
Subject: Re: Function Makes Unexpected Appearance
Posted by [ed.schmahl](#) on Sun, 08 Mar 2009 20:26:45 GMT
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David must have written this after a few beers, I thought, when I went to the link provided, and read interesting stuff about Black Holes and the Three-Body program. "But what the heck does this have to do with the STRUCT_ASSIGN procedure?" So I checked out the docs on STRUCT_ASSIGN. Cool program! Might even be useful, but I was too tired to think about the relation to black holes and the "wierd constant" of the 3-body problem, and went to bed.

About an hour later I woke up out of a sound sleep (David's messages can have this effect -- be warned), inadvertently awakening my gently snoring wife, and said to myself, "That's what David meant!"

```
BlackHole={a:randomn(10),wierd_constant:3.1415271818}  
ThreeBody={b:randomn(5),wierd_constant:3.1415271818}  
STRUCT_ASSIGN, /VERBOSE, BlackHole,ThreeBody  
print,ThreeBody,format='(2F15.10)'
```

Ed Schmahl,
New member of STRUCT_ASSIGN FANS ANONYMOUS

On Mar 4, 6:25 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> Folks,
>
> This business today with STRUCT_ASSIGN is the second time
> this week something has popped up where I least expected it.
> There was even an article about the phenomenon this week,
> when a constant that appears in a rotating black hole
> equation all of a sudden showed up in a three-body problem:
>
> <http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/41310>
>
> I keep running into the usefulness of Scale_Vector used
> in conjunction with Value_Locate. That combination just
> turns up in the oddest places, and always doing *exactly*
> the job I had in mind.
>
> STRUCT_ASSIGN is another of those extremely useful

> functions that bails you out when you least expect it.
>

> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
