
Subject: Re: Matrix indexing question
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 2004 00:47:15 GMT
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Dear Matt

what do you think on this solution

```
a=[3,4]
b=[1,0]
x = [[1,2,3,4,5,6],[7,8,9,10,11,12]]
print,x[[a],[b]]
```

```
10    5
```

My explanation:

The problem here is that there are the same signs used to create an array and the same signs are used to assign an index array.

May be David has a better idea. I think what happens is by using an operation you did by `{{{ print, x[[3,4],[1,0]] }}}}` the outer `[]` are used to address the values because then they are not interpreted to create a new array.

If you do create a temporary array like this example shows. It is not necessary to create the `{{{y}}}` variable. You will get the results you see in your example too.

```
print, (x)([[3,4],[1,0]])
4      5
2      1
```

Both could be wanted and both could give terrible results if they are not clear described or coded.

Thanks for the advice!

Reimar

Matt Feinstein wrote:

```
> If I set
>
> x = [[1,2,3,4,5,6],[7,8,9,10,11,12]]
```

```

>
> then (case A)
>
> print, x[[3,4],[1,0]]
>
> gives
>
> 10 5
>
> which is slick, and is the kind of indexing I want. However, if (Case
> B) I set
>
> y = [[3,4],[1,0]]
>
> then
>
> print, x[y]
>
> gives
>
> 4 5
> 2 1
>
> which, I guess, is also slick-- but is not what I want. Is there any
> way to set a variable 'y' that will give me the kind of indexing in
> Case A?
>
> And, yes, I know that I can set
>
> y = [9, 4]
>
> and get the 'right' answer. Is this the only way?
>
> Matt Feinstein
>
> --
> There is no virtue in believing something that can be proved to be true.

```

```

--
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/

```

```

=====
a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro. html

```

Subject: Re: Matrix indexing question

Posted by [Chris Lee](#) on Sat, 03 Apr 2004 10:26:59 GMT

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In article <gm1r60p1cdu66r7h8b1bornsh99m1aa05d@4ax.com>, "Matt Feinstein" <nospam@here.com> wrote:

```
> If I set
>
> x = [[1,2,3,4,5,6],[7,8,9,10,11,12]]
> then (case A)
> print, x[[3,4],[1,0]]
> gives
> 10 5
> which is slick, and is the kind of indexing I want. However, if (Case B)
> I set
> y = [[3,4],[1,0]]
> then
> print, x[y]
> gives
>
> 4 5
> 2 1
> which, I guess, is also slick-- but is not what I want. Is there any way
> to set a variable 'y' that will give me the kind of indexing in Case A?
> And, yes, I know that I can set
> y = [9, 4]
> and get the 'right' answer. Is this the only way? Matt Feinstein
> --
> There is no virtue in believing something that can be proved to be true.
```

Hi Matt,

I have two answers, neither is particularly clean.

```
;1
print, x[y[*],0], y[*],1]
      10    5
```

;2 , the generic, Index the elements yourself, method.

```
x=[[1,2,3,4,5,6],[7,8,9,10,11]]
y=[[3,4],[1,0]]
;;;;
dx=size(x, /dimensions)
dy=size(y, /dimensions)
```

```
q=replicate(1,n_elements(dx))
```

```
for i=1, n_elements(dx)-1 do for j=0, i-1 do q[i]=q[i]*dx[j]
;;q holds the number of elements per dimension.
```

```
indices=y#q ; 2 dimensions in y only
```

```
print, x[indices]
      10   5
```

Also, some bounds checking might be needed.

Chris.
