Subject: Re: Array indexing: what is IDL doing? Posted by Conor on Tue, 10 Jun 2008 14:16:41 GMT

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On Jun 9, 11:34 am, Heinz Stege <public.215....@arcor.de> wrote:
> On Fri, 6 Jun 2008 09:50:33 -0700 (PDT), Conor wrote:
>> So I want to pull out a small subsection from within a larger idl
>> array. I want to do something like this:
>> bigarr = findgen(500,100000)
\Rightarrow bigx = [indgen(50)+100,indgen(25)+200]
>> bigy = indgen(10000)+50000
>
>> res = bigarr[bigx,bigy]
>> However IDL doesn't like that and says:
>> % All array subscripts must be same size. Var = BIGARR
>> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
> You may want to try this command:
    res = bigarr[bigx,bigy,0]
>
> IDL accepts arrays of different size as subscripts, if at least one of
> the subsripts is a scalar. Here the "0" addresses an "extra"
> dimension. Since this extra dimension is of size 1, it is degenerated
> in the result. Array res has two dimensions, 75x10000.
> Heinz
```

Hmm... this does work! It seems very strange though. Seems like a rather arbitrary rule...