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Subject: Re: array operations and memory consumption  
Posted by [don.woodraska](#) on Fri, 04 Jan 2008 23:16:06 GMT  
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On Jan 4, 3:19 pm, dktr....@gmail.com wrote:

> Hi all,  
>  
> Apologies in advance if this is old hat ... I've got a question  
> regarding IDL's memory usage that can be boiled down in the following  
> example:  
>  
> IDL> a = BINDGEN(100,100,100)  
> IDL> baseMem = (MEMORY())[0]  
> IDL> a = a + 1  
> IDL> PRINT, (MEMORY())[3] - baseMem  
> 2000049

Consider using the increment operator like this:

```
IDL> a++
```

This does an increment in-place with little additional memory (a few bytes). The assignment c-style operators like this one below, use double the memory.

```
IDL> a += 1
```

I haven't seen MEMORY before. Is this new in 7.0? I use help,/memory which doesn't behave like I expect.

Good luck,  
Don

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