
Subject: Re: buggy dictionary

Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Mon, 08 Jun 2015 20:30:33 GMT

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On Monday, June 8, 2015 at 8:28:59 PM UTC+2, Dick Jackson wrote:

> On Monday, 8 June 2015 07:49:14 UTC-7, Fabien wrote:

>> On 06/08/2015 04:15 PM, Helder wrote:

>>> Please save everything before trying it!

>>>

>>> IDL> a = dictionary('b',dictionary('c',findgen(10)))

>>> IDL> a.b['c',1:-1]

>>>

>>> ... bye bye IDL

>>

>> Nice! Crashes IDL on my 64b Linux machine, too.

>>

>> Cheers,

>>

>> Fabien

>

> I found some slightly different results:

>

> IDL> !version

> {

> "ARCH": "x86_64",

> "OS": "Win32",

> "OS_FAMILY": "Windows",

> "OS_NAME": "MicrosoftWindows",

> "RELEASE": "8.4",

> "BUILD_DATE": "Sep272014",

> "MEMORY_BITS": 64,

> "FILE_OFFSET_BITS": 64

> }

>

> IDL> a = dictionary('b',dictionary('c',findgen(10)))

>

> IDL> a.b['c',[1:-1]]

> 1.0000000 0.00000000 0.00000000

> ;; Mine does not fail like yours, but it seems wrong!

> ;; That looks like array indexing off the low end, filling in '0' as it reaches back to -1

>

> ;; This seems to get to what you want, I think!:

> IDL> a.b.c[1:-1]

> 1.0000000 2.0000000 3.0000000 4.0000000 5.0000000 6.0000000

> 7.0000000 8.0000000 9.0000000

> ;; But maybe you want the 'c' to be a string, to change it programmatically, in which case:

> IDL> (a.b['c'])[1:-1]

> 1.0000000 2.0000000 3.0000000 4.0000000 5.0000000 6.0000000

```
>      7.00000000    8.00000000    9.00000000
> ;; I believe the parentheses cause a temporary copy of the array(10) to be made, which may
> not be OK in your application
>
> ;; I wondered about modifying values in there, doesn't look good:
> IDL> a.b.c[1:-1]=42
> % Attempt to store into an expression: Structure reference.
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
> IDL> help,a.b.c[1:-1]
> <Expression>  FLOAT    = Array[9]
>
> ;; I would think that should work, too:
> IDL> c=findgen(10)
> IDL> c[1:-1]=42
> IDL> c
>      0.00000000    42.0000000    42.0000000    42.0000000    42.0000000    42.0000000
>      42.0000000    42.0000000    42.0000000    42.0000000
>
> Is anyone from {Harr|Exel}|is taking notes from this? Chris, are you there? :-)
>
> Cheers,
> -Dick
>
> Dick Jackson Software Consulting Inc.
> Victoria, BC, Canada --- http://www.d-jackson.com
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Hi,
I got some feedback from Exelis, but it's way past working hours so I will sum up tomorrow.
Dick, you're right. There is a bug.

Cheers,
Helder
