
Subject: Re: A bug in Mac OS version?

Posted by [hellman](#) on Tue, 15 Dec 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <MPG.10e0810a9c715cf9896ad@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com
(David Fanning) wrote:

> Saeid Zoonematkermani (Saeid.Zoonematkermani@sunysb.edu) writes:

>

>> IDL> print, !version

>> { PowerMac MacOS MacOS 5.2 Oct 30 1998}

>> IDL> print, '0000FF'x

>> 255

>> IDL> print, '00FF00'x

>> -256

>> IDL> print, 'FF0000'x

>> 16711680

>

> In fact, this value you are trying to create here is really
> a LONG integer. You, of course, are creating it as a SHORT
> integer. Now, I'll give you that IDL didn't used to behave
> so boarishly, but what it is doing (i.e. wrapping), IMHO,
> is entirely within its rights.

I would agree with you that

```
IDL> print, '00FF00'x
-256
```

might be reasonable, but then I'd expect

```
IDL> print, 'FF0000'x
0
```

If the behaviour shown above isn't wrong, then IDL is a very perverse language.

- Olof
