Subject: Re: What are the rules for automatic removal of singleton dimensions, and can I have a way of disabling them, please?
Posted by tom.grydeland on Thu, 27 Dec 2012 23:06:56 GMT
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On Thursday, December 27, 2012 12:12:40 AM UTC+1, Mats Löfdahl wrote:
> Den onsdagen den 26:e december 2012 kl. 15:12:35 UTC+1 skrev Tom Grydeland:

>> In my mind, the fix is to make things behave _less_ arbitrarily, not _more_ so.
> So then we agree.

Good!

>> That solution is worse than the problem, IMO. How many other functions will I have to replace?
> How would I know? Total() is the only one you mentioned...

Yes -- I believe in making my posted examples as succinct as possible.

You pointed out something of which I wasn't aware -- that adding an extra [... , 0] index does not raise an exception or change the returned values. This is valuable information, but not something I would base my code on. In my mind, it means indexing has one special case with erratic behavior. Before I start modifying (parts of) the IDL standard library to also behave erratically (and then have to keep track of which parts are so modified), I would try almost any other solution which mean that my array has the number of dimensions I want before I start:

```
pro atleast_n_dim, a, n
   adim = size(a, /dimensions)
   if n_elements(adim) eq n then return

   adim = [adim, 1+intarr(n-n_elements(adim))]
   a = reform(a, adim, /overwrite)
   return
end
```

--T