Subject: Re: User selectable lower array bound?
Posted by John-David T. Smith on Fri, 03 Aug 2001 22:36:07 GMT
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Craig Markwardt wrote:

- > Which brings a gripe of my own to mind. One tricky problem with
- > accessing arrays is that accessing out of bounds elements is both
- > legal and illegal, depending on whether the subscript index is a
- > scalar or an array.

> a[[-1]] = 0 ;; Succeeds! > a[-1] = 0 ;; Fails! > > What is up with that? :-)

From the manual:

>>>> >>>>>> Using Arrays as Subscripts: <snip>

If an element of the subscript array is less than or equal to zero, the first element of the subscripted variable is selected. If an element of the subscript is greater than or equal to the last subscript in the subscripted variable (N, above), the last element is selected.

<<<<<<<

Probably a user complained about having to check the bounds of their array of indices, and RSI added this feature without thinking about the consistency ramifications... apparently a theme of theirs.

JD