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Subject: Re: 2 arrays, average, missing data  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 08 Sep 2005 14:38:22 GMT  
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KJM writes:

> IDL newbie here, I would appreciate any help. (Have been pouring over  
> Gumley and Fanning books for a day now, can't get this simple  
> calculation done.)  
>  
> I have 2 arrays. Each array has float values and missing  
> data(value=0). I want to create a third array that has the average of  
> the two arrays if there are two good values. Otherwise, I want the  
> third array to take the value of the array that has data.  
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> If my arrays are A and B, and the new array C, I know I can use:  
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>  $C = (A+B)/2$   
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> to get the third array with averaged values. The only problem, is  
> that missing data values are averaged in with good values also. (ie:  
> 275 averaged w/ 0 -- when I want to just take the 275 value).  
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> Have tried If statements, -- but I realize these are all for scalar  
> values, not array.  
>  
> My basic idea is:  
>  
> If A = 0, C = B  
> If B = 0, C = A  
> If A and B EQ 0, C = 0  
> If A and B NE 0, C = (A+B)/2

I think your basic idea is great. :-)

Here is what I would do.

```
C = (A + B) / 2
indices = WHERE(A EQ 0 AND B NE 0, count)
IF count GT 0 THEN C[indices] = B
indices = WHERE(A NE 0 AND B EQ 0, count)
IF count GT 0 THEN C[indices] = A
```

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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Subject: Re: 2 arrays, average, missing data  
Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Thu, 08 Sep 2005 14:53:16 GMT  
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"KJM" <kimberlite@gmail.com> wrote in message  
news:1126189124.079832.197820@f14g2000cwb.googlegroups.com... .

> HI All,

...

> If A = 0, C = B

> If B = 0, C = A

> If A and B EQ 0, C = 0

> If A and B NE 0, C = (A+B)/2

> Any help appreciated!

> Thanks.

Hi,  
something along the lines of

```
gooddata = a*b
c = dblarr(n_elements(a))
zeros = where(gooddata eq 0,count,complement = nonzeros)
if count gt 0 then begin
    c[nonzeros] = (a[nonzeros]+b[nonzeros])/2
    c[zeros] = a[zeros] > b[zeros]
endif
```

NOTE: this assumes the values are greater than zero.  
If they are not, then using zeros as the "bad value" may cause some  
problems.

Cheers,  
bob

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Subject: Re: 2 arrays, average, missing data  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 08 Sep 2005 14:55:28 GMT  
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"KJM" <kimberlite@gmail.com> writes:

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> Gumley and Fanning books for a day now, can't get this simple  
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 > that missing data values are averaged in with good values also. (ie:  
 > 275 averaged w/ 0 -- when I want to just take the 275 value).

Here's something without WHERE's

```
MISSING = 0.0
C = (A+B)/((A NE MISSING) + (B NE MISSING))
```

You'll get NaN wherever both values are missing. This is easily  
 extendible to the case where you have N arrays with M values each.  
 Just arrange them into an MxN array,

```
DATA = DBLARR(M,N)
... fill data values ...
C = TOTAL(DATA,2)/TOTAL(DATA NE MISSING,2)
```

Craig

--

-----  
 Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu  
 Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
 -----

Subject: Re: 2 arrays, average, missing data  
 Posted by [Benjamin Luethi](#) on Thu, 08 Sep 2005 15:24:52 GMT  
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An short answer would be:

```
C = (A+B)/((A NE 0)+(B NE 0))
```

The divisor is 1+1=2 if both A and B are not 0.

0+1=1 if one of them is 0.  
0+0=0 if both A and B are 0.

If A and B are integer, division by zero produces 0, which is the wanted result.

If A or B are of type double or float, the third case produces NaN.

Convert it  
to zero using:

```
sel = where(finite(C,/NaN),count)
if count gt 0 then C[sel] = 0
```

Ben

On Thu, 08 Sep 2005 16:18:44 +0200, KJM <kimberlite@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> HI All,
> IDL newbie here, I would appreciate any help. (Have been pouring over
> Gumley and Fanning books for a day now, can't get this simple
> calculation done.)
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> values, not array.
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> If A = 0, C = B
> If B = 0, C = A
> If A and B EQ 0, C = 0
> If A and B NE 0, C = (A+B)/2
>
>
>
```

>  
> Any help appreciated!  
> Thanks.  
>

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Subject: Re: 2 arrays, average, missing data  
Posted by [kimberlite](#) on Thu, 08 Sep 2005 15:46:54 GMT  
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Thanks so much for the replies! Some of the discussion is over my head at this time, but I did get Bob's suggestion to work (I believe) after changing the array to floating and specifying my array dimensions.

I like the shorter options put forward by Ben and Craig, too! I must do some more reading about the NaN.

Thanks again! (better than my alternative brute force approach that was gonna start today!)  
- K

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Subject: Re: 2 arrays, average, missing data  
Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Thu, 08 Sep 2005 17:31:59 GMT  
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Benjamin Luethi wrote:

> An short answer would be:  
>  
>  $C = (A+B)/((A \neq 0)+(B \neq 0))$   
>  
> The divisor is 1+1=2 if both A and B are not 0.  
>       0+1=1 if one of them is 0.  
>       0+0=0 if both A and B are 0.  
>  
> If A and B are integer, division by zero produces 0, which is the wanted  
> result.  
> If A or B are of type double or float, the third case produces NaN.  
> Convert it  
> to zero using:  
>

```
> sel = where(finite(C,/NaN),count)
> if count gt 0 then C[sel] = 0
```

Simpler:

```
C = (A+B)/((A NE 0)+(B NE 0) > 1.0)
```

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