
Subject: probable mistake in IDL manual

Posted by [szoonem](#) on Fri, 28 Nov 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi,

I was reading "Building IDL Applications" manual (version 5) and noticed the procedure on p. 76 which is supposed to count the number of times that the word "dog" appears in the string "dog cat duck rabbit dog cat dog";

```
pro Animals
```

```
animals = 'dog cat duck rabbit dog cat dog'
```

```
i = 0
```

```
cnt = 0
```

```
while (i ne -1) do begin
```

```
    i = strpos(animals,'dog', i)
```

```
    if (i ne -1) then cnt = cnt + 1
```

```
endwhile
```

```
print, 'Found ',cnt, "occurrences of 'dog'"
```

```
end
```

When I read it, it struck me as being wrong. I tested it later and it seems to have gone into an infinite loop (as I suspected it would). Is it some thing VERY obvious that I am missing or is it simply wrong?

I am rather confused about this simple procedure. Any comments would be appreciated,

- Saeid

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