
Subject: Re: How to find second minimum elements in an array in IDL?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 15:31:53 GMT

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Hu writes:

> Supposing that there is an array X=[9,2,3,5,1,6,8,4,7], how can I find
> the first and second minimums (in this array are elements 1 and 2) in
> this vector?
>
> I use this to find the first minimum (element 1):
>
> index = where(X eq min(X))
> minimum_first=X[index]
>
> But, how can i find the elements 2 ?

Set the first minimum elements to some absurdly large value and give it another try. :-)

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: How to find second minimum elements in an array in IDL?

Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 15:38:16 GMT

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or something like,

```
IDL> X=[9,2,3,5,1,6,8,4,7]
IDL> ind1 = where(X eq min(X), comp=comp)
IDL> ind2 = where(x[comp] eq min(x[comp]))
IDL> print, x[ind1], x[ind2]
  1
  2
```

be VERY careful that ind2 is referring to the array x[comp] NOT the array x.

Or one could use sort to find the value:

```
IDL> xs=x[sort(x)]
```

```
IDL> xu=uniq(xs)
% Compiled module: UNIQ.
IDL> ind=where(xu eq 1)
IDL> print, xu[1]
1
```

and there where to find the index of the value in x

Cheers,

Brian

Brian Larsen
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
<http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL>

Subject: Re: How to find second minimum elements in an array in IDL?

Posted by [Hu](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 15:41:00 GMT

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On Jan 14, 10:31 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Hu writes:

>> Supposing that there is an array X=[9,2,3,5,1,6,8,4,7], how can I find
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> 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.")

thank you, David ! It works!
I surf your website everyday.

Subject: Re: How to find second minimum elements in an array in IDL?

Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 15:41:01 GMT

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> Or one could use sort to find the value:

> IDL> xs=x[sort(x)]

> IDL> xu=uniq(xs)

> % Compiled module: UNIQ.

> IDL> ind=where(xu eq 1)

> IDL> print, xu[1]

> 1

Oops amend this, I got the uniq output wrong in my head, the second minimum is xu[1] and first is xu[0]

Brian

Brian Larsen
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
<http://people.bu.edu/balarsen/Home/IDL>

Subject: Re: How to find second minimum elements in an array in IDL?

Posted by [Carsten Lechte](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 15:45:09 GMT

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Hu wrote:

> index = where(X eq min(X))

> minimum_first=X[index]

You can do

minimum_first = MIN(X, index)

which may be faster.

chl
