
Subject: Re: array subscripting problem

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2005 13:38:10 GMT

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Martin Doyle writes:

> I've got a gridded dataset and I'm searching the grid trying to find
> those points which have a certain value. Once I've found this point, I
> want to check all points around it to see if they have the same value
> plus a little bit. This is what I've come up with:

```
>  
> If (data(i,j,k) GE p) THEN begin  
>  
>   cd = data(i,j,k)  
>  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i-1,j-1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i, j-1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i+1,j-1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i-1,j, k]) LE mg) then f = f+1  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i+1,j, k]) LE mg) then f = f+1  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i-1,j+1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i, j+1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1  
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i+1,j+1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1
```

```
>  
>   endif
```

> However, array subscripting with negative numbers isn't allowed by
> IDL.

>
> Has anyone any ideas how I might get around this?

```
array[0 > j]
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Subject: Re: array subscripting problem

Posted by [Martin\[1\]](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2005 13:56:53 GMT

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Thanks David, could you expand on that a bit?

I realise it's still only breakfast time over there!

Cheers
Martin..

Subject: Re: array subscripting problem
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2005 14:34:18 GMT
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Martin writes:

> Thanks David, could you expand on that a bit?
>
> I realise it's still only breakfast time over there!

I really need to fix my coffee before I look at the newsgroup. :-)

You wanted to know how to keep array subscripts from going negative. If you compare the subscript with 0 and choose the larger of the two with the "greater than" operator, you will have achieved your goal. I'm not saying it will be **correct**, but I am saying it will **not be negative**. :-)

Similarly, you can fix problems on the other end by using the "less than" operator and checking that the index is smaller than the size of the array.

```
array = indgen(100)
s = Size(array, /Dimensions)
print, array[0 > j < (s[0]-1)]
```

This will keep your index between the allowed indices of the array. Be **sure** to include those parentheses! Leaving them off is one of the classic gotchas.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: array subscripting problem

Posted by [Benjamin Luethi](#) on Mon, 11 Apr 2005 15:11:54 GMT

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Hi Martin,

You could also extract a 3x3 sub-array first and then do the comparisons on it. This way you don't need any if checks at all:

```
s = Size(data, /Dimensions)
subarray=data[ ((i-1)>0):((i+1)<(s[0]-1)), ((j-1)>0):((j+1)<(s[1]-1)), k ]
f=f+total(ABS(cd-subarray) LE mg)-1
```

Notice that the subarray is not 3x3 if i or j are at the border.
Also notice the -1 in the third line: it's because the [i,j]-element is always part of the subarray and counts as well.

Ben

On 11 Apr 2005 06:00:14 -0700, Martin Doyle <m.doyle@uea.ac.uk> wrote:

```
> Hi Guys,
>
> I've got a gridded dataset and I'm searching the grid trying to find
> those points which have a certain value. Once I've found this point, I
> want to check all points around it to see if they have the same value
> plus a little bit. This is what I've come up with:
>
> If (data(i,j,k) GE p) THEN begin
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>   If(ABS(cd-data[i-1,j, k]) LE mg) then f = f+1
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i+1,j, k]) LE mg) then f = f+1
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i-1,j+1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i, j+1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1
>   If(ABS(cd-data[i+1,j+1,k]) LE mg) then f = f+1
>
>   endif
>
> However, array subscripting with negative numbers isn't allowed by
> IDL.
>
> Has anyone any ideas how I might get around this?
>
> Many thanks!
```

>
> All the best
> Martin

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