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Subject: Re: IDL-way to use WHERE result as subscripting indices without having to do IF count

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 20 May 2011 13:27:30 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

```
> Or, if in IDL 8, set the NULL keyword to the Where
> function:
>
> IDL> a=[1,2]
> IDL> help, where(a lt 0)
> <Expression>  LONG      =      -1
> IDL> help, where(a lt 0, /null)
> <Expression>  UNDEFINED = !NULL
> IDL> c=a[where(a lt 0, /NULL)]
```

By the way, if you are writing code that there is any chance someone else might use, you have to wait at least two years or two major releases of IDL, whichever is longer, before you can use any new feature in a program.

If you do it too soon, your life will become a nightmare of support issues. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

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

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