
Subject: Re: Reading Values into Individual Array Elements

Posted by [steinhh](#) on Fri, 15 Mar 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <4i2qfi\$3et@news.isc.rit.edu>, Rolando Raqueno <rvrpci@cis.rit.edu> writes:

|>

[...snip...]

|>

|> However, when I try to use a specific element in the array as an
|> argument to the READ statement, IDL no longer prompts me for the
|> value but returns value of the element as shown below.

|>

|> IDL> read,a(3)

|> 4.00000IDL>

Since IDL passes subscripted array elements by value and not by reference, a(3) is effectively a constant to READ, because READ cannot change the value of a(3). What you are saying to IDL is therefore basically the same as:

IDL> read,"TEST"

which is supposed to show the behaviour you described.

|>

|> A workaround would be to use a scalar temporary variable and then
|> assign it to the specific element, but that seemed a bit circuitous
|> and not unlike other languages.

|>

It's a little tedious, but it's the correct solution in this case.

Stein Vidar
