
Subject: Re: N_ELEMENTS gt 0
Posted by [Jean H.](#) on Thu, 14 Feb 2008 18:12:50 GMT
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chloesharrocks@gmail.com wrote:

```
> Is it possible to combine the N_ELEMENTS function with the greater
> than operator? I just want to search through an array and find out
> how many elements exist which are greater than zero (I don't need to
> know where they are, just how many), but I can't get it to work. I
> have an array called good_index which I happen to know has 6 values >
> zero, but when I run the following code, it tells me I only have 1
> value > zero:
>
> number = (N_ELEMENTS(good_index) gt 0)
> print, number
>
> Is there a way to do this without using a where function?
> Thanks
> Chloë ½
```

What you get is normal. N_elements(X) always returns 1 value, the number of elements of X... so your statements returns 1 if good_index has at least one element, and 0 if it is undefined.

Now, the easiest way is:

```
useless = where(good_index gt 0, countPositiveEntries)
useless = 0
print, countPositiveEntries
```

if you don't want that, you can use "total"
countPositiveEntries = total(good_index gt 0)

Note that you may have to use data[good_index]... it makes more sense, as anyway you can't really have negative index (technically, you can, but they make no sense!).

Jean
