
Subject: Re: _Ref_Extra : BUG? (in Win2K 55b) corrected test file
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Fri, 02 Nov 2001 00:18:15 GMT
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From: "Martin Downing" <martin.downing@ntlworld.com>
> http://homepage.ntlworld.com/martin.downing/idl/test_ref_ext_ra_bug2.pro

So the routine that's crashing your machine (and mine) is as follows
(shortened)...

```
pro test_ref_extra1,_REF_EXTRA=e
  test_ref_extra2,_REF_EXTRA=e ; Here be dragons!
end
```

This isn't merely bad practice, it's wrong. The _REF_EXTRA keyword is only used in routine definitions. When *calling* a routine, the acceptable forms are "_EXTRA" and (as of 5.5) "_STRICT_EXTRA".

Still, it shouldn't crash IDL. It should be detected as a syntax error.

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