On Mon, 7 Aug 2006, Wayne Landsman wrote:

>>
>> ; openr, 1, ...
>> arr=assoc(1, data)
>> result=arr[0:*:100]
>>
>> however, it has a big disadvantage of using huge memory for data. My
>> feature request would be an "assoc, unit, type, dimensions, [offset]"
>> system function, as the value of data in never used.
>>
>
> Yes, I agree with that feature request.   But even if it were
> implemented I'm not sure that it solves my original question.   From
> the documentation for ASSOC about multiple subscripts
>
> "Although the ability to directly refer to array elements within an
> associated file can be convenient, it can also be very slow because
> every access to an array element causes the entire array to be
> transferred to or from memory."
>
> So my impression is that this is not any better than reading the entire
> array and subscripting a column.
>

I have tried it, and it is not even allowed:

result=arr[0:*:100]
% Range illegal for record number in assoc var ref: ARR

so, may be assoc is associated with old VAX/VMS assoc in my head :-)

regards,
lajos