Subject: Re: "clamping" an array to a maximum value? Posted by Craig Markwardt on Tue, 22 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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Martin Schultz <mgs@io.harvard.edu> writes:

- > Yup,
- >
- > that's what I really intended to say/write. BTW: How about a "last
- > element" operator? I very often need something like
- > subdata = data[*,0:n elements(data[0,*])-1]
- > which is not very aesthetic;-) is it? It would just be great if one
- > could write something like
- > subdata = data[*,0:(*)-1] or anything with a similar short syntax
- > In this case the parantheses would serve to distinguish between "all
- > elements" and "last element". That's probably a little dangerous. Anyone
- > with a better idea?

Yes, yes, a billion times yes! A billion is about the number of times I could have used this capability.

Some present-day scripting languages allow you to supply negative subscripts, to indicate indexing from the end rather than the front of the array. data[-1] would indicate the last element, data[-2] the second to last, etc. Powerful, but maybe *too* powerful.

Craig	
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