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Subject: Re: inconsistence in 5.4 -> 6.0

Posted by [GrahamWilsonCA](#) on Tue, 07 Oct 2003 17:19:45 GMT

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Marc Schellens <m\_schellens@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:<3F827F34.9010207@hotmail.com>...

```
>
> in 5.4:
>
> IDL> cc=complex(0,1)
> IDL> if cc then print,'true' else print,'false'
> false
>
> in 6.0:
>
> IDL> cc=complex(0,1)
> IDL> if cc then print,'true' else print,'false'
> true
>
> potentially dangerous, isn't it?
```

Seriously, you don't use IDL for complex numbers do you?

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Subject: Re: inconsistence in 5.4 -> 6.0

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 07 Oct 2003 17:50:39 GMT

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Marc Schellens writes:

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>
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> IDL> if cc then print,'true' else print,'false'
> true
>
> potentially dangerous, isn't it?
```

Well, I don't know about "dangerous", but

it certainly is inconsistent with the  
on-line help definition of "true" for  
complex variables. What did the good folks  
at RSI say about this when you reported it? :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: inconsistence in 5.4 -> 6.0  
Posted by [marc schellens\[1\]](#) on Wed, 08 Oct 2003 09:04:26 GMT  
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Graham wrote:

> Marc Schellens <m\_schellens@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:<3F827F34.9010207@hotmail.com>...

>

>> in 5.4:

>>

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>>

>> in 6.0:

>>

>> IDL> cc=complex(0,1)

>> IDL> if cc then print,'true' else print,'false'

>> true

>>

>> potentially dangerous, isn't it?

>

>

> Seriously, you don't use IDL for complex numbers do you?

No.

I was just playing with 6.0

But why are you so sure about this?

I always thought that other people well use complex numbers.

Are there some reasons why nobody should use IDL with complex numbers?

Anybody out there using complex numbers in IDL?

marc

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Subject: Re: inconsistence in 5.4 -> 6.0

Posted by [marc schellens\[1\]](#) on Wed, 08 Oct 2003 09:16:19 GMT

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> Well, I don't know about "dangerous", but
> it certainly is inconsistent with the
> on-line help definition of "true" for
> complex variables. What did the good folks
> at RSI say about this when you reported it? :-)
```

Didn't report it yet.

But I think the good folks at RSI reading the newsgroup anyway.

marc

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Subject: Re: inconsistence in 5.4 -> 6.0

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 09 Oct 2003 12:18:27 GMT

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Marc Schellens writes:

```
> Didn't report it yet.
> But I think the good folks at RSI reading the newsgroup anyway.
```

I suspect they do, but that is NOT the same as an official report that gets the problem into their formal tracking system. As my mama told me, things that are written down get DONE! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
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Subject: Re: inconsistence in 5.4 -> 6.0  
Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Thu, 09 Oct 2003 22:12:43 GMT  
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Marc Schellens <m\_schellens@hotmail.com> writes:

>> Seriously, you don't use IDL for complex numbers do you?  
>  
> No.  
> I was just playing with 6.0  
>  
> But why are you so sure about this?  
> I always thought that other people well use complex numbers.  
> Are there some reasons why nobody should use IDL with complex numbers?  
> Anybody out there using complex numbers in IDL?

I use them all the time, in Fourier-type applications (including FFT).  
I've never had a problem.

Craig

--

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Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D.    EMAIL: [craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu](mailto:craigmnet@REMOVEcow.physics.wisc.edu)  
Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response  
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