
Subject: Using where() on slices of data cubes
Posted by [Conor](#) on Tue, 20 Oct 2009 12:22:17 GMT
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I feel like this should be an easy one, but I've never quite figured it out. Let's say I got a data cube and I want to do something on just a slice of it, say I want to turn certain values in a column into something else:

```
w = where( cube[1,*,*] lt 0 )
```

It seems like you should be able to do something like this:

```
cube[1,w] = 1e24
```

But that doesn't work... Somehow I can't quite figure out the right way to do this.

Subject: Re: Using where() on slices of data cubes
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 21 Oct 2009 22:20:58 GMT
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JD Smith writes:

```
>
> On Oct 20, 4:32 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>> JD Smith writes:
>>> you should easily be able to generalize the above arguments to access
>>> these elements
>>
>> I think in this case the word "easily" might be
>> too subtly sarcastic to be easily appreciated by
>> the vast majority of this newsgroup. :-)
>
> (Almost) no sarcasm was intended.
>
> Suppose you have this:
>
> w=where(cube[1,5:*,10:1024] lt 0)
>
> The "slice" is no longer as large as the cube in the yz dimensions,
> and is offset by [5,10] too. So
>
> y_full_cube = slice_column + 5
> z_full_cube = slice_row    + 10
>
> and since the slice is smaller than the cube by 5 columns, to convert
```

```
> our WHERE index vector w into col,row in the slice, we use
>
> slice_column = w mod (sz[1]-5)
> slice_row    = w/(sz[1]-5)
>
> Putting it all together we have:
>
> ind = 1 + sz[0] * (5 + w mod (sz[1]-5) + (10 + w/(sz[1]-5)) * sz[1])
```

Ah, OK. Even Coyote seems to be catching on now. ;-)

I'm curious if you have a method to test these indices?

Those of us unused to typing (I would say *most* of us, but I don't want to offend anyone) would find it a challenge, probably, to type a line of code like this and get it right.

How did you test this code to know it was correct?

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: Using where() on slices of data cubes

Posted by [JDS](#) on Fri, 23 Oct 2009 20:27:23 GMT

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On Oct 21, 6:20 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

```
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```

```
>
```

```
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> probably, to type a line of code like this and get it right.
>
> How did you test this code to know it was correct?

```

My standard test uses a small bindgen array with an analogous offset. Small so you can actually just check by printing it out. But I'll admit I didn't even test in this case. Obviously for higher dimensions this gets less useful.

```

IDL> a=bindgen(3,4,5)
IDL> print,a
 0  1  2
 3  4  5
 6  7  8
 9 10 11

12 13 14
15 16 17
18 19 20

```

21 22 23

24 25 26

27 28 29

30 31 32

33 34 35

36 37 38

39 40 41

42 43 44

45 46 47

48 49 50

51 52 53

54 55 56

57 58 59

```
IDL> slice=a[1,1:*,2:3]
```

```
IDL> print,slice
```

28

31

34

40

43

46

```
IDL> w=where(slice gt 0)
```

```
IDL> sz=[3,4,5]
```

```
IDL> print,1 + sz[0] * (1+ w mod (sz[1]-1) + (2+ w/(sz[1]-1)) * sz[1])
```

28 31 34 40 43

46
