
Subject: Re: get IDL to issue warning or throw error for mismatched arrays

Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Thu, 16 Jun 2016 16:43:33 GMT

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On Thursday, 16 June 2016 07:59:02 UTC-7, Markus Schmassmann wrote:

> is there any way to get IDL to issue a warning or throw an error in for
> mismatched arrays like those below?

>

> indgen(2,2)+indgen(3,3)

Hi Markus,

Here is the behaviour we see, that the result is the size of the "overlapping" of the two arrays:

```
IDL> help,indgen(2,2)+indgen(3,3)
<Expression>  INT      = Array[2, 2]
```

I was hopeful that COMPILE_OPT STRICTARRSUBS would help. Here's what it does, before:

```
IDL> a=indgen(5)
IDL> a[[3,4,5,6]]
      3      4      4      4
```

... and after:

```
IDL> compile_opt strictarrsubs
IDL> a[[3,4,5,6]]
% Array used to subscript array contains out of range subscript: A.
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

So, the STRICTARRSUBS is making a difference in that regard, but...

```
IDL> help,indgen(2,2)+indgen(3,3)
<Expression>  INT      = Array[2, 2]
```

It does not change the behaviour with different-shaped arrays. If you have to test arrays a and b for differing shape, a simple check is:

```
IF ~Array_Equal(Size(a, /DIMENSIONS), Size(b, /DIMENSIONS)) THEN ...
```

Hope this helps,
-Dick

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