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Subject: Re: endless loops suck  
Posted by [Pete\[2\]](#) on Mon, 03 Feb 2003 23:36:58 GMT  
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Hi,  
I've come across this problem before when updating plots.

This will not not break:

```
PRO doomed_to_continue
a=0L
  While (1) DO BEGIN
    a=a+1
  ENDWHILE
END
```

This will break:

```
PRO happy_to_break
a=0L
  While (1) DO BEGIN
    a=a+1
    wait,0.0001
  ENDWHILE
END
```

as will this:

```
PRO happy_to_break_2
a=0L
  While (1) DO BEGIN
    a=a+1
    print,"
  ENDWHILE
END
```

At times, I've had to put in a wait statement after a plot statement to make it display, if the plot statement is in a loop and if there is no other way to interrupt the execution of the loop. Weird!

Peter

"Thomas Gutzler" <[tgutzler@ee.uwa.edu.au](mailto:tgutzler@ee.uwa.edu.au)> wrote in message  
[news:3E3DDF77.3040908@ee.uwa.edu.au](mailto:news:3E3DDF77.3040908@ee.uwa.edu.au)...  
> good morning,  
>

```

> David Fanning wrote:
>>
>> So I admit, "infinite" WHILE loops *can* be interrupted, as long as
>> they use BEGIN ... END statement blocks. Try this:
>>
>> PRO Test
>> While 1 DO BEGIN
>>   Print, 'Test before you Post!'
>> ENDWHILE
>> END
>
> I thought about this and figured out that I have a loop with begin
> and end. It looks like that:
>
> PRO SnakeInterp,xi,yi,dmax,dmin
>   ; x,y are arrays of coordinates
>   ; dmin, dmax are preferred min and max distance between coordinates
>   [...]
>   ; WHILE (MAX(d) GT dmax) DO BEGIN ; this would be correct
>   WHILE (1) DO BEGIN ; this obviously loops to dead
>     idx0 = (d GT dmax)
> => z = SnakeIndex(idx0) ; debugger is here
>     p = INDGEN(N+1)+1
>     xi = InterPol([xi,xi[0]],p,z)
>     yi = InterPol([yi,yi[0]],p,z)
>     N = N_ELEMENTS(xi)
>     d = abs( [xi[1:N-1],xi[0]] - xi) + abs( [yi[1:N-1],yi[0]] - yi)
>   ENDWHILE
> END
>
> FUNCTION snakeindex, idx
>   ; SNAKEINDEX Create index for adaptive interpolating the snake
>   arr = idx
>   N = N_ELEMENTS(xi)
>   arr = (TRANPOSE([arr],[INTARR(N)+1]))[0:2*N-2]
>   y = DOUBLE(WHERE([1,arr] EQ 1))/2+1
>   RETURN, y
> END
>
> I pressed "Step out", then CTRL+BREAK (10 times) then CTRL+c (another 10
> times) then I made myself a tea and read some news. After half an hour
> taskmanager was my friend again :(
> I thought maybe the compiler needs a little bit of time to finish
> currently running processes before it polls the keyboard again and breaks.
>
>> On my Windows machine I can interrupt this program (after I've
>> learned my lesson) by doing a CNTL-Break.
>

```

> I could interrupt the Print, 'Test before you Post!' loop with this, yes.  
>  
> Perhaps I just should pay more attention to my sourcecode.  
>  
> Tom  
>

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