Subject: Re: probable mistake in IDL manual
Posted by David Foster on Tue, 02 Dec 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Saeid Zoonematkermani wrote:
>
> ------
> 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, "occurances 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,

Yep, looks like an infinite loop to me. Needs the following line at
the end of the while loop:

 i = i + strlen('dog')   ; maybe i = i + 3 is faster ;-)

Dave
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