
Subject: Re: initializing arrays

Posted by [Marshall Perrin](#) on Tue, 13 Jun 2006 22:42:16 GMT

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Ben Tupper <btupper@bigelow.org> wrote:

> johnadams_1980@yahoo.com wrote:

>> Hi All,

>>

>> How do you initialize an array to a specific value without using a for

>> loop?

>>

>> Thanks,

>> KL

>>

> You have choices...

>

> arr = REPLICATE(7.0, [32,5])

>

> arr = MAKE_ARRAY([32,5], VALUE = 7.0)

>

> arr = FLTARR(32,5) + 7.0

And somewhat oddly, all three of these seem to be about equal in execution speed for me (tested on a Mac G4 creating a [1000,10000] array of floats filled with 7s). I would've predicted the third one to be substantially slower due to all those additions, but it doesn't seem to be. Maybe the IDL compiler is doing something clever under the hood? (Which is good news, anyway, since that's the one I use most often myself!)

- Marshall
