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Subject: Re: Variable assignment  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 22 Jul 2003 15:41:43 GMT  
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Haje Korth writes:

> I am trying to assign a variable with data=data(index), where index is an  
> array with 300000 elements. IDL answers "Too many elements". Is there away  
> around this? Basically, I need to kill some lines in data that contain dummy  
> values. This the data files are HDF, I cannot eliminate these data when the  
> file is read with hdf\_read.

Uh, at the risk of sounding impertinent, why don't  
you just take smaller bites? :-)

Something like this:

```
indices = Where( array EQ BAD, count)
IF count GT 250000L THEN BEGIN ; Or whatever the number is
    half = count/2
    array[indices[0:half]] = -999
    array[indices[half+1:]] = -999
ENDIF ELSE array[indices] = -999
```

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: Variable assignment  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 22 Jul 2003 17:28:45 GMT  
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"Haje Korth" <[haje.korth@jhuapl.edu](mailto:haje.korth@jhuapl.edu)> writes:

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> file is read with hdf\_read.

I routinely make index arrays that have millions, and tens of millions  
of elements. [ with IDL 5.2 at that! ] This should not be a problem

for you. Are you sure you have enough memory? You will probably need a fair amount of working space (perhaps 2x your biggest array) for IDL to function properly.

Craig

--

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu  
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Subject: Re: Variable assignment  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 22 Jul 2003 17:37:08 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt writes:

> I routinely make index arrays that have millions, and tens of millions  
> of elements.

What \*is\* it you guys do for a living!?

I once made an index array that had about 100 points  
in it. But that's about as big as mine get. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

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Subject: Re: Variable assignment  
Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Tue, 22 Jul 2003 19:15:58 GMT  
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Craig,  
I am pretty sure that I have enough RAM. I have almost 800 MB RAM and the  
data I read in is less than 100 MB. If you say that you do not have a

problem, let me take a look again.

Thanks,  
Haje

--

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Laurel, MD 20723-6099  
USA  
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e-mail: haje.korth@jhuapl.edu

"Craig Markwardt" <craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote in message  
news:onk7aawjw2.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu...

>  
> "Haje Korth" <haje.korth@jhuapl.edu> writes:  
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> Craig  
>  
> --  
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> Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu  
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> -----

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Subject: Re: Variable assignment  
Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Tue, 22 Jul 2003 19:20:56 GMT  
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grrrrr, I applied the indices to the wrong level in the structure. I would have expected an "out of range" error instead of "too many elements". I just misinterpreted the message.

Thanks for helping,  
Haje

--

"Craig Markwardt" <craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu> wrote in message  
news:onk7aawjw2.fsf@cow.physics.wisc.edu...

>

> "Haje Korth" <haje.korth@jhuapl.edu> writes:

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>

> Craig

>

> --

> -----

> Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL:   craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu

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> -----

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Subject: Re: Variable assignment  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 22 Jul 2003 21:50:30 GMT  
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David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> writes:

> Craig Markwardt writes:

>  
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> What \*is\* it you guys do for a living!?  
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> I once made an index array that had about 100 points  
> in it. But that's about as big as mine get. :-(

It's the difference between the data rich and the data poor, baby! :-)

Craig

P.S. To give a concrete example I've recently been looking at an 8  
year mission timeline with 1 minute samples, or a total of 4 million  
samples. I use WHERE to do data filtering.

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.      EMAIL: [craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu)  
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