
Subject: Re: dereference with wildcard

Posted by [PimK](#) on Wed, 10 Feb 2010 20:16:32 GMT

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On Feb 9, 1:05 pm, Carsten Lechte <c...@toppoint.de> wrote:

> PimK wrote:

>> print, mean((*(pState).navtrack)[*]).lat)

>> % Expression must be a scalar in this context: <POINTER Array[2]>.

>

> This is because you can only dereference scalar pointers. This is a fundamental
> limitation of IDL's arrays: all array elements have to be of the same scalar
> type. You can have arrays of pointers to anything, since the array is made up
> of things of the same type (i.e. pointers). If you dereferenced the whole array,
> you would have an array of "anything", which is not allowed. IDL refuses to
> evaluate the expression, even if all the pointers pointed to a scalar integer,
> and the resulting array would be legal in IDL.

>

> chl

Thanks for the feedback! I'll use loop then instead.

Cheers, P.
