
Subject: Re: Trailing array dimensions

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 01 Jul 2015 23:02:30 GMT

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On Wednesday, July 1, 2015 at 2:21:07 AM UTC-7, rj...@le.ac.uk wrote:

> Can someone explain where I'm going wrong with this please?

>

> I have some data which is generally 2 dimensional but occasionally they'll only be 1 data point in the netcdf file, meaning that IDL will initiate it as being 1 dimensional.

>

> For these cases I catch them and reform them to keep the trailing "empty" dimension and put them into a structure.

>

> If I do a help on the structure, this works and keeps the trailing dimension. If however, I do a help on the variable in the structure directly it loses the trailing dimension:

>

> IDL> help, data

> ** Structure <16d2e18>, 12 tags, length=200, data length=197, refs=1:

>

> my_variable

> FLOAT Array[10, 1]

>

> IDL> help, data.my_variable

> <Expression> FLOAT = Array[10]

>

> Any ideas?

I've never gotten this to work right. I complained loudly about this in the year 2000, fifteen years ago, and nothing has changed.

The answer is, if you are using 2D arrays or larger in structures, prepare for array jiggery-pokery to happen behind your back. The only thing you can do is REFORM() it when you use it.

Craig
