
Subject: Re: objects, crashes, and negative memory oh my
Posted by [Karl Schultz](#) on Fri, 01 Dec 2006 19:19:41 GMT
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On Fri, 01 Dec 2006 11:41:08 -0700, Jean H. wrote:

```
> Pete Warner wrote:
>> Here's a program that crashes me every time. The key part seems to be
>> the "file_search" followed by the "and" statement. Take either out and
>> it doesn't cause me trouble. I'm creating the .txt file because I don't
>> know what to search for on your computers, and file_search needs to
>> find something. I run between 1 and 10 loops before IDL dies on my
>> computer. Tested on 6.1 and 6.3.
>
> even a 1 line
> IDL> a = file_search() & print, 'test ' and a
> makes IDL crash...
> IDL> print, !version
> { x86 Win32 Windows Microsoft Windows 6.3 Mar 23 2006    32    64}
>
> Jean
```

Ouch. Ok I'll open a bug report and we'll try to fix it for next release.

I've spent a little time looking for a workaround and didn't have much luck.

About all I can suggest is looking at how the AND operator works on non-numeric values and maybe changing your code to do the same thing without using AND.

Docs say:

For operations on other types, the result is equal to the second operand if the first operand is not equal to zero or the null string; otherwise, the result is zero or the null string.

So you might replace:

```
print, 'anystring' and b
```

with

```
print, 'anystring' ne '' ? b : ''
```

Now 'anystring' ne '' doesn't make sense unless 'anystring' is another variable.

Entire program, with a workaround:

```
pro testfailure
```

```
a = 'test_file.txt'
```

```
openw, 1, a
```

```
close, 1
```

```
free_lun, 1
```

```
key = 'b'
```

```
any = 'anystring'
```

```
count = 0
```

```
print, 'Starting Memory: ', memory(/current)
```

```
while (key ne 'a') do begin
```

```
    count++
```

```
    b = file_search(a)
```

```
    print, any ne " ? b : "
```

```
    print, 'Memory after iteration ', count, ', ', memory(/current)
```

```
    print, 'Hit "a" to exit, anykey to continue'
```

```
    key = get_kbrd(1)
```

```
endwhile
```

```
print, 'ending'
```

```
end
```
