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Subject: Re: Array indexing problem  
Posted by [kashyap](#) on Thu, 29 Jan 2004 23:21:00 GMT  
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In article <MPG.1a81e83474fc47e19897be@news.frii.com>,  
David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> wrote:  
> Michael Wallace writes:  
>  
> Maybe we can hear from someone who uses it.  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David

I use this feature quite a lot, for instance, to  
define an array of a different size using a set  
of indices where said indices may overflow (happens  
all the time), and all I may want at these overflow  
points is some default value.

Example: suppose there is an array of element  
abundances (say ABUND, with size 30). And a  
set of indices indicating the atomic number  
(say Z, of size 10386). I want to make a new  
array (AZ, of size 10386) which contains the  
abundances for each of the Z[i]. Now further  
suppose that in some places Z may be 0 or -1,  
and for which I simply want to set the abundance  
to 1. There are no doubt other ways of doing  
this, but AZ=ABUND[Z-1] works fast, transparently,  
AND stays readable.

Vinay

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