
Subject: Re: Invalid indices?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 27 Oct 2009 18:00:48 GMT

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Y.T. writes:

```
> So I'm kinda living under a rock:
> IDL Version 6.3, Microsoft Windows (Win32 x86 m32)
>
> so I'm curious whether this is intended/expected behaviour or a bug or
> what (and whether it has change in recent years):
>
> IDL> t = lindgen(7)
> IDL> print,t
>      0      1      2      3      4
> 5      6
>
> IDL> n=5*indgen(5)
> IDL> print,n
>      0      5     10     15     20
>
> IDL> t[n] = 100
> IDL> print,t
>     100      1      2      3      4
> 100      100
>
> So element number 0 got set to 100 (OK), element number 5 got set to
> 100 and ... element number 6 also got set to 100?
>
> Why is that? I understand that I'm specifying elements "out of
> range" (number 10 and 15 etc) - is that the reason? Is this
> documented? It took me by surprise...
```

The explanation (I believe!) can be found in this article:

http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/lhsvsrhs.html

The situation is known. And, yes, it surprises a LOT of people. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
