
Subject: Re: endless loops suck

Posted by [Thomas Gutzler](#) on Mon, 03 Feb 2003 03:18:15 GMT

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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
