

MUMPS Development Committee

Extension to the MDC Standard
Type A Release of the MUMPS Development Committee

Number of Subscripts in gyn January 1995

Produced by the MDC Task Group #17
Interpretations

Ed de Moel, Chairman
MUMPS Development Committee

Kate Schell, Chairman
MDC Task Group #17

The reader is hereby notified that the following MDC specification has been approved by the MUMPS Development Committee but that it may be a partial specification that relies on information appearing in many parts of the MDC Standard. This specification is dynamic in nature, and the changes reflected by this approved change may not correspond to the latest specification available.

Because of the evolutionary nature of MDC specifications, the reader is further reminded that changes are likely to occur in the specification released, herein, prior to a complete republication of the MDC Standard.

© Copyright 1995 by the MUMPS Development Committee. This document may be reproduced in any form so long as acknowledgment of the source is made.

Anyone reproducing this release is requested to reproduce this introduction.

1. Identification

1.1 Title

Number of Subscripts in gvn

1.2 MDC Proposer and Sponsor

Proposer

Task Group 17
Interpretations
Chair: Kate Schell

Sponsor

Frederick L. Hiltz
Brigham and Women's Hospital
10 Vining Street
Boston, MA 02115-6198
617-732-7028
FORUM: HILTZ,FREDERICK
Internet: fhiltz@bics.bwh.harvard.edu

1.3 Motion

None. This document supersedes X11/TG17/94-6.

1.4 History

29 Jan 95	X11/TG17/94-6	Accepted by MDC, .
13 Dec 94	X11/TG17/94-6	Accepted by the Interpretations Task Group, 5:0:0.

1.5 Dependencies

This interpretation applies to ANSI/MDC X11.1-1990.

2. Justification of the Interpretation

2.1 Needs

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has questioned whether "global variable name" in clause II.1.3.2 refers to the name or to the gvn. (X11/94-44, problem statement ID#43, "Ambiguity in the Term Global Variable Name.")

2.2 Existing Practice in Area of the Interpretation

ANSI/MDC X11.1 - 1990 clause II.1.3.2 says:

The number of subscripts in a global variable is limited in that, in a global array reference, the sum of the lengths of all the evaluated subscripts, plus two times the number of subscripts, plus the length of the global variable name must not exceed 127. If a naked reference is used to specify the global array reference, the above restriction applies to the full reference to which the naked reference is expanded.

The 1994 MDC standard, ANSI X11.1 Canvass Version 1, is explicit, using name.

2.3 Justification

The context of clause II.1.3.2 clearly implies name. The sentence enumerates the parts of a gvn: if the "global variable name" part were itself a gvn, it would not be sensible.

3. Description of the Interpretation

3.1 General Description of the Interpretation

To interpret "global variable name" as "global variable name" in the 1990 portability section.

3.2 Annotated Examples of Use

None.

3.3 Formalization

The MDC interprets clause II.1.3.2 of ANSI/MDC X11.1 - 1990, Number of Subscripts: "Global variable name" refers to the metalanguage element name, as though the clause were written as follows:

The number of subscripts in a global variable is limited in that, in a global array reference, the sum of the lengths of all the evaluated subscripts, plus two times the number of subscripts, plus the length of the global variable name must not exceed 127. If a naked reference is used to specify the global array reference, the above restriction applies to the full reference to which the naked reference is expanded.

4. Implementation Effects

4.1 Effect on Existing User Practices and Investments

None.

4.2 Effect on Existing Vendor Practices and Investments

None.

4.3 Techniques and Costs for Compliance Verification

None.

4.4 Legal Considerations

None.

5. Closely Related Standards Activities

5.1 Other X11 Proposals Under Consideration

None.

5.2 Other Related Standards Efforts

None.

5.3 Recommendations for Coordinating Liaison

None.

6. Associated Documents

None.

7. Issues, Pros and Cons, and Discussion

None.

