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Subject: Re: sort ordering

Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Fri, 09 Feb 2001 20:28:31 GMT

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Med Bennett wrote:

> I'm confused by the following behavior:

>

>> IDL> print,stations[0:9]

>> S301 S301 S301 S301 S301 S301 S301 S301 S301 S301

>> IDL> print,sort(stations[0:9])

>> 5 1 2 3 4 0 6 7 8 9

>>

>

> If the elements of certain part of an array are identical, why does IDL

> not generate sort indices in ascending order? This has ugly

> implications for some programs I am writing. Thanks,

This is a known artifact of the SORT algorithm. Try BSORT from the Astronomy library instead:

<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/misc/bsort.pro>

Cheers,

Liam.

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

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