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Subject: Re: Odd behaviour in array indexing ?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 21 Feb 2003 15:40:26 GMT  
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mwvogel (mvogel@rdiag.fgg.eur.nl) writes:

```
> Today I realized something is amiss in IDL
> When I do
> index = [1,0,2,3,1,2,3,4]
> m = FLTARR(8)
> d = FINDGEN(8)
> m[index] = d
> print, m
>    1.00000    4.00000    5.00000    6.00000    7.00000
> 0.000000    0.000000    0.000000
>
> Now I would have assumed that IDL would automatically *add* the numbers with
> identical indices. Not doing
> so is a potential performance penalty, right ? Or am I mistaken....
```

I find it hard to say what exactly you are trying to do here, but IDL seems to be working exactly as I would expect it to. Variables on the left hand side of the expression are having things assigned to them. I'm not sure why you think the assignments should \*add\*. If I do this:

```
a = intarr(2)
a[1] = 5
```

And later,

```
a[1] = 6
```

I sure don't want a[1] to equal 11. That is exactly what you seem to be asking for above.

Cheers,

David

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