

Subject: assignment inside boolean expression
Posted by [Patrick Broos](#) on Mon, 10 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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I was wondering if it's common knowledge that one can put an IDL assignment inside a boolean expression (like in the C language). For example

if ($v = 0$) then ... assigns v and does not execute the "then" statement, while
if ($v = 1$) then ... assigns v and does execute the then.

Just as in C I find this leads to really nasty bugs.

—

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Subject: Re: assignment inside boolean expression
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Tue, 18 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Patrick Broos wrote:

 $\sim$

> I was wondering if it's common knowlege that one can put an IDL

```
> assignment inside
```

- > a boolean expression (like in the C language). For example

✓

- > if ($v = 0$) then ... assigns v and does not execute the "then"

```
> statement, while
```

- > if ($v = 1$) then ... assigns v and does execute the then.

✓

> Just as in C I find this leads to really nasty bugs.

/

 $\geq \dots$

One application where I am actually using this is token search in strings. It

can save you a few keystrokes and (in my opinion) make code more

readable, because
the temporary variable p is only used within the IF construct:

```
if ((p=StrPos(test,'Martin')) >= 0) then $
    tail = StrMid(test,p,999)
```

as opposed to

```
p = StrPos(test,'Martin')
if p ge 0 then tail = StrMid(test,p,999)
```

```
--
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[[ martin.schultz@dkrz.de                                       [[
[[
```

Subject: Re: assignment inside boolean expression
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Tue, 18 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Ben Tupper wrote:

```
>
> Craig Markwardt wrote:
>
>> Not to undercut you, but will (X AND 1) do the trick?
>>
>
> Thanks to Ken and Craig. I think for my purposes the following should suffice (I
> guess as long as I make sure that I'm working with an integer/long/byte type.)
>
> X = Indgen(6) - 2
>
> For i = 0, N_elements(X)-1 Do $
>   If X then Print, X[i], ': Odd' Else print, X[i], ': Even'
>
> -2: Even
> -1: Odd
> 0: Even
> 1: Odd
> 2: Even
> 3: Odd
>
```

> Thanks again,
>
> Ben

but if you start increasing the number of elements of X to say 1000000,
you are

certainly better off with:

```
answer=['even','odd']  
print,answer[ (x and 1) ]
```

no loop ;-)

Example:

```
IDL> x=lindgen(20)-5
```

```
IDL> answer=['even','odd']
```

```
IDL> print,answer[x and 1]
```

```
odd even odd even odd even odd even odd even odd even odd even  
odd even odd even
```

BTW: $X \bmod 2$ does not work for negative numbers !!!

```
IDL> print,answer[x mod 2]
```

```
even even even even even even odd even odd even odd even odd  
even odd even odd even
```

Cheers,
Martin

--

```
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```
