
Subject: Re: array referencing problem ...

Posted by [marc schellens\[1\]](#) on Thu, 10 Mar 2005 07:01:50 GMT

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> Here is an article that might help:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/code_tips/tempvar.html

While this article is still covers the point, its a little bit
outdated:

IDL now correctly complains about the expression.

```
IDL> p = ptr_new( {a:1, b:2, s:{x:0,y:0, a:[256,256,48]} } )  
IDL> ((*p).s.a)[2] = ((*p).s.a)[2] * 4  
% Expression must be named variable in this context: <INT  
Array[3]>.   
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

But there is still another bug in IDL:

```
function ret,a  
return,a  
end
```

```
IDL> a=1  
IDL> ++(ret(a[0]))  
IDL> print,a  
1
```

But this only happens if used as a statement:

```
IDL> print,++(ret(a[0]))  
% Expression must be named variable in this context: <INT ( 1)>.   
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

Ah, and did I mention that GDL
(<http://gnudatalanguage.sourceforge.net/>)
behaves correctly in all cases :-)

Cheers,
marc
