
Subject: Strange IDL string bug

Posted by [Justin Baker](#) on Wed, 09 Aug 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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I have discovered an unusual bug with IDL strings (IDL V4.0) and was wondering if anyone else has seen it.

The IDL User's Guide says strings can be delimited with either a ' or " character. I was trying to use this method to include quotes in my string variables. e.g

```
IDL> arr_str = "arr = ['a','b','c']"  
IDL> result = execute(arr_str)
```

I quickly discovered that there seems to be a problem with " quoted strings if they start with a digit.

```
IDL> ok_string='12345'  
IDL> bad_sting="678910" ^  
% Syntax error.
```

Can anyone shed any light on this problem ?

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Justin Baker
Bureau of Meteorology
Australia
