
Subject: Re: Can somebody explain this?

Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Thu, 16 Sep 2004 13:16:57 GMT

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In article <cibvt8\$gmt\$1@canarie.caspar.it>,
"sandrokan" <mura@remove.ifs.rm.cnr.it> wrote:

```
> (Sorry if it is a faw)
> I've spend days of dubbunging and then I've found that, on 5IDL.2:
>
> IDL> a=intarr(4)
>
> IDL> a(4)=1
>
> % Attempt to subscript A with <INT ( 4)> is out of range.
>
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
> IDL> a([4])=1
>
> IDL> print, a(3)
>
> 1
>
>
>
> Isn't it strange? Maybe it is reported somewhere in some idl guide, but I
> still can't believe
>
> it is real....
>
>
>
> Alex
>
>
>
```

This is an obscure feature of using arrays as subscripts. See Building IDL Applications, p 133.

Clipping

If an element of the subscript array is less than or equal to zero, the first element of the subscripted array is selected. If an element of the subscript array is greater than or equal to the last subscript in the subscripted array, the last element is selected. This clipping of out of bounds elements can be disabled within a routine by using the

STRICTARRSUBS option to the COMPILE_OPT statement. (See the

details.) If STRICTARRSUBS is in force, then array subscripts that refer to out of bounds elements will instead cause IDL to issue an error and stop execution, just as an outof-range scalar subscript does.

Ken Bowman
