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Subject: Re: Matrix indexing question  
Posted by [Chris Lee](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 2004 10:26:59 GMT  
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In article <gm1r60p1cdu66r7h8b1bornsh99m1aa05d@4ax.com>, "Matt Feinstein" <nospam@here.com> wrote:

```
> If I set
>
> x = [[1,2,3,4,5,6],[7,8,9,10,11,12]]
> then (case A)
> print, x[[3,4],[1,0]]
> gives
> 10 5
> which is slick, and is the kind of indexing I want. However, if (Case B)
> I set
> y = [[3,4],[1,0]]
> then
> print, x[y]
> gives
>
> 4 5
> 2 1
> which, I guess, is also slick-- but is not what I want. Is there any way
> to set a variable 'y' that will give me the kind of indexing in Case A?
> And, yes, I know that I can set
> y = [9, 4]
> and get the 'right' answer. Is this the only way? Matt Feinstein
> --
> There is no virtue in believing something that can be proved to be true.
```

Hi Matt,

I have two answers, neither is particularly clean.

```
;1
print, x[y[*],0], y[*],1]
      10    5
```

```
;2 , the generic, Index the elements yourself, method.
```

```
x=[[1,2,3,4,5,6],[7,8,9,10,11]]
y=[[3,4],[1,0]]
.....
dx=size(x, /dimensions)
dy=size(y,/dimensions)
```

```
q=replicate(1,n_elements(dx))  
for i=1, n_elements(dx)-1 do for j=0, i-1 do q[i]=q[i]*dx[j]  
;;q holds the number of elements per dimension.
```

indices=y#q ; 2 dimensions in y only

```
print, x[indices]  
10 5
```

Also, some bounds checking might be needed.

Chris.

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