
Subject: Missing Data Programming Contest
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 08 Apr 2009 13:23:24 GMT
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Folks,

I don't have time today to think about this, so I've decided to get you to do my thinking for me. :-)

Suppose you are expecting a data array and you suspect the data has "missing values" in it that you wish to exclude from further processing. You write a keyword for your routine that allows the user to pass in what he is using for the "missing value".

PRO Junker, data, MISSING_VALUE=missing_value

How would you write the code to assure that this missing value would be excluded from further processing?

You should assume:

1. The data can be any data type except complex or string.
2. The missing value *could* be !VALUES.F_NAN.
3. Unsophisticated users might be using your program, so, for example, they might pass in a missing value such as 594.32.

No, this is NOT my homework! But I do need it ASAP. ;-)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
