
Subject: Re: negative indices, am I missing something here?

Posted by [Lajos Foldy](#) on Fri, 02 Nov 2012 21:39:46 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Friday, November 2, 2012 8:51:56 PM UTC+1, d.rowe...@gmail.com wrote:

> IDL 8 brought negative indices for arrays. Great, love them. However, I am getting strange results.

>

>

>

> IDL> a = indgen(3,5)

>

> IDL> print, a[*, -1]

>

> 12 13 14

>

>

>

> Good, that is what I thought I should get.

>

>

>

> IDL> print, a[*, [3,1,4]]

>

> 9 10 11

>

> 3 4 5

>

> 12 13 14

>

>

>

> Also, this looks right to me.

>

>

>

> So why doesn't this work?

>

> IDL> print, a[*, [3,1,-1]]

>

> 9 10 11

>

> 3 4 5

>

> 0 1 2

>

>

>

> Is this the expected behavior? Or a bug?
>
>
>
> Mac 10.8.2 IDL 8.2.1

Array subscripts are always clipped. From IDL help:

"If an element of the subscript array is less than or equal to zero, the first element of the subscripted array is selected. ...

Note: Because of the confusion between the clipping of array subscripts and the use of negative indices (see the next section), it is best to avoid using code that relies on this clipping behavior."

regards,
Lajos
