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Subject: Array slices

Posted by [Richard Edgar](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 16:44:49 GMT

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Greetings,

I'm having trouble with slices of 3D arrays in IDL, and I suspect that it's something I don't understand about the way IDL interprets things. My problem can be summed up as follows:

```
IDL> arr=DINDGEN(3,3,3)
IDL> help,arr
ARR      DOUBLE   = Array[3, 3, 3]
IDL> help,arr[*,* ,1]
<Expression>  DOUBLE   = Array[3, 3]
IDL> help,arr[* ,1,*]
<Expression>  DOUBLE   = Array[3, 1, 3]
IDL> help,arr[1,* ,*]
<Expression>  DOUBLE   = Array[1, 3, 3]
```

My questions are:

- a) Why don't all three slices return a [3,3] array?
- b) How do I eliminate the 'useless' dimension?

I typically have routines which want a 2D array, which I only get from the first of these. They (naturally) choke when given a 3D array, one of whose dimensions is unity.

Thanks in advance,

Richard

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