
Subject: Re: Warning: IDL 8.0 alters the behaviour of existing valid programs without any notice!

Posted by [svhhaugan](#) on Fri, 20 Aug 2010 11:42:23 GMT

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On Aug 19, 9:35 pm, Chris <beaum...@hawaii.edu> wrote:

> In reality, how many people actually use CATCH to handle the case of a
> failed call to where?

As I *did* point out, the CATCH was not a very likely thing to be used in real life, it was only for illustrational purposes, in real life there would just be an informative error message and the command line (i.e. a crash) so you could explore what/where/why it went wrong. It's an interactive data language: relying on things to crash is *not* a bug if that's what you want to happen.

> not checking the result of where is a bug.

No. Nope. Says who? Where? It isn't. Not in IDL 7.

Nor is it a bug in IDL 8, as other people have pointed out, b/c you can do `data[where(...,/null)] = 0`, that's not a bug, is it?

Crashing is not a bug, if that's what you want your program to do in certain cases. So, a program can be bug-free under IDL 7, yet buggy when run under IDL 8.
