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Subject: Locating desired values in an array.  
Posted by [gpeterso](#) on Thu, 24 Jul 2014 01:50:25 GMT  
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So i have an array that is [2,58]. I need the number that is closet to -42 for each time the track number increases by one. So for example for track number 28742 I should get the third bin number of -42.6996. I am very confused on how to do approach this.

lat	track number
-45.9996	28742.0
-44.3502	28742.0
-42.6996	28742.0
-41.0498	28742.0
-39.3996	28742.0
-44.5354	28743.0
-42.8868	28743.0
-41.2346	28743.0
-39.5846	28743.0
-45.3804	28744.0
-43.7284	28744.0
-42.0808	28744.0
-40.4308	28744.0
-38.7792	28744.0
-45.4610	28745.0
-43.8098	28745.0
-42.1594	28745.0
-40.5126	28745.0
-38.8608	28745.0
-45.1552	28746.0
-43.5100	28746.0
-41.8678	28746.0
-40.2296	28746.0
-38.5952	28746.0
-44.9840	28747.0
-43.3334	28747.0
-40.0314	28747.0
-38.3800	28747.0
-45.8540	28748.0
-44.2030	28748.0
-42.5522	28748.0
-40.9032	28748.0
-39.2532	28748.0
-45.5312	28749.0
-43.9034	28749.0
-42.2568	28749.0
-40.6044	28749.0

```
-38.9540 28749.0
-44.8084 28750.0
-43.1594 28750.0
-41.5118 28750.0
-39.8642 28750.0
-38.2144 28750.0
-44.8434 28751.0
-43.1930 28751.0
-41.5444 28751.0
-39.8958 28751.0
-38.2454 28751.0
-44.8526 28752.0
-43.2026 28752.0
-41.5494 28752.0
-39.8990 28752.0
-38.2494 28752.0
-45.4156 28753.0
-43.7656 28753.0
-42.1140 28753.0
-40.4638 28753.0
-38.8128 28753.0
```

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Subject: Re: Locating desired values in an array.  
Posted by [Moritz Fischer](#) on Thu, 24 Jul 2014 06:26:49 GMT  
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Unless you know more about the nature of those track numbers I'd loop over them. You can get the track numbers using UNIQ() and then do something like this:

```
tn = uniq( yourarray[1,*] )
value = filtarr( n_elements( tn ) )

for i=0,n_elements(tn)-1 do begin

    subset = WHERE( yourarray[1,*] EQ tn[i] )

    void = min(abs( yourarray[0,subset] + 42. ), min_index )

    value[i] = yourarr[0, subset[min_index] ]

end
```

Am 24.07.2014 03:50, schrieb gpeterso@ucsc.edu:  
> So i have an array that is [2,58]. I need the number that is closet  
> to -42 for each time the track number increases by one. So for

> example for track number 28742 I should get the third bin number of  
> -42.6996. I am very confused on how to do approach this.  
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Subject: Re: Locating desired values in an array.  
Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Thu, 24 Jul 2014 12:13:30 GMT  
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Here is a solution using Histogram and reverse indices.

```
;Create data
tn    = [replicate(3, 5), replicate(2, 3), replicate(9, 8)]
lat   = 42 + randomu(5, n_elements(tn))

;Histogram to find repeated track numbers
hist  = histogram(tn, MIN=0, REVERSE_INDICES=ri)

;Allocate memory to result.
nHist  = n_elements(hist)
theNumber = fltarr(nHist)
theIndex = intarr(nHist) - 1

;Loop through each bin
for i = 0, nHist-1 do begin
  ;Only analyze bins with something in them
  if ri[i+1] gt ri[i] then begin
    ;Find the closest number and its index
    theNumber[i] = min( abs( 42 - abs(lat[ri[ri[i]:ri[i+1]-1]]) ), iMax )
    theIndex[i] = ri[i] + iMax
  endif
endfor

;Weed out empty histogram bins
iKeep  = where(theIndex ne -1)
theNumber = theNumber[iKeep]
theIndex = theIndex[iKeep]
```

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Subject: Re: Locating desired values in an array.  
Posted by [gpeterso%ucsc.edu](#) on Thu, 24 Jul 2014 18:19:08 GMT  
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When I try your way I get an error that says:  
Attempt to subscript yourarray with subset is out of range

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Subject: Re: Locating desired values in an array.  
Posted by [Moritz Fischer](#) on Fri, 25 Jul 2014 08:16:24 GMT  
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Sorry, my bad. UNIQ returns indices, not values. So it's even simpler:

```
idx = [-1,uniq( yourarray[1,*] )]  
value = fltarr( n_elements(idx)-1 )  
  
for i=0,n_elements(idx)-2 do begin  
  
    void = min(abs( yourarray[0, idx[i]+1:idx[i+1]] + 42. ), min_index )  
  
    value[i] = yourarray[0, idx[i]+1+min_index ]  
  
end
```

However, note that this only works if the track numbers are sorted!  
I'd stick to Matthew's approach, which is more generic!

Am 24.07.2014 20:19, schrieb [gpeterso%ucsc.edu@gtempaccount.com](mailto:gpeterso%ucsc.edu@gtempaccount.com):  
> When I try your way I get an error that says: Attempt to subscript  
> yourarray with subset is out of range  
>

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