non-Matching elements in two vectors

Posted by [doyle](#) on Thu, 11 Apr 2002 20:11:40 GMT

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Hi there,

I'm pretty new to this whole IDL thing and was wondering if some of you could give me some help finding a solution to a little problem I'm having.

The problem is this:

I have three files that contain some data and I need to make sure that they all have the same amount. I have extracted a bunch of integers from each file and put them into vectors, one for each file. The numbers should match up because they are the days on which the data was collected and are consistant through out. The end result of my program is to make sure that the third file basically contains a list of all the matching elements of the first two. Or since I feel like I'm not being clear:

It should be like this when I match the vectors up.

File one: 2 7 9 10 15 17....

File two: 2 7 9 10 15 17....

File one: 2 7 9 10 15 17....

File three: 2 7 9 10 15 17....

Unfortunately its not because there are some elements not in the third file that are in the other two. So when I match the vectors together I get that file one and file two match 16 elements and file one and file three match 14 elements. With this few mis-matched elements I can easily print the data and read through it. This 2 element difference, however, is only over a loop of about 150 data points and I have 3800 total to calculate. As you can imagine trying to sift through that much data visually would be worse than tedious. So I appeal to you folks to give me a hand with finding a quick print out of all the non-matching days so that I find out where I need to patch up holes in my data file.

Nate Doyle
