Subject: Re: indexing arrays with arrays
Posted by robijn on Fri, 01 Jul 1994 09:09:47 GMT
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In article <Cs7sCo.EFB@space.physics.uiowa.edu>,
Larry Granroth <ljg@space.physics.uiowa.edu> wrote:
>
> IDL> a = fltarr(3)
> IDL> map = [1, 1, 2]
> IDL> a(map) = a(map) + [1.0, 2.0, 3.0]
> IDL> print, a
>   0.00000   2.00000   3.00000
>
> [...] I had hoped that "1.0" and "2.0" would
> have been summed into a(1) and "3.0" into a(2), resulting in
> a = [0.0, 3.0, 3.0].
>
> Why doesn't this work?
>

In IDL a(map) is just a three-element array, filled with values of a.
To this temporary variable [1.0, 2.0, 3.0] is added. The last step
is performing the assignment - simply copying the elements of the
temporary array into the corresponding elements of a according to the
left hand side expression. By now IDL already has 'forgotten' what's on
the right hand side. It copies the elements one by one, thus overwriting
a(0) with 2.0.

    Frank
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  /   /   /   Frank Robijn   Internet: Robijn@Strw.LeidenUniv.NL
 /___ /___/   Sterrewacht Leiden   Bitnet: Robijn@HLERUL51
/   / \   Phone (31) 71 275841   Local: Robijn@HL628
/   /   \   Fax : (31) 71 275819   Snail: P.O.Box 9513, 2300 RA Leiden,
                                                The Netherlands