
Subject: Re: "clamping" an array to a maximum value?
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Tue, 22 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

```
>
> Kevin Ivory (Kevin@Ivory.de) writes:
>
>> Martin Schultz wrote:
>>> ... but be careful to use parantheses when you want to clamp min and
>>> max at the same time:
>>> twoodle_array = (twoodle_array < max_val ) > min_val
>>
>> In that case I don't use parantheses either, because I think the
>> following "looks" nicer: ;-)
>>
>> twoodle_array = min_val > twoodle_array < max_val
>
> I agree with Kevin. Having nice looking programs is as important
> as having programs that work correctly. :-)
>
> The only problem with Kevin's approach is that I am usually
> clamping from some minimum value to some maximum-minus-one
> value. And this definitely does NOT do what you want:
>
> twoodle_array = min_val > twoodle_array < max_val - 1
>
> I've been bit so many times with this that I've given up
> all aesthetics and wrap those damn parentheses around anything
> that moves. :-(
>
> Happy Holidays,
>
> David
> --
```

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?

Happy holidays,
Martin.

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