

---

Subject: Re: row calculation in a 2D array  
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Tue, 25 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Jonas wrote:

>  
> thanxalot (both Kevin and David), it helped. I wasn't aware of the function  
> "TOTAL", still being a newbie and all.  
>  
> This was kind of a special example since total could do all the work. What  
> if I would like to do another calculation where total is not applicable...  
> in other words:  
> is there generally an easy way to perform the same calculation over all the  
> (sub-)rows in a in a 2D array?  
>  
> I do not have such a problem at the moment, but I assume it is likely that I  
> will encounter it in the future (at least if i don't ask now :-)).  
>  
> sincerely  
> Jonas Svensson

Well, if you want to compute averages first over rows 0:3, then 4:7,  
then 8:11, etc. you may not get around using a loop. Although, in some  
cases you could try your luck with `reform()` and a subsequent call to  
Kevin's average routine (which I like very much: THANKS!). But this is  
certainly prone to errors...

Martin.

--

-----  
Dr. Martin Schultz  
Department for Earth&Planetary Sciences, Harvard University  
109 Pierce Hall, 29 Oxford St., Cambridge, MA-02138, USA

phone: (617)-496-8318  
fax : (617)-495-4551

e-mail: [mgs@io.harvard.edu](mailto:mgs@io.harvard.edu)  
Internet-homepage: <http://www-as.harvard.edu/people/staff/mgs/>  
-----

---

Subject: Re: row calculation in a 2D array  
Posted by [Jonas](#) on Tue, 25 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT

---

thanxalot (both Kevin and David), it helped. I wasn't aware of the function "TOTAL", still being a newbie and all.

This was kind of a special example since total could do all the work. What if I would like to do another calculation where total is not applicable...

in other words:

is there generally an easy way to perform the same calculation over all the (sub-)rows in a 2D array?

I do not have such a problem at the moment, but I assume it is likely that I will encounter it in the future (at least if i don't ask now :-)).

sincerely

Jonas Svensson

---

---

Subject: Re: row calculation in a 2D array

Posted by [Kevin Ivory](#) on Tue, 25 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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

---

Jonas wrote:

- > I want to perform the same operation on each sub-row in a 2D array.
- > Say I want to calculate the mean of element 4-7 in each row of a 10x10
- > array, and store the result in a 10 element-vector, where each element holds
- > the mean from the respective row
- >
- > how is this done the smartest way, without using time-consuming loops?

A general answer is not easy, but your example is. You need routines that only work on certain dimensions of multidimensional matrices.

For calculating the mean I have exactly what you need: It is a one-liner (with a few comments) named 'average'. Here is an example:

```
IDL> ten_2d = bindgen(10,10)
```

```
IDL> print, average(ten_2d(4:7,*), 1)
```

```
   5.50000   15.5000   25.5000   35.5000   45.5000   55.5000
  65.5000   75.5000   85.5000   95.5000
```

Hope this helps,

Kevin

--

Kevin Ivory                      Tel: +49 5556 979 434  
Max-Planck-Institut fuer Aeronomie   Fax: +49 5556 979 240  
Max-Planck-Str. 2                      mailto:Kevin.Ivory@linmpi.mpg.de  
D-37191 Katlenburg-Lindau, GERMANY   http://www.gwdg.de/~kivory2/

-----  
; Time-stamp: <average.pro Thu Apr 3 16:00:48 MET DST 1997>

```
function average, array, dim, _extra=_extra
;+
; calculates the average value of an array (all arguments as in 'total')
; arguments
; array    array to be averaged, any type except string
; dim      dimension over which to average (see 'total' documentation)
; keywords
; _extra   all keywords passed to 'total'
;-
  if n_elements(dim) eq 0 then dim = 0
  return, total(array, dim, _extra=_extra) / (total(finite(array), dim)>1)
end
```

---

---

Subject: Re: row calculation in a 2D array  
Posted by [David Kastrup](#) on Tue, 25 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

"Jonas" <jonas\_2@hotmail.com> writes:

> Probably a damn simple one, but anyway:  
>  
> I want to perform the same operation on each sub-row in a 2D array.  
> Say I want to calculate the mean of element 4-7 in each row of a 10x10  
> array, and store the result in a 10 element-vector, where each element holds  
> the mean from the respective row  
>  
> how is this done the smartest way, without using time-consuming loops?

mean = total(array[4:7,\*],1)/4

--

David Kastrup                                      Phone: +49-234-700-5570  
Email: dak@neuroinformatik.ruhr-uni-bochum.de      Fax: +49-234-709-4209  
Institut für Neuroinformatik, Universitätsstr. 150, 44780 Bochum, Germany

---

---

Subject: Re: row calculation in a 2D array  
Posted by [Alex Schuster](#) on Wed, 26 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Jonas wrote:

- > This was kind of a special example since total could do all the work. What
- > if I would like to do another calculation where total is not applicable...
- > in other words:
- > is there generally an easy way to perform the same calculation over all the
- > (sub-)rows in a in a 2D array?

Calculating the average of each row could be done by matrix multiplication:

```
a = findgen( 10, 10 )
b = reform( fltarr( 10 ) + 1, 1, 10 )
average = reform( b # a / 10 )
print, average
```

```
      4.50000    14.5000    24.5000    34.5000    44.5000
54.5000
      64.5000    74.5000    84.5000    94.5000
```

Other things would be more difficult, though, and sometimes you just cannot avoid loops.

Alex

--

Alex Schuster    Wonko@weird.cologne.de    PGP Key available  
alex@pet.mpin-koeln.mpg.de

Subject: Re: row calculation in a 2D array  
 Posted by [Jonas](#) on Wed, 26 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Martin Schultz skrev i meddelandet <35E326AF.41C6@io.harvard.edu>...

- > Well, if you want to compute averages first over rows 0:3, then 4:7,
- > then 8:11, etc. you may not get around using a loop. Although, in some
- > cases you could try your luck with reform() and a subsequent call to
- > Kevin's average routine (which I like very much: THANKS!). But this is
- > certainly prone to errors...

>  
 > Martin.

>  
 >

What I meant was, doing all the calculations on the same sub-row in each row. The question then is: Is there a general way to access all these subrows if the calculation to be performed is not including "TOTAL".

Jonas