
Subject: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [PMagdon](#) on Fri, 30 Nov 2012 15:15:28 GMT

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Dear all,

I tried to use WHERE for multiple comparisons of two arrays.

Here is a minimal example:

1.) Two arrays

A=[1,3,2,5,2,6,1,9]

B=[1,5]

2.) I need to extract all positions of A where any of the values from B occur in A. So that C should look like this:

C=[0,3,6]

So far I tested

C=WHERE(A EQ B) but this doesn't work.

Any ideas how to solve that without looping over B?

Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [Sir Loin Steak](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 18:24:15 GMT

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On Thursday, December 13, 2012 4:35:28 PM UTC, David Fanning wrote:

> David Fanning writes:

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>> OK, I just added a POSITIONS keyword to SetIntersection

>

>> that will return the positions in vector A where the

>

>> values in vector B appear.

>

>>

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>> A=[1,3,2,5,2,6,1,9]

>

>> B=[1,5]

>

```
>> C = SetIntersection(a, b, Positions=pos)
>
>> Print, pos
>
>>      0      6      3
>
>
>
> At Bob Stockwell's suggestion (and with his code!) I
>
> have added the keywords INDICES_A and INDICES_B
>
> to this program to allow you to return the matching
>
> indices in BOTH vectors. Note that this assumes the
>
> vectors A and B contain *unique* values. In other
>
> words, INDICES_A and POSITIONS are identical vectors
>
> IF vector A and B contain unique values. If they
>
> don't, then POSITIONS will contain ALL of the locations
>
> in vector A where the match occurs.
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>
> You can find the updated program here:
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> http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/setintersection.pro
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> Cheers,
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> David
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> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
>
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

I was just about to post a question about this very topic - spooky! Would it also be possible to amend the SetDifference code so it also records positions, as I would like to know which elements of one array have no match in a different array.

Many thanks

Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 18:39:31 GMT

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ljs15@fsmail.net writes:

> I was just about to post a question about this very topic - spooky! Would it also be possible to amend the SetDifference code so it also records positions, as I would like to know which elements of one array have no match in a different array.

I understand "spooky", but I don't understand the rest of this question.

Do you want a POSITIONS keyword for the SetDifference function?

If so, I think I'll leave that as an exercise for the reader.

No reason why I should be the only one working around here! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 18:45:01 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

- > Do you want a POSITIONS keyword for the SetDifference function?
- > If so, I think I'll leave that as an exercise for the reader.
- > No reason why I should be the only one working around here! :-)

Oh, sorry. I see you *did* say SetDifference. I read it as SetIntersection. Duh!

Well, I'll still leave it as an exercise for the reader, since I've already demonstrated how it can be done. It will probably take less than a minute. Send it to me when you are finished modifying it, and I'll publish it for you. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [Sir Loin Steak](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 19:51:56 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Thursday, December 13, 2012 6:45:01 PM UTC, David Fanning wrote:

- > David Fanning writes:
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- >> Do you want a POSITIONS keyword for the SetDifference function?
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> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Ha - fair enough! I'll have a look over it and see what needs doing. :)

Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [Sir Loin Steak](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 21:51:38 GMT

On Thursday, December 13, 2012 7:51:56 PM UTC, Ij...@fsmail.net wrote:

> On Thursday, December 13, 2012 6:45:01 PM UTC, David Fanning wrote:

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>> David Fanning writes:

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Right - I think I've got it sorted. I've added position and count keywords. I spent ages on the indices stuff, then realised I didn't need them as I only wanted to know the elements in one array. Not to worry though - I've always steered clear of the histogram function as it looks horrible, but looking through the routine made me understand it a lot better. So, it wasn't time wasted!

Anyhow, in case anyone wants a quick check the link to the file is below. I'm bound to have done something wrong!

<http://www.physics.open.ac.uk/~lsteel/setdifference.pro>

Cheers,

Liam Steele

Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [Sir Loin Steak](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 21:55:28 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Thursday, December 13, 2012 9:51:38 PM UTC, [lj...@fsmail.net](#) wrote:

> On Thursday, December 13, 2012 7:51:56 PM UTC, [lj...@fsmail.net](#) wrote:

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>> On Thursday, December 13, 2012 6:45:01 PM UTC, David Fanning wrote:

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> <http://www.physics.open.ac.uk/~lsteel/setdifference.pro>
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> Liam Steele

Just noticed that since I removed the indices stuff, the 'REVERSE_INDICES=rb' bit isn't needed anymore. I knew there'd be something wrong! :)

Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 22:05:35 GMT

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ljs15@fsmail.net writes:

> Just noticed that since I removed the indices stuff, the 'REVERSE_INDICES=rb' bit isn't needed anymore. I knew there'd be something wrong! :)

OK, and you didn't give yourself credit in the Modification History, but I'll fix that for you. :-)

Good job, though. Thanks!

David

--

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Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [liamsteele](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2012 00:24:09 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Thursday, 13 December 2012 22:05:35 UTC, David Fanning wrote:

> ljs15@fsmail.net writes:

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>
>> Just noticed that since I removed the indices stuff, the 'REVERSE_INDICES=rb' bit isn't
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No problem. I've actually learned something, so it was very worthwhile! I'm trying to think of all the things I'll be able to use the histogram function for now! :)

Liam

Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2012 02:08:32 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

liamsteele@lavabit.com writes:

> I've actually learned something, so it was very worthwhile!
> I'm trying to think of all the things I'll be able to use
> the histogram function for now! :)

Yes, this is the power of pushing the SEND button. You will be shocked at how much you learn! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Select values from one array that match multiple values from an other array

Posted by [Sir Loin Steak](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2012 16:02:47 GMT

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Just realised that the amended function doesn't work in the case where none of the array

elements match. I have remedied this by adding count and positions sections to the 'no overlap' section of the code:

```
; If no overlap, return no result.  
IF (minb GT maxa) OR (maxb LT mina) THEN BEGIN  
    success = 0  
    count = N_Elements(set_a)  
    positions = indgen(count)  
    RETURN, noresult  
ENDIF
```

The amended version is at <http://www.physics.open.ac.uk/~lsteele/setdifference.pro>. I'm not sure if this is the right way to go about solving the problem, so feel free to alter the script further if anyone has any better ideas!

Liam
