
Subject: Re: Undocumented array indexing feature?
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Tue, 26 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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R.Bauer wrote:

>> Bill B. wrote:

> [...]

>> Oh, I knew that one, Alex. Anyone know which method offers faster execution -

>>

>> a = 0 & b = 0 * OR * a = (b = 0)

>>

>> this is important when applying the same principle to large arrays. At least

>> to those of us with slower PCs :(

>

> Initializing of big arrays should be done by a=make_array(200,100000,/nozero)

> This is the fastest method

>

> R.Bauer

but then you have them uninitialized! A fair comparison is

a = make_array(dim1,dim2,type)

Here is some timing info (IDL 5.1 on SGI Origin 2000):

[only one pass each, but these numbers don't change much]

A1 = FLTARR(1000,1000) & A2 = FLTARR(1000,1000)

0.031656981 + 0.032227993 = 0.063884974 seconds

B2 = (B1 = FLTARR(1000,1000))

0.085137010 seconds

C1 = MAKE_ARRAY(1000,1000,/FLOAT) & C2 = ...

0.037186027 + 0.040596962 = 0.077782989 seconds

D1 = MAKE_ARRAY(1000,1000,/FLOAT,/NOZERO) & C2 = ...

0.00017607212 + 0.00011897087 = 0.00029504299 seconds

Regards,
Martin.

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Dr. Martin Schultz

Department for Engineering&Applied 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

Internet-homepage: <http://www-as.harvard.edu/people/staff/mgs/>
