
Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 15 Jul 2007 16:20:34 GMT

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Nick writes:

> I have regular arrayed data (1440*720). I'd like to change this data
> to 360*180 array.
> So I use 'Rebin' function.
> But these data have NaN value.
> If I use Rebin and there is a NaN value, new array becomes also NaN.
>
> For example, if there is only one NaN in the old array, the new-array
> becomes NaN. But I want to make a new array except NaN data. This
> situation makes residual data wasteful.
>
> A = [1.5,2.5,3.6,4,7,8.8,9.0,!values.f_nan]
> print, rebin(A, 1)
> ;result is 'NaN'
> ;That I expected value is mean(A, /nan)
>
> Is there any know-how to change array except NaN?

Well, you seem to know how to change your array.

Why don't you just find the NaNs, change them to what you want them to be, then do the REBIN?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan

Posted by [Nick\[1\]](#) on Sun, 15 Jul 2007 21:20:01 GMT

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Thank you for your reply.

I could find where is 'NaN' vaule, but I had to omit these 'NaN' value in order to change array. It's hard point for me. If I change NaN values to zero, values which are changed by Rebin will be lower than original values (True values).

A = [1.5,2.5,3.6,4,7,8.8,9.0,!values.f_nan]

```
print, rebin(A, 1)
;True value is 5.2
;But if I changed NaN to zero, the result is 4.55
```

The example case is so simple that I can fix it easily, but my data have 1440*720 array.
So I couldn't fix these one by one. Is there any methods?
Thanks, Nick.

Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sun, 15 Jul 2007 22:13:48 GMT
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Nick writes:

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>
> The example case is so simple that I can fix it easily, but my data
> have 1440*720 array.
> So I couldn't fix these one by one. Is there any methods?
```

I suppose there could be an infinite number of "methods," but the point is that all of them would create "data" out of whole cloth. Thus, we are going to leave the responsibility for it up to you, who has to answer for it in front of a scientific audience. (You have told your advisor what you are up to, I presume.)

How many NANs are there? So many you can't fix them!?
Perhaps your time could be spent more profitably trying to figure out how to collect more real data. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan
Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2007 01:42:32 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

```
> Nick writes:
>
>> I have regular arrayed data (1440*720). I'd like to change this data
>> to 360*180 array.
>> So I use 'Rebin' function.
>> But these data have NaN value.
>> If I use Rebin and there is a NaN value, new array becomes also NaN.
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>> For example, if there is only one NaN in the old array, the new-array
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>> situation makes residual data wasteful.
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>> A = [1.5,2.5,3.6,4,7,8.8,9.0,!values.f_nan]
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>> ;result is 'NAN'
>> ;That I expected value is mean(A, /nan)
>>
>> Is there any know-how to change array except NaN?
>
> Well, you seem to know how to change your array.
> Why don't you just find the NANs, change them to
> what you want them to be, then do the REBIN?
```

I haven't had to do this with IDL, so I didn't realize that IDL handled it inconveniently. What I would normally want to have happen when re-binning data with NaNs is that every element of the output array whose calculation involved one of the NaN's in the input array would itself contain a NaN, while all the other elements of the array would be calculated normally. That's not something that could be achieved by the approach you suggest. If that's a feature not already provided as an option by rebin, it should be.

Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2007 01:59:00 GMT
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kuyper writes:

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- > handled it inconveniently. What I would normally want to have happen
- > when re-binning data with NaNs is that every element of the output
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- > would be calculated normally. That's not something that could be
- > achieved by the approach you suggest. If that's a feature not already
- > provided as an option by rebin, it should be.

In my little experiment, that is **exactly** how it worked. And how I would have expected it to work, too. How could IDL do anything else and not be accused of "created data where none exists."

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2007 04:04:35 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> kuyper writes:

- >
- >> I haven't had to do this with IDL, so I didn't realize that IDL
- >> handled it inconveniently. What I would normally want to have happen
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- > In my little experiment, that is **exactly** how it
- > worked. And how I would have expected it to work, too.
- > How could IDL do anything else and not be accused of
- > "created data where none exists."

I've been at home this weekend, without access to IDL, so I hadn't

gotten around to testing it. However, what Nick described was not the creation of data where none exists, but the destruction of usable data by rebin():

> If I use Rebin and there is a NaN value, new array becomes also NaN.

I understood that to mean that the entire re-binned array was set to NaN, not just isolated portions of it.

Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2007 04:17:57 GMT

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kuyper writes:

> I've been at home this weekend, without access to IDL, so I hadn't
> gotten around to testing it. However, what Nick described was not the
> creation of data where none exists, but the destruction of usable data
> by rebin():

>

>> If I use Rebin and there is a NaN value, new array becomes also NaN.

>

> I understood that to mean that the entire re-binned array was set to
> NaN, not just isolated portions of it.

His example showed an entire vector, one element of which was a NaN, reduced to a single value. In this case, the result-- sensibly I think, since it WAS involved in the calculation-- was a NaN. In the example, the mean was probably a better choice for a single number (and you can set a NAN flag for that), but for some reason the requester rejected that as an option. (He didn't explain why.)

My only point is that if you are going to assign a value where one didn't exist before, you will have to take responsibility for doing so. IDL can hardly be expected to help you out in this ethically challenging situation. I think it is right that any expression that involves a NAN will result in a NAN. What else could it be. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: rebin and !values.f_nan
Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Mon, 16 Jul 2007 07:03:19 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi all,

"Nick" <jungbinusu@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:1184534401.344733.293590@i38g2000prf.googlegroups.com...
> Thank you for your reply.
> I could find where is 'NaN' vaule, but I had to omit these 'NaN' value
> in order to change array. It's hard point for me. If I change NaN
> values to zero, values which are changed by Rebin will be lower than
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> print, rebin(A, 1)
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>
> The example case is so simple that I can fix it easily, but my data
> have 1440*720 array.
> So I couldn't fix thise one by one. Is there any methods?
> Thanks, Nick.

Just to clear up one possible confusion, IDL's Rebin() does handle each
resulting bin separately, so any bin with no NaNs comes up fine:

