

Subject: Re: kind of bewildered
Posted by [Jaco van Gorkom](#) on Mon, 24 Sep 2001 14:58:50 GMT
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Lasse Clausen wrote:

- > Ok, i noticed that A is not a scalar but a array with just one entry.
- > can i 'convert' such an one-dimensional array into a scalar?

A = A[0] should do the trick.

More fancy: if `n_elements(A) eq 1` then `A = A[0]`

Jaco

Subject: Re: kind of bewildered
Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Mon, 24 Sep 2001 15:34:26 GMT
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Lasse Clausen wrote:

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> Lasse Clausen wrote:

>>

>> I have the following code:

```
>> IDL> .run
```

```
>> - data=['12.04','13.04','14.04']
```

```
>> - A= FLOAT(DATA[WHERE(DATA EQ FLOAT('13.04'))])
```

```
>> - print,size(FINDGEN(10.)+A)
```

```
>> - end
```

```
>> % Compiled module: $MAIN$.
```

1 1 4 1

>>

>> Why the hack do I not get an vector of size 10?!

 \succ

> Ok, i noticed that A is not a scalar but a array with just one entry.

> can i 'convert' such an one-dimensional array into a scalar?

For those of you feeling similarly overwhelmed by the subtle distinction between scalars and 1-D unit length arrays, be consoled by the following words of wisdom from one of RSI's ace designers:

[illegible]

If I were designing IDL over, there would be no scalars, just arrays of various dimensionality. 1-element arrays would use the IDL scalar implementation internally for efficiency, but the user would not see this. Too bad though --- IDL already exists, and this ship sailed long before I became involved with it...

[illegible]

