
Subject: Re: FOR loop ends one above where it's supposed to
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Wed, 02 Jun 2010 15:57:21 GMT

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On Jun 1, 8:26 pm, Bulgakovv <alex.ph.sjog...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> Maybe there are previous posts about this, but I tried to google
> around without any success so I'll throw the question out.
>
> When I make a FOR loop from for example 0 to 5, the counter ends on
> the value one step above what I stated. Here's an example:
>
>> for i =0,5 do print,i
>
>      0
>      1
>      2
>      3
>      4
>      5>print,i
>
>      6
>
> Is this how it's supposed to be in IDL? To me it seems a little bit
> weird, why would the FOR loop count one extra step in the end? Took me
> a couple of hours to realize what was going on in my code as I took
> for granted this was not the case, so now I'm interested in
> understanding why IDL is behaving like this. Thanks and sorry if
> reposting!
```

While people here gave a logical explanation as to what is happening, I would say that the **safest** practice in your programming is to not use the for loop index variable ("i" in this case) for anything else in your program. That will make the code much easier to write, read and understand.

Ciao,
Paolo