```
IDL> A = [1.5,2.5,3.6,4,7,8.8,9.0,!values.f_nan]  
IDL> print,rebin(a,4)  
2.00000 3.80000 7.90000 NaN
```

Rebin() gives a NaN result if any value in the bin is NaN. Now, what I think
Nick wants is for each bin to receive the mean of the finite values (the
non-NaN's, or NaN's! or perhaps N's... :-)) that are present. A reasonable
request, in the spirit of Mean(array, /NaN). I don't think there's a built-in
way to do this NaN-tolerant Rebin, so here's my attempt.

I take the first dimension (1440) and split it into two dimensions (4, 360). I
take the second dimension (720) and split it into two more dimensions (4, 180).
Then I use Total(/NaN) to squash out the extra dimensions, getting the total of
the desired values in each resulting array element. A similar Total-ing on the
count of Finite() values gives the count of values summed for each result.
Divide each total by each count and you get the mean of each bin's finite
values. If a bin had all NaNs, the result should be NaN as well.

PRO RebinNaNTest

```
a = FIndGen(1440,720)           ; Sample data

a[1] = !values.f_nan           ; to make one element NaN
;a[* ,0:2] = !values.f_nan     ; to make three rows NaN
;a[* ,0:3] = !values.f_nan     ; to make four rows NaN

Print, 'Rebin method:'

rebinResult = Rebin(a,360,180)

Print, rebinResult[0:1, 0:1]

b = Reform(a, 4, 360, 4, 180)   ; Make separate 'b' array in
                                ; case you want to see this:
;print,total(a[0:3,0:3])
;   NaN
;print,total(a[0:3,0:3],/NaN)
;   34583.0
;print,total(b[* ,0,* ,0],/NaN)
;   34583.0
;; But in practice, you could reform 'a' in place,
;; which saves memory and is very fast:
;; a = Reform(a, 4, 360, 4, 180, /Overwrite)
```

Print

Print, 'RebinNaN method:'

```
sumFinite = Total(Total(b, 3, /NaN), 1, /NaN)
nFinite = Total(Total(Finite(b), 3, /NaN), 1, /NaN)
result = sumFinite/nFinite
```

Print, result[0:1, 0:1]

END

With one NaN this seems to work:

Rebin method:

```
   NaN    2165.50
7921.50  7925.50
```

RebinNaN method:
2305.53 2165.50
7921.50 7925.50

With three rows of NaNs:

```
IDL> rebinnantest
Rebin method:
    NaN    NaN
7921.50 7925.50
```

RebinNaN method:
4321.50 4325.50
7921.50 7925.50

With four rows of NaNs:

```
IDL> rebinnantest
Rebin method:
    NaN    NaN
7921.50 7925.50
```

RebinNaN method:
-NaN -NaN
7921.50 7925.50

Program caused arithmetic error: Floating illegal operand

Rough timing test shows this takes 5-10 times as long as Rebin(), but it works!

This could be put into a nice general function to replace Rebin when you need NaN handling, but I'll see whether anyone pops up Monday morning with one already written!

Hope this helps.

--
Cheers,
-Dick

--

