

## tf.sparse\_mask

```
sparse_mask(  
    a,  
    mask_indices,  
    name=None  
)
```

Defined in [tensorflow/python/ops/array\\_ops.py](#).

See the guide: [Variables > Sparse Variable Updates](#)

Masks elements of `IndexedSlices`.

Given an `IndexedSlices` instance `a`, returns another `IndexedSlices` that contains a subset of the slices of `a`. Only the slices at indices not specified in `mask_indices` are returned.

This is useful when you need to extract a subset of slices in an `IndexedSlices` object.

For example:

```
# `a` contains slices at indices [12, 26, 37, 45] from a large tensor  
# with shape [1000, 10]  
a.indices # [12, 26, 37, 45]  
tf.shape(a.values) # [4, 10]  
  
# `b` will be the subset of `a` slices at its second and third indices, so  
# we want to mask its first and last indices (which are at absolute  
# indices 12, 45)  
b = tf.sparse_mask(a, [12, 45])  
  
b.indices # [26, 37]  
tf.shape(b.values) # [2, 10]
```

## Args:

- `a`: An `IndexedSlices` instance.
- `mask_indices`: Indices of elements to mask.
- `name`: A name for the operation (optional).

## Returns:

The masked `IndexedSlices` instance.

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