

## 5. Arrays

5.1

An array in Interlisp is an object representing a one-dimensional vector of objects. Arrays are generally created by the function **ARRAY**.

**(ARRAY SIZE TYPE INIT ORIG —)**

[Function]

Creates and returns a new array capable of containing *SIZE* objects of type *TYPE*. If *TYPE* is **NIL**, the array can contain any arbitrary Lisp datum. In general, *TYPE* may be any of the various field specifications which are legal in **DATATYPE** declarations (see page 8.9): **POINTER**, **FIXP**, **FLOATP**, **(BITS N)**, etc. The implementation will, if necessary, choose an "enclosing" type if the given one is not supported; for example, an array of **(BITS 3)** may be represented by an array of **(BITS 8)**.

*INIT* is the initial value in each element of the new array. If not specified, the array elements will be initialized with 0 (for number arrays) or **NIL** (all other types).

Arrays can have either 0-origin or 1-origin indexing, as specified by the *ORIG* argument; if *ORIG* is not specified, the default is 1.

Note: Arrays of type **FLOATP** are stored unboxed. This increases the space and time efficiency of **FLOATP** arrays. Users who want to use boxed floating point numbers should use an array of type **POINTER** instead of **FLOATP**.

**(ARRAYP X)**

[Function]

Returns *X* if *X* is an array, **NIL** otherwise.

Note: In some implementations of Interlisp (but not Interlisp-D), **ARRAYP** may also return *X* if it is of type **CCODEP** or **HARRAYP**.

**(ELT ARRAY N)**

[Function]

Returns the *N*th element of the array *ARRAY*.

Generates the error **ARG NOT ARRAY** if *ARRAY* is not an array.  
Generates the error **ILLEGAL ARG** if *N* is out of bounds.

**(SETA ARRAY N V)**

[Function]

Sets the *N*th element of the array *ARRAY* to *VAL*, and returns *VAL*.

Generates the error **ARG NOT ARRAY** if *ARRAY* is not an array.  
Generates the error **ILLEGAL ARG** if *N* is out of bounds. Can

generate the error **NON-NUMERIC ARG** if **ARRAY** is an array whose **ARRAYTYP** is **FIXP** or **FLOATP** and **VAL** is non-numeric.

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**(ARRAYTYP ARRAY)**

[Function]

Returns the type of the elements in the array **ARRAY**, a value corresponding to the second argument to **ARRAY**.

Note: If **ARRAY** coerced the array type as described above, **ARRAYTYP** will return the *new* type. For example, **(ARRAYTYP (ARRAY 10 '(BITS 3)))** will return **BYTE** in Interlisp-D, and **FIXP** in Interlisp-10.

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**(ARRAYSIZE ARRAY)**

[Function]

Returns the size of array **ARRAY**. Generates the error, **ARG NOT ARRAY**, if **ARRAY** is not an array.

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**(ARRAYORIG ARRAY)**

[Function]

Returns the origin of array **ARRAY**, which may be 0 or 1. Generates an error, **ARG NOT ARRAY**, if **ARRAY** is not an array.

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**(COPYARRAY ARRAY)**

[Function]

Returns a new array of the same size and type as **ARRAY**, and with the same contents as **ARRAY**. Generates an **ARG NOT ARRAY** error, if **ARRAY** is not an array.

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