Ruby master - Feature #3653
Differential behaviour of positives and negatives ranges as subindex of string or arrays.
08/04/2010 11:06 PM - dsilber (Daniel Silberschmidt)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status:</th>
<th>Rejected</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority:</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignee:</td>
<td>matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Target version:</td>
<td>2.6</td>
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**Description**

```ruby
begin
The expression '[a..b]' when applied to a string or to an array return the slice from the string/array from a to b.
for example [0..3] returns the first four letters from a string
irb(main):004:0> "carromato"[0..3]
=> "carr"
the slice [-4..-1] returns the last four letters from a string
irb(main):005:0> "carromato"[-4..-1]
=> "mato"
but if the length of the original string is smaller than the slice the results are conceptually very different depending on positive or negative indexes:
irb(main):006:0> "carromato"[0..24]
=> "carromato"
irb(main):007:0> "carromato"[-25..-1]
=> nil
I would like a symmetric behaviour in the last case returning the whole word (and not nil). It would be more natural to have the same behaviour when exceding by left of by right of the string/array.
Does anybody agree or disagree with my position?
Daniel
=end
```

**History**

#1 - 08/27/2010 01:35 PM - shyouhei (Shyouhei Urabe)
- Status changed from Open to Assigned
- Assignee set to matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

```ruby
begin
=end
```

#2 - 10/30/2011 07:30 AM - alexeymuranov (Alexey Muranov)
I agree with this proposal. -Alexey.

#3 - 11/20/2012 08:53 PM - mame (Yusuke Endoh)
- Description updated
- Target version set to 2.6

#4 - 11/29/2017 08:40 AM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)
- Status changed from Assigned to Rejected

I don't think the change does not worth the potential incompatibility.
Matz.