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Subject: Re: AND statements

Posted by [steinhh](#) on Mon, 01 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <36D9C642.99878C2A@geocities.com> Phil Aldis  
<philaldis@geocities.com> writes:

```
> Hi,  
> If you write some code like this:  
>  
> test=Ptr_New()  
>  
> IF Ptr_Valid(test) AND Size(*test, /type) NE 10 THEN print, *test  
>  
> ....can you always guarantee that it will not try to evaluate the second  
> statement if the first one was false - or is this a dangerous tactic to  
> adopt?
```

Nope. In fact, I can guarantee that it *will* evaluate the whole logical expression. IDL is in this respect totally unlike C.

If the urge is big enough, one could ask RSI nicely to implement operators like "AND THEN" and "OR ELSE" used like this:

```
IF ptr_valid(test) AND THEN size(*test,/type) ne 10 then print,*test
```

```
IF error_occurred OR ELSE check_for_error() then print,"Error"
```

"AND THEN" works like C &&

"OR ELSE" works like C ||, i.e. check\_for\_error() isn't called if "error\_occurred" is already true.

Operators with such names exist in e.g. Simula, IIRC.

I wouldn't be holding my breath, though.

Regards,

Stein Vidar

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