
Subject: Re: last array index subscript
Posted by [Doug Rowland](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 2003 16:30:59 GMT
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Vinay,

How does this work? I tried to wrap my brain around this one. Is it an IDL "bug" or is there some simple rationale for IDL behaving this way? For example, if I try to directly subscript my_array with the scalar value 2147483647L (or any other number which is larger than the number of elements of my_array, less one) I get

```
IDL> print,my_array[2147483647L]
% Attempt to subscript A with <LONG   ( 2147483647)> is out of range.
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

Why should wrapping this index value in an array suddenly make it work?

Thanks.

Doug

In <3e304dac.0@cfanews.harvard.edu> Vinay L. Kashyap wrote:

```
> Try
>
> value=(my_array[[2147483647L]])[0]
>
> where the "[[.]]" returns an array and the "(.)[0]" ensures that the
> output is a scalar, and 2147483647L = 2L^(31L)-1L is the largest
> possible I*4 number you can have and surely no will have an array
> bigger than that.
>
> vinay
>
--
```

Doug Rowland 472 Tate Laboratory of Physics
Space Physics Laboratory 116 Church Street S.E.
School of Physics and Astronomy Minneapolis, MN
University of Minnesota 55455

work: (612) 624-0378 email: rowland@fields.space.umn.edu
fax: (612) 624-4578
