
Subject: Re: SOLVED Re: puzzled with WHERE
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 07 Sep 2000 12:43:33 GMT
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Henk (deckard_007@deja.com) writes:

- > Sorry, stupid. one-dimensional array is not the same as a simple float
- > value.
- > Can't IDL solve this ?

Probably, but I think the request falls into the "having your cake and eating it too" category. Clearly someone made the decision (I'd bet at a user request) to have the WHERE function do different things based on whether the array in question is being compared to a scalar or to an array. (This is well documented in the on-line help.)

Changing the rule arbitrarily for a little array would surely bring down the ire of all those people who have come to depend on this behavior. If it were me, I'd put this request into the "forget it" pile. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Since there is real danger of carpal tunnel syndrome for those of us foolish enough to sit in front of a computer all day instead of getting a real job, allow me to point out, Henk, that you are doing a LOT of unnecessary typing:

```
xlist = ftarr(1000)
xlist = findgen(1000)
```

The first statement may have been required in FORTRAN or PASCAL back when you and I were in school (it is so long ago I can barely remember), but it is totally unnecessary (one might say pointless) to declare variables in IDL like this, since IDL types variables on the fly. In other words, this is perfectly acceptable in IDL:

```
xlist = ftarr(1000)
xlist = 5
```

Since IDL is going to ignore the first statement anyway, why type it? You can get along just creating your variables the way you like without declaring them:

```
xlist = findgen(1000)
```

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