
Subject: Re: Duplicate lat/long points

Posted by [Juggernaut](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 13:10:38 GMT

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On Jan 14, 5:21 am, hethomas <het...@googlemail.com> wrote:

> From searching this forum for "duplicate points" I found that a while
> back, under the thread entitled "duplicates - a new twist" my problem
> was posted (almost exactly identically) by Martin Doyle.
> [[http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/470ca560db41c58a/df9dba74d5788f6c?lnk=gst&q=duplicate](http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/470ca560db41c58a/df9dba74d5788f6c?lnk=gst&q=duplicate+points#df9dba74d5788f6c)
> +points#df9dba74d5788f6c]

> In short, I have a list of latitude, longitude and data and need to
> combine any duplicate lat longs by summing the data value.

> Despite the many follow up answers to this I am still having problems
> with using the UNIQ function on both latitude and longitude as they
> each need to be sorted numerically for IDL to work. Is anyone able to
> shed any light on this?! Or indeed, know of a quicker/easier method.
> There is a function in R called "aggregate" which appears to do
> exactly what I need, but I am unable to find an IDL equivalent.

> Any help is greatly appreciated!

> Helen

As I understand it I see the following solution although there could
be numerous faster more elegant ones this is my back of the hand
approach.

Arbitrary values...although they could be floating point, etc...

```
lats1 = [20,25,30,35,40,45,50,55]
```

```
lats2 = [15,25,35,35,40,42,32,28]
```

```
lons1 = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
```

```
lons2 = [0,2,6,2,5,9,7,8]
```

```
data1 = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8]
```

```
data2 = [10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17]
```

```
latIndices = where(abs(lats1-lats2) LT 1e-5)
```

```
IDL> print, latIndices
```

```
1      3      4
```

```
lonIndices = where(abs(lons1-lons2) LT 1e-5)
```

```
IDL> print, lonIndices
```

```
1      4      6      7
```

Now that you've found matching indices into both lat and lon space you
figure out where they're equal and use that to index your data for
summing

A description of setintersection can be found at

http://www.dfanning.com/tips/set_operations.html

```
inds = setintersection(latIndices, lonIndices)
```

```
IDL> print, inds
      1      4
total = data1[inds] + data2[inds]
IDL> print, total
      13     19
```

Which yields the correct answer as I see it. If this helps then excellent...if not...not so much excellence. But keep poking for an answer.

Best of Luck,
Bennett

Subject: Re: Duplicate lat/long points
Posted by [Brian Larsen](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 13:38:43 GMT
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One other way to do this that I use pretty often is with histogram and reverse_indices. I have to read http://www.dfanning.com/tips/histogram_tutorial.html just about each time to be sure I get it right, but its still worth it. What this does for you is not look for points that are the "same" but instead give you a regular grid of your chosen size. One benefit of this in my opinion is that a change of one variable and you can do high-res or low-res, e.g. 1 deg or 10 deg analysis.

Cheers,

Brian

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

Subject: Re: Duplicate lat/long points
Posted by [hethomas](#) on Wed, 14 Jan 2009 15:19:55 GMT
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Thank you both for your responses, they are definitely making me think about alternative ways to tackle this.

However, Brian - I am struggling to see how you use histogram to do this. Do you have an example of this that you wouldn't mind sharing so that I can see more clearly what you mean?

Thanks again.

Helen

Subject: Re: Duplicate lat/long points

Posted by [russell.grew](#) on Thu, 15 Jan 2009 08:54:55 GMT

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You make a histogram where the bins are each latitude and also each longitude.

It takes some thinking, but it works.
