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Subject: Re: which array dimensions are contiguous?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2006 20:04:43 GMT  
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greg michael writes:

```
> I know somebody wrote this only recently, but I can't find it again. If
> the function below, EvaluateFunctionSection, returns a 2-d array
> (ns,nl), will assignment put it into contiguous memory, or make some
> kind of awful (slow?) mess?
>
> b=fltarr(ns,nl,n_elements(f))
> for i=1,n_elements(f) do begin
>
> b[*,* ,i]=self-> EvaluateFunctionSection(f[i],ln,sm,nl,ns,downsample=downsample)
> endfor
```

It will make a (slow) mess. Do this, instead:

```
b[0,0,i]=self->EvaluateFunctionSection[i], $
    ln,sm,nl,ns,downsample=downsample)
```

See this article:

[http://www.dfanning.com/misc\\_tips/submemory.html](http://www.dfanning.com/misc_tips/submemory.html)

Cheers,

David

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Subject: Re: which array dimensions are contiguous?  
Posted by [greg michael](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 10:31:45 GMT  
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Thanks, David. My question was really only about whether the first dimensions of an array are the contiguous ones, to which I understand the answer is yes. The indexing mess is different (and probably worse) than the one I was imagining, so thanks for that, too.

Still, there's something in that article I couldn't grasp...

```
IDL> myArray = FltArr(3660, 1680)
IDL> indices = Randomu(seed, 100000) * 3660L * 1680L
```

```
IDL> myArray[indices, indices] = 5
```

I'd have understood if the 3rd line said `myArray[indices] = 5`. What's going on here? Why doesn't it cause an error to put in a list of indices which exceed the dimension?

```
IDL> print,max(indices)  
6.14869e+006
```

I suppose they're being first enumerated into a single list, and then being applied as 1-d subscripts? I wouldn't have said "No problems with this. "!

regards,  
Greg

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Subject: Re: which array dimensions are contiguous?  
Posted by [greg michael](#) on Tue, 14 Feb 2006 10:51:33 GMT  
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oops - that was the original question... don't bother to answer that!

greg

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