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Subject: Re: Unpacking algorithm

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 16:12:37 GMT

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Tmorri writes:

> Does any one have an IDL algorithm to unpack this vector

>

> v0=[0 1 2 3 0 4 5 1 0 2 3 4 0 5 1 2 0 3 4 5]

>

> in the following way:

>

> v1=[0 0 0 0 0]

>

> v2=[1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5]

Do you mean something like this:

```
IDL> print, v0
```

```
0 1 2 3 0 4 5 1 0 2 3 4 0 5 1 2 0 3 4 5
```

```
IDL> v1 = v0[where(v0 eq 0)]
```

```
IDL> print, v1
```

```
0 0 0 0 0
```

```
IDL> v2 = v0[where(v0 ne 0)]
```

```
IDL> print
```

```
1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5
```

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

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

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Subject: Re: Unpacking algorithm

Posted by [Tmorri](#) on Sat, 15 May 2004 23:03:46 GMT

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Thanks for your replay. I made a little mistake in the statement of the problem, what I really need is this:

x1,x2,x3,x4,x5 are variables that can take any value, even zero, (0).

I just want to get rid of the zeroes shown in vector v0

v0=[0 x1 x2 x3 0 x4 x5 x1 0 x2 x3 x4 0 x5 x1 x2 0 x3 x4 x5]

in the following way:

v1=[0 0 0 0 0]

v2=[x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x1 x2 x3 x4 x5]

Thanks for your help.

Tmorri

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Subject: Re: Unpacking algorithm

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Mon, 17 May 2004 14:40:21 GMT

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Tmorri wrote:

> Thanks for your replay. I made a little mistake in the statement of the  
> problem, what I really need is this:

>

> x1,x2,x3,x4,x5 are variables that can take any value, even zero, (0).

>

> I just want to get rid othe zeroes shown in vector v0

>

> v0=[0 x1 x2 x3 0 x4 x5 x1 0 x2 x3 x4 0 x5 x1 x2 0 x3 x4 x5]

>

> in the following way:

>

> v1=[0 0 0 0 0]

>

> v2=[x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x1 x2 x3 x4 x5]

Examples can be useful for illustrating a problem definition, but they're a poor method for actually defining the problem, as you've already seen.

The key issue here, is how should the code you're looking for identify which values to put into v1, and which ones to put into v2? David Fanning's answer was based upon one assumption, which was compatible with your first example: that the items to go into v0 are the ones with a value of 0. Now we know that it's what you want, we have to make a different guess.

My best guess is that you want to put into v1 every fourth element, starting with element 0. You want the rest of the elements in v2. Is that correct? Will the total number of elements always be a multiple of 4, or will there sometimes be a few left over? Will the total number of

elements always be exactly 20?

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Subject: Re: Unpacking algorithm

Posted by [tam](#) on Mon, 17 May 2004 16:04:36 GMT

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Tmorri wrote:

> Thanks for your replay. I made a little mistake in the statement of the  
> problem, what I really need is this:

>  
> x1,x2,x3,x4,x5 are variables that can take any value, even zero, (0).

> I just want to get rid of the zeroes shown in vector v0

> v0=[0 x1 x2 x3 0 x4 x5 x1 0 x2 x3 x4 0 x5 x1 x2 0 x3 x4 x5]

> in the following way:

> v1=[0 0 0 0 0]

> v2=[x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x1 x2 x3 x4 x5]

> Thanks for your help.

> Tmorri

>  
Then something like:

```
v2 = v0[ (lindgen(n_elements(v0)) mod 4) ne 0]
```

might do the trick. In practice I'd usually split  
it out into a couple of lines.

```
index = lindgen(n_elements(v0))  
v2 = v0[ (index mod 4) ne 0]
```

Regards,  
Tom McGlynn

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