Subject: BUG: How to crash IDL using !null
Posted by M. Katz on Sun, 20 Feb 2011 05:48:09 GMT

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Here's a serious crash I found in IDL 8.0.1 (Mac) {not tested on other
platforms yet} having to do with !null as an array index in a
structure field that happens to be an array.

THIS WORKS NORMALLY:

a = fltarr(10)
w = where(a EQ 99, /null) ;--- here w will be !null
a[w] = 1.   ;--- these two are interchangeable since w is !null
a[!null] = 1.

THIS CRASHES IDL:

a = {b:fltarr(10)}   ;--- create a structure with an array
w = where(a.b EQ 99, /null) ;--- here w will be !null
print, w   ;--- show us that w is !null
a.b[w] = 1 ;--- here it crashes for me.
a.b[!null] = 1 ;--- this equivalent statement also crashes.

I haven't yet tried this with all forms of lists and hashes, pointers
etc.
Anyone have any ideas besides, "Don't do that."

M.