
Subject: Re: simple question (I hope)

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 30 Mar 2007 17:00:25 GMT

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Ryan. writes:

> I have one more question about it, but it is more about how IDL works
> than the REMOVE routine.
> Say for example I do this:
>
> group_array = huge_array[groupidx]
> indices_2_remove_in_group_array = [...]
>
> And If I call the REMOVE routine
> REMOVE, indices_2_remove_in_group_array, huge_array[groupidx]
>
> Will this call remove the elements from the *huge_array* or will it
> remove them from a temporary array created when calling the REMOVE
> routine?
>
> I know that IDL passes references as arguments, but in this will it
> actually remove the elements from the original *huge_array* or not.

Actually, IDL passes *variables* by reference. Everything else, including expressions like "huge_array[groupidx]", it passes by value. So if you called REMOVE like this, you would get no error messages, since it would work, but you wouldn't know about it. :-)

Cheers,

David

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
