
Subject: Arrays: strange feature ?!

Posted by [Nicolas Decoster](#) on Wed, 03 May 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi.

More I use IDL, more I found strange features. The one I want to talk about is the way you create multidimensional arrays. Look the following IDL commands sequence:

```
IDL> print, [[1, 2], [3, 4]]
```

```
  1      2
  3      4
```

```
IDL> a = [1, 2]
```

```
IDL> b = [3, 4]
```

```
IDL> print, [a, b]
```

```
  1      2      3      4
```

Why the same notation has two meanings? Why for the first print the [something, something_else] notation creates an array of arrays, and for the second one the same notation concatenates the arrays? I can't find the logic behind this.

In fact I stopped on this because I want to create an array of images using something like that: [image1, image2, image3]. What is the way to do this without creating a new temporary variable array? Or is there a way to create easily a list of anything.

I want to build a procedure that takes a list of images and displays them, something like that:

```
myDisplayProcedure, myImagesList, parameter1, parameter2
```

where myImagesList is something like that:

```
{image1, image2, image3}
```

or anything else that can be create on the command line.

I hope I am clear enough.

Any comments? Any suggestions?

Nicolas.

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Tél : 00 (33) 5 62 88 11 16

Fax : 00 (33) 5 62 88 11 12

Nicolas.Decoster@Noveltis.fr

Noveltis
Parc Technologique du Canal
2, avenue de l'Europe
31520 Ramonville Saint Agne - France
