
Subject: Re: How to solve this problem?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 11 Apr 2003 03:36:35 GMT

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tomson (tom2959@21cn.com) writes:

```
> for i=0,n_elements(y)-1 do begin
>   .....
> endfor
>
>
> ERROR MESSAGE:
> Loop limit expression too large for loop variable type.
> <LONG ( 60214)>.
>
> But my program cannot do without that loop.
```

Make your loop variable a long integer:

```
FOR I=0L, N_Elements(y)-1 DO BEGIN
```

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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Subject: Re: How to solve this problem?

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Fri, 11 Apr 2003 03:39:39 GMT

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"tomson" <tom2959@21cn.com> wrote in message
news:b75cmt\$1ebn\$1@mail.cn99.com...

```
> for i=0,n_elements(y)-1 do begin
>   .....
> endfor
>
>
> ERROR MESSAGE:
> Loop limit expression too large for loop variable type.
> <LONG ( 60214)>.
>
> But my program cannot do without that loop.
```

Change it to

```
for i=0L,n_elements(y)-1 do ...
```

or add the following declaration to the beginning of your code

```
compile_opt DEFINT32
```

When you set *i* to 0 at the beginning of the loop, this makes *i* a short (16-bit) integer *unless* you explicitly specify a long integer (0L) or you tell IDL that you want your default integer type to be long (32-bit). Short integers can't go past 32767

--

Mark Hadfield "Ka puwaha te tai nei, Hoesa tatou"
m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)

Subject: Re: How to solve this problem?
Posted by [Ken Knapp](#) on Tue, 15 Apr 2003 14:12:28 GMT
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tomson wrote:

```
>  
> for i=0,n_elements(y)-1 do begin  
>       .....  
> endfor
```

It looks like it sets *i* to an integer, whereas it should be a long for such a large number, so try:

```
for i=0L,n_elements(y)-1 do begin  
    .....  
endfor
```

[that problem got me a while back and I panicked at first too]
Hope this helps.
-Ken

--

```
<><   <><   <><   <><   <><   <><   <><   <><  
Kenneth Knapp                    CIRA Visiting Scientist  
NOAA/NESDIS/ORA                 Ken.Knapp@noaa.gov  
E/RA1, RM 711C, WWBG             Phone:301-763-8053x195
```

Subject: Re: How to solve this problem?

Posted by [condor](#) on Tue, 15 Apr 2003 17:14:39 GMT

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"tomson" <tom2959@21cn.com> wrote in message news:<b75cmt\$1ebn\$1@mail.cn99.com>...
> for i=0,n_elements(y)-1 do begin
>
> endfor
>
>
> ERROR MESSAGE:
> Loop limit expression too large for loop variable type.
> <LONG (60214)>.
>
> But my program cannot do without that loop.

Others have replied to the issue at hand, but here's a general hint: Some people (like me) only scan newsgroups occasionally, when we have a minute, and at least I personally find it annoying when the subject line of an article reads "help" or "I have a problem" or "How to solve this problem?" -- it means that I have to retrieve that article and read through it before I even know whether I am qualified to answer it. Maybe it's about something I don't understand myself, and then it seems it would be polite to give me at least a hint what you're talking about in the subject line so I don't have to read your article in the first place.

Had you chosen the error message itself as a "subject" ("Loop limit expression too large for loop variable type") every reader of the group would've known what your postis about and whether they know the answer.

Even better: If you copy/paste the full error message into the google-news interface at <http://groups.google.com/groups?group=comp.lang.idl-pvwave> you'll get the answer to your problem without even having to post. I find this to be a good first step with all kinds of computer-related questions, as it gives me a bit of an idea how common the problem at hand is -- have others encountered it, how did they proceed, what advice was given to them etc. Even if my question can't be answered that way, I often find a useful hint that helps me solve my problem myself.

Subject: Re: How to solve this problem?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 15 Apr 2003 17:28:51 GMT

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Big Bird (condor@biosys.net) writes:

> Some people (like me) only scan newsgroups occasionally, when we have
> a minute

Get out!! How can you do that!?

If I don't read the newsgroup every 10 minutes my hands start shaking and I get an itch right between my shoulder blades. My eyes start to burn at about 15 minutes. I've considered drugs, but with my addictive personality I don't think it would be a good idea.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say you guys who work in an office probably have plenty of pretty co-workers to interact with. I'm just stuck here with myself, still in my pajamas, scratching myself and staring at a computer screen ...

I've really got to get a life. :-(

--

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