
Subject: Re: last array index subscript

Posted by [notspecified](#) on Thu, 23 Jan 2003 20:33:09 GMT

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On Thu, 23 Jan 2003 12:50:30 -0500, Chad Bender

<cbender@mail.astro.sunysb.edu> wrote:

> Hi --

>

> Is there a way in IDL to directly reference the last element of a vector

> without first determining how many elements the vector contains?

>

> For example, something like:

>

> n=N_Elements(my_array)

> value=my_array[n-1]

>

> except without having to make the call to N_Elements. Granted, avoiding

> the N_Elements call probably doesn't save a lot of time. But I figured

> that with all of the complicated syntax that IDL accepts, there might be a

> direct way to do this. The Bldg Apps guide says you can extract a

> subarray from some element e to the end of the array like this:

>

> subarray=my_array[e:*

>

> So it seems to me that IDL knows what that last index is. I tried

> something like:

>

> value=my_array[*-1], but (not unexpectedly) this caused a syntax error.

>

> I figure that what I want is probably impossible, but if anyone knows how

> to do it your advice is appreciated.

>

Well, sigh, how about

```
last = my_array[(size(my_array))[1]-1]
```

Matt Feinstein does not include his email address
in the text of usenet postings.

Harvard Law of Automotive Repair: Anything that goes away
by itself will come back by itself.
