
Subject: Re: array subscripts

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 18 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Kevin Ivory wrote:

>

>> Martin Schultz (mgs@io.harvard.edu) writes:

>>> PPS: And while we are at it... One of the most useful tips I got from

>>> David's book (so far) was the A[n:*] syntax to extract ranges from n to

>>> end. I am really grateful for this!

>

> David Fanning wrote:

>> I've been using this for so long I can't really remember

>> where I learned it, but I suspect it was from Ray Sterner's

>> unpublished (so far) IDL manuscript. He has dozens of

>> useful subscripting tips like this. :-)

>

> Perhaps you read the IDL manual? The book 'Building IDL Applications'

> has a chapter about 'Array Subscripts' with a section about 'Subscript

> Ranges'. ;-)

>

> By the way, the book is online:

> ftp://ftp.rsinc.com/pub/idl_5.1.1/info/docs/building.pdf

> See page 62.

>

> Cheers,

> Kevin

Thanks for pointing me to the right manual, Kevin. As I now understand, the idea behind passing two or more "explicit" index arrays as subscripts is to extract individual elements of an array, not a rectangular domain.

Hence, A=INDGEN(10,10)

B=A[[1,2,3],[4,5,6]]

returns A1,4 , A2,5 , and A3,6

whereas C=A[[1,2,3], 4:6]

returns A1,4 A2,4 A3,4

A1,5 A2,5 A3,5

A1,6 A2,6 A3,6

(or the transposed form?)

I guess, this is one of those cases, where one gets into the habit of certain things, and then you start wondering why things are not laid out the way you need them. I must recognize, there are other people using IDL for different purposes than me ;-)

Thanks again,
Martin.

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