
Subject: Re: how to find the size of the array
Posted by [thompson](#) on Sat, 21 May 1994 16:26:10 GMT
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vshvetsk@fourier.oac.uci.edu (Victor Shvetsky) writes:

> I am currently writing a routine for our astrophysics department and I found
> a little question:
> is there a way to find out the size of the array from within the program?
> For example: help, array gives you array(50,50)
> Now, how can I get those dimensions into the variable?

> Thanks in advance
> Victor

The SIZE() function returns this information. For example,

```
IDL> SZ = SIZE(ARRAY)
IDL> PRINT, SZ
      2      50      50      4      2500
```

The first element gives the total number of dimensions (zero for scalars).
Following this are the dimensions, 50x50 in this example. Then there is a code
specifying what the data type is--see the manual for details. The last number
gives the total number of elements in the array.

Bill Thompson

Subject: Re: how to find the size of the array
Posted by [djackson](#) on Wed, 25 May 1994 15:10:05 GMT
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In article <thompson.769537570@serts.gsfc.nasa.gov>
thompson@serts.gsfc.nasa.gov (William Thompson) writes:

> vshvetsk@fourier.oac.uci.edu (Victor Shvetsky) writes:

[...]

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```

[...]

Just to add a slightly obscure trick:

If you know that ARRAY has 2 dimensions, it's easy to get the number of columns and rows by indexing the SIZE() information, as in...

```
IDL> SZ = SIZE(ARRAY)
IDL> COLS = (SIZE(ARRAY))(1) ; note extra ()!
IDL> ROWS = (SIZE(ARRAY))(2)
IDL> PRINT, COLS, ROWS
      50      50
```

Hope this helps!

-Dick

Dick Jackson djackson@ibd.nrc.ca Standard disclaimer
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