
Subject: Re: sorting array column/rowwise

Posted by [Paul Sorenson](#) on Wed, 03 Jul 2002 22:27:51 GMT

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Have you looked at the SORT routine? The following example sorts by the first column of a.

```
IDL> a = randomu(seed, 4, 4)
IDL> print, a[* , sort(a[0, *])]
  0.303753   0.933435   0.723623   0.636985
  0.535081   0.804346   0.313356   0.620587
  0.574060   0.790996   0.821293   0.671731
  0.799868   0.0666149  0.123060   0.281230
```

There's also a routine called BSORT at

<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/misc/bsort.pro> . It is like the IDL SORT function but subscript order is maintained when values are equal.

-Paul Sorenson

"Marc Schellens" <m_schellens@hotmail.com> wrote in message news:3D2295BC.5030207@hotmail.com...

```
> Is there an elegant (ie. without loops) way to sort
> the columns or rows of an array?
> I need the sorted indices.
> thanks,
> marc
>
```

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Subject: Re: sorting array column/rowwise

Posted by [marc schellens\[1\]](#) on Thu, 04 Jul 2002 07:37:04 GMT

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Paul Sorenson wrote:

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> first column of a.
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```

```
> 0.535081 0.804346 0.313356 0.620587
> 0.574060 0.790996 0.821293 0.671731
> 0.799868 0.0666149 0.123060 0.281230
```

Thanks Paul,

but I wanted to sort each column individually.
Any guesses?

marc

Subject: Re: sorting array column/rowwise
Posted by [Jaco van Gorkom](#) on Thu, 04 Jul 2002 09:26:41 GMT
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"Marc Schellens" <m_schellens@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:3D23FB20.5020804@hotmail.com...

...
> but I wanted to sort each column individually.
> Any guesses?

for sorting rows:

If the range of values in each row is limited, then it
might be possible to add an offset to each row that makes
the value ranges of the rows non-overlapping and incrementing.
Then a single call to SORT will provide the correct sorted
indices for the entire array.

for sorting columns:

First do a TRANSPOSE, then sort the rows?

Subject: Re: sorting array column/rowwise
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 04 Jul 2002 13:42:44 GMT
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Marc Schellens (m_schellens@hotmail.com) writes:

> but I wanted to sort each column individually.
> Any guesses?

Here is how I would sort a column of an array.
But I think I would use the BSORT routine,
rather than the SORT routine if I was putting
it into a piece of code that mattered to me.

```
IDL> a=randomu(-3L, 3, 10)
```

```
IDL> print, a
  0.897916  0.558249  0.766930
  0.589101  0.0603181  0.973112
  0.0378892  0.218058  0.142394
  0.984703  0.894904  0.947651
  0.804079  0.160385  0.208246
  0.818130  0.103716  0.741117
  0.0134482  0.0960160  0.692969
  0.0230946  0.181693  0.0777949
  0.269231  0.286594  0.730963
  0.727624  0.272199  0.481930
```

```
IDL> s1 = sort(a[1,*])
```

```
IDL> a[1,*] = (a[1,*])[s1]
```

```
IDL> print, a
  0.897916  0.0603181  0.766930
  0.589101  0.0960160  0.973112
  0.0378892  0.103716  0.142394
  0.984703  0.160385  0.947651
  0.804079  0.181693  0.208246
  0.818130  0.218058  0.741117
  0.0134482  0.272199  0.692969
  0.0230946  0.286594  0.0777949
  0.269231  0.558249  0.730963
  0.727624  0.894904  0.481930
```

I expect that if I spent five more minutes on this
I could probably write a generalized program
that would sort on any column. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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Subject: Re: sorting array column/rowwise
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 04 Jul 2002 14:47:15 GMT
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Marc Schellens wrote:

>

> Paul Sorenson wrote:

>> Have you looked at the SORT routine? The following example sorts by the

```

>> first column of a.
>>
>> IDL> a = randomu(seed, 4, 4)
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>>    0.574060    0.790996    0.821293    0.671731
>>    0.799868    0.0666149    0.123060    0.281230
>
> Thanks Paul,
>
> but I wanted to sort each column individually.
> Any guesses?
>
> marc

```

Dear Marc

I believe this routine from our library is the right one

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase/download/n_sort.tar.gz

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

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Forschungszentrum Juelich

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 a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

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