
Subject: array manipulation (TOTAL-ing or MEDIAN-ing) in uneven bins

Posted by [havok2063](#) on Wed, 12 Dec 2012 16:16:21 GMT

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I have several unrelated problems that I'm solving in the same efficient way (with loops). I'm trying to perform some array operation on an array, according to a list of (let's call them) uneven bins.

I have an array, say `d`, of 146 elements. I have a separate array that represents uneven bins that I want to perform the operation on, like MEDIAN, or TOTAL. For example,

```
ntot = [15,45,56,90,116,146]
```

I want as output an array, of 6 elements, that contains the MEDIAN (or TOTAL) of array `d` according to the indices listed in `ntot`.

So the 1st element would contain `median(d[0:14],/even)`, the 2nd `median(d[15:44],/even)`, etc....

Or the same thing with total....`total(d[0:14])`, `total(d[15:44])` , etc...

Right now I'm looping over the number of elements in `ntot` to do this and I don't much care for loops.

I don't think this is quite the same thing as the example given in the "Horror and Disgust of Histogram" article nor does this sound like something I can do with `value_locate`, although I'm not too familiar with `value_locate`.

Any ideas on this? Thanks a lot.

Subject: Re: array manipulation (TOTAL-ing or MEDIAN-ing) in uneven bins

Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 12 Dec 2012 22:03:51 GMT

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On 12/12/12 10:16 AM, [havok2063@gmail.com](#) wrote:

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As David says, this screams VALUE_LOCATE. And HISTOGRAM. They play very nicely together for this sort of problem!

First we need to label the bin for each element:

```
nelements = 146
binlabel = value_locate(ntot, lindgen(nelements))
```

Then use histogram to group the elements by bin label. Notice that the way you've defined ntot, elements 0 through 14 will be labelled "-1" by value_locate, so we start the histogram there:

```
nbin = n_elements(ntot)
hist = histogram(binlabel, min=-1, max=nbin-1, reverse_indices=ri)
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And finally we do the usual loop through the reverse indices to calculate the statistics:

```
medianbin = fltarr(nbin)
totbin = fltarr(nbin)
for i=0L,nbin-1 do if hist[i] gt 0 then begin
  these = ri[ri[i]:ri[i+1]-1]
  medianbin[i] = median(d[these], /even)
  totbin[i] = total(d[these])
endif
```

-Jeremy.

Subject: Re: array manipulation (TOTAL-ing or MEDIAN-ing) in uneven bins
 Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 12 Dec 2012 22:18:07 GMT
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On 12/12/12 4:03 PM, Jeremy Bailin wrote:

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Actually, for the total you can do a lot better by using cumulative:

```
runningtotal = total(d, /cumulative)
totbin = runningtotal[ntot] - [0,runningtotal[ntot]]
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-Jeremy.

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Posted by [Jeremy Bailin](#) on Wed, 12 Dec 2012 22:19:07 GMT

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Ack, hit send to soon. That should be:

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-Jeremy.

Subject: Re: array manipulation (TOTAL-ing or MEDIAN-ing) in uneven bins
Posted by [havok2063](#) on Thu, 13 Dec 2012 20:11:16 GMT

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On Wednesday, December 12, 2012 5:19:07 PM UTC-5, Jeremy Bailin wrote:

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Excellent. That really hits the spot. Thanks a lot. I was hovering somewhere around there but couldn't quite converge on what to do with `value_locate`.
