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Subject: Re: How to append a multi dimensional array?  
Posted by [Brian Daniel](#) on Wed, 05 Jan 2011 12:04:51 GMT  
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On Jan 5, 6:01 am, Balt <bindermue...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi all,  
>  
> a seemingly trivial problem and I can't get my head around it. Does  
> anyone see the solution?  
>  
> Given:  
> IDL> x = [1,2,3]  
> IDL> y = [4,5,6]  
> IDL> bigarray = [[x], [y]]  
> IDL> help,bigarray  
> BIGARRAY       INT       = Array[3, 2]  
>  
> Except, I can't do it like that, because I need to create BIGARRAY  
> step by step, i.e. there are steps that require bigarray to already  
> exist when y is calculated. And y then needs to be dynamically added  
> to bigarray.  
>  
> How can I add a vector to an array generically? In "pseudo code", I  
> need to be able to say bigarray[0] = x, then later bigarray[1] = y and  
> so forth... all with dynamic (and automatic) resizing of bigarray, of  
> course... :-)  
>  
> I suspect this is really simple and I've done similar things like  
> adding a single element to an array dynamically ( array = [[array],  
> newval] ) but this doesn't work when newval is a vector!  
>  
> Any hints greatly appreciated!  
>  
> - Balt

Part of the problem is how to concatenate arrays. Say your array is N  
by M and you wanted to concatenate it with a vector such that it'll be  
an N by M+1 array, then:

```
array = [[array],[reform(vector,N,1)]
```

Or, if the vector is of length M (column vector), then concatenating  
to N+1 by M is:

```
array = [array,transpose(vector)]
```

Cheers,  
Brian

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