
Subject: Re: array subscripting problem

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2005 14:34:18 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Martin writes:

> Thanks David, could you expand on that a bit?
>
> I realise it's still only breakfast time over there!

I really need to fix my coffee before I look at the newsgroup. :-)

You wanted to know how to keep array subscripts from going negative. If you compare the subscript with 0 and choose the larger of the two with the "greater than" operator, you will have achieved your goal. I'm not saying it will be **correct**, but I am saying it will **not be negative**. :-)

Similarly, you can fix problems on the other end by using the "less than" operator and checking that the index is smaller than the size of the array.

```
array = indgen(100)
s = Size(array, /Dimensions)
print, array[0 > j < (s[0]-1)]
```

This will keep your index between the allowed indices of the array. Be **sure** to include those parentheses! Leaving them off is one of the classic gotchas.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
