
Subject: Re: how to find the size of the array
Posted by [djackson](#) on Wed, 25 May 1994 15:10:05 GMT
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In article <thompson.769537570@serts.gsfc.nasa.gov>
thompson@serts.gsfc.nasa.gov (William Thompson) writes:

> vshvetsk@fourier.oac.uci.edu (Victor Shvetsky) writes:

[...]

>> is there a way to find out the size of the array from within the program?
>> For example: help, array gives you array(50,50)
>> Now, how can I get those dimensions into the variable?

[...]

> The SIZE() function returns this information. For example,
>
> IDL> SZ = SIZE(ARRAY)
> IDL> PRINT, SZ
> 2 50 50 4 2500
>
> The first element gives the total number of dimensions (zero for scalars).
> Following this are the dimensions, 50x50 in this example.

[...]

Just to add a slightly obscure trick:

If you know that ARRAY has 2 dimensions, it's easy to get the number of
columns and rows by indexing the SIZE() information, as in...

```
IDL> SZ = SIZE(ARRAY)
IDL> COLS = (SIZE(ARRAY))(1) ; note extra ()!
IDL> ROWS = (SIZE(ARRAY))(2)
IDL> PRINT, COLS, ROWS
    50    50
```

Hope this helps!

-Dick

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