
Subject: Re: Array indexing problem

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 28 Jan 2004 22:28:22 GMT

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Michael Wallace wrote:

```
>
>>> Is there any existing code that will catch the below IDL simple
>>> example? Input a and b must be an array.
>>>
>>>
>>> Input is an array:
>>> IDL> b=[4]
>>> IDL> a=[0,1,2]
>>> IDL> print,a[b]
>>>      2
>>> This should give me an error.
>>
>>
>> Alas, you have run into a little known, but enormously
>> appreciated, little feature of IDL. (I'm sure it is
>> explained in the manuals somewhere. :-)
>
> Could you elaborate on the "enormously appreciated" part of your
> statement? Maybe I'm not thinking in the "IDL Way," but I would not
> have expected the result IDL gives. It may very well be explained in
> the manuals, but why is such a "feature" "enormously appreciated?"
```

After reading Liam's explanation, I would still like elaboration on why this is "enormously appreciated"! :o) Seems a bizarre feature to me..... but at least it's documented.

paulv

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Paul van Delst
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC
