
Subject: Re: 5th & 95th Percentiles

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Wed, 13 Feb 2008 16:10:41 GMT

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On Feb 13, 9:58 am, chloesharro...@gmail.com wrote:

> Hello

>

> I have an array of data which is not in order and need to find the 5th

> & 95th percentile of this data. Is there an easy way to do this? I

> will eventually need it to be extended to a for loop that works

> through multiple arrays each of which have a different number of data

> contained within them.

>

> Thanks

> Chloé

>

> PS. I'm very inexperienced with IDL so the simpler the better!

I use this:

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_lib/MartinSchultz3/percentiles.pro

Subject: Re: 5th & 95th Percentiles

Posted by [chloesharrocks](#) on Wed, 13 Feb 2008 16:19:22 GMT

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Thanks very much :)

Subject: Re: 5th & 95th Percentiles

Posted by [Spon](#) on Wed, 13 Feb 2008 17:04:55 GMT

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On Feb 13, 4:10 pm, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

> On Feb 13, 9:58 am, chloesharro...@gmail.com wrote:

>

>> Hello

>

>> I have an array of data which is not in order and need to find the 5th

>> & 95th percentile of this data. Is there an easy way to do this? I

>> will eventually need it to be extended to a for loop that works

>> through multiple arrays each of which have a different number of data

>> contained within them.

>

>> Thanks

>> Chloé

>

>> PS. I'm very inexperienced with IDL so the simpler the better!

>

> I use [this:http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_lib/Mart...](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-1/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_lib/Mart...)

```
pc5 = Data( (SORT(Data) ) (5 * N_ELEMENTS(Data) / 100) )
pc95 = Data( (SORT(Data) ) (95 * N_ELEMENTS(Data) / 100) )
```

This is blatant thievery on my part from an old newsgroup thread.
Try searching the old posts for Stein Vidar to whom all credit should go! :-)

Good luck!
Chris

Subject: Re: 5th & 95th Percentiles
Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Thu, 14 Feb 2008 09:04:19 GMT
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On Feb 13, 5:04 pm, Spon <christoph.b...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> pc5 = Data( (SORT(Data) ) (5 * N_ELEMENTS(Data) / 100) )
> pc95 = Data( (SORT(Data) ) (95 * N_ELEMENTS(Data) / 100) )
```

Please use

```
compile_opt defint32, strictarr
```

or

```
compile_opt idl2
```

at the beginning of each function (and in your IDL startup script) and square braces for readability. For me at least it makes my head spin. Consider the following instead:

```
pc5 = Data[ (SORT(Data))[5 * N_ELEMENTS(Data) / 100] ]
```

At least now it is clear which is which (array indexing vs. function calling).

If you need both pc5 and pc95, be sure to store the sorted index:

```
sidx = sort(data)
ndata = n_elements(data)
pc5 = data[sidx[5*ndata / 100]]
pc66 = data[sidx[66*ndata / 100]]
```

