Subject: minor glitch in total()
Posted by t.osborn on Fri, 01 Aug 2003 14:50:29 GMT
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Dear all,

A colleague of mine has come across a small bug with the total() function in IDL, when using it with the /cumulative option and a dimension specified when the array is only one-dimensional.

```
IDL> a=findgen(100,100)
IDL> b=total(a)
IDL> b=total(a,1)
IDL> b=total(a,/cumulative)
IDL> b=total(a,/cumulative,1)
IDL>
IDL> a=findgen(100)
IDL> b=total(a)
IDL> b=total(a,1)
IDL> b=total(a,/cumulative)
IDL> b=total(a,/cumulative,1)

Segmentation fault (core dumped)
```

As you will see, total() works fine without the /cumulative option, or with a 2-dimensional array or without specifying a dimension to sum. But when /cumulative is specified for a 1-D array and the dimension to sum over is specified to be 1, then it core dumps. I can replicate this fault.

We can, of course, simply remove the dimension number in this case, since it makes no difference when the input array is only 1-D - but making generic functions that works with a range of input sizes/dimensions would be simpler if bugs like this weren't there - certainly it shouldn't ever core dump!

Is this something that is specific to our platform (OSF alpha) or version?

Cheers

Tim