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Subject: Logical vs. Bitwise boolean operators

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Fri, 01 Feb 2002 16:04:56 GMT

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Fortran has the logical boolean operators .AND., .OR., and .NOT., and I naively expected the correspondingly named IDL operators to be the same. However, in IDL, those are bitwise operators, rather than logical ones (my copy of the manual just calls them 'boolean', without specifying whether they are logical or bitwise). As a result, the following code did not do what I expected:

```
IF (!D.FLAGS AND 8) AND (ratio LE minrat) THEN BEGIN
```

I can always code around this limitation. The solution I came up with was to change it to:

```
IF ((!D.FLAGS AND 8) EQ 8) AND (ratio LE minrat) THEN BEGIN
```

However, it seems to me that there should be a better way to do this.

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