
Subject: Re: Access array elements with String

Posted by [humanumbrella](#) on Mon, 14 Jul 2008 15:49:24 GMT

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On Jul 14, 11:41 am, Bob Crawford <Snowma...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Jul 14, 11:16 am, humanumbre...@gmail.com wrote:

>

>

>

>> Hello all,

>

>> Another issue - perhaps one of you has encountered this before. It's
>> sort of a neat problem. I'm attempting to build array subscripts on
>> the fly based on user input. IE the number of static/variable elements
>> is changing, which allows the user to pick different axes to plot.
>> Nevermind all that.

>

>> Anyway, let's say a user wants a particular axis to be variable. In
>> this case, the dataset array where I'm attempting to pull values from
>> would contain a *, to get all these elements. Unfortunately, I do not
>> know in advance which dimension of the array I will be using, so I am
>> attempting to build the subscript based on a string.

>

>> This was my original thought:

>> a = dindgen(5,5,5)

>> b = ['3','3','3']

>> print, a[b]

>> but this just returns a[3], a[3], a[3]

>

>> So, I figured I'd do it this way:

>> c = '3'

>> print, a[c,c,c] -- This works!

>

>> Now for the gold,

>> d = '*'

>> print, a[c,c,d] -- error - can't convert string-> long

>> so I get an idea-- maybe I'll just use the ascii value for the

>> asterisk.

>> d = String(42b)

>> print, a[c,d,d] -- error - can't convert string-> long

>

>> Any thoughts ?

>> Thanks in advance

>> --Justin

>

> Why try to force the '*' - might not SIZE be more useful?

> e.g.

> s=SIZE(a)

```
> print, a[c,c,s[3]] ; for a[c,c,d]  
> print, a[c,s[2],s[3]]; for a[c,d,d]
```

Hey Bob,

Thanks for the post!

I think I may need to elaborate a bit more --

I need the entire row of the multi-dimensional array.

So, for example, let's say I have an array that is 30 x 20 x 50

I will need *,0,0 to plot the first 30 values

but I could just as easily need 0,*,0 or 0,0,* Depending on user input, so I can't anticipate that in advance.

Cheers,

--Justin
