
Subject: Re: When Ptr_New doesn't work

Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Wed, 23 Jan 2002 18:07:14 GMT

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I think the key here is, anything in parenthesis gets *evaluated* and as such is an expression. And it is not really surprising that one is not allowed to assign a value to an expression. This is the strength of IDL - it creates temporary variables as expressions, and allows to use them just like named variables. Unlike, say, IGOR Pro that requires you to define a named variable to even plot it.

Pavel

Richard Younger wrote:

>

> This seems very strange to me. I think of parenthesis as not modifying
> their arguments at all, since they should (in my own little idl, er,
> ideal world) change only precedence and not value.
