
Subject: Re: bug or feature?

Posted by [Carsten Lechte](#) on Thu, 16 Apr 2009 10:51:32 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

lbnc@lbnc.de wrote:

```
> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $
> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $
> ^
> IDL: PLOT: Incorrect number of arguments.
>
> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $
> ^
> IDL: Syntax error.
```

FWIW:

IDL Version 6.4 (linux x86 m32). (c) 2007, ITT Visual Information Solutions

```
IDL> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor = 4
IDL> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $
IDL> =4
IDL>
```

no error.

chl

Subject: Re: bug or feature?

Posted by [jameskuyper](#) on Thu, 16 Apr 2009 10:52:46 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

lbnc@lbnc.de wrote:

```
> Hi there,
>
> in the IDL 6.3 documentation it says:
>
> Dollar Sign ($)
> The dollar sign at the end of a line indicates that the current
> statement is continued on the following line. The dollar sign
> character can appear anywhere a space is legal except within a string
> constant or between a function name and the first open parenthesis.
> Any number of continuation lines are allowed.
>
> So I do:
>
> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor = 4
```

>
> Lovely! However:
>
> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor \$
> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor \$
> ^
> IDL: PLOT: Incorrect number of arguments.

You have just given the plot command 7 arguments. The \$ character makes the above pair of lines equivalent to a single line:

plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor

I hope you can understand why IDL complains about that command?

> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor = \$
> IDL> 4
>
> So anyway, seems like the documentation is wrong. Maybe. Depends how
> you define "string constant" but I would not include the assign
> operator "=" as part of it.

I don't see how you reach that conclusion. String constants have nothing

Subject: Re: bug or feature?

Posted by [lbnc](#) on Thu, 16 Apr 2009 11:17:27 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On 16 Apr, 11:52, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:

>
> You have just given the plot command 7 arguments. The \$ character makes
> the above pair of lines equivalent to a single line:
>
> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor
>

No, I haven't. And I would show you if I could reproduce the error.
But magic has happened and I cannot get IDL to complain anymore. Hence
I now agree with Carsten. Strangely. Except when you do

IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor\$

because then the \$ is, of course, part of the variable name.

Ah well
Lasse

Subject: Re: bug or feature?

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 16 Apr 2009 11:50:02 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

lbnc@lbnc.de schrieb:

```
> On 16 Apr, 11:52, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:
>> You have just given the plot command 7 arguments. The $ character makes
>> the above pair of lines equivalent to a single line:
>>
>> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor

>>
>
> No, I haven't. And I would show you if I could reproduce the error.
> But magic has happened and I cannot get IDL to complain anymore. Hence
> I now agree with Carsten. Strangely. Except when you do
```

I don't see magic.

```
>
> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor$
>
> because then the $ is, of course, part of the variable name.

>
> Ah well
> Lasse
```

works in 7.0

```
IDL> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23) $
IDL> ,xstyle=1
```

```
IDL> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $
IDL> =4
```

cheers
Reimar

Subject: Re: bug or feature?

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 16 Apr 2009 11:50:50 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

lbnc@lbnc.de schrieb:

```
> Hi there,  
>  
> in the IDL 6.3 documentation it says:  
>  
> Dollar Sign ($)  
> The dollar sign at the end of a line indicates that the current  
> statement is continued on the following line. The dollar sign  
> character can appear anywhere a space is legal except within a string  
> constant or between a function name and the first open parenthesis.  
> Any number of continuation lines are allowed.  
>  
> So I do:  
>  
> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor  = 4  
>  
> Lovely! However:  
>  
> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $  
> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $
```

make sure if it happens also after you have started idl or did a .reset.

cheers
Reimar

```
> ^  
> IDL: PLOT: Incorrect number of arguments.  
>  
> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor $  
> ^  
> IDL: Syntax error.  
>  
> No good. But I can do:  
>  
> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor  = $  
> IDL> 4  
>  
> So anyway, seems like the documentation is wrong. Maybe. Depends how  
> you define "string constant" but I would not include the assign  
> operator "=" as part of it.  
>  
> Come to think of it, I should probably report that to ITTVIS instead  
> of posting it here...  
>  
> Cheers
```

> Lasse

Subject: Re: bug or feature?

Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Thu, 16 Apr 2009 20:01:19 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

<lbnc@lbnc.de> wrote in message

news:ac79dbba-9bab-4486-b29a-815b429e6a6a@h28g2000yqd.google groups.com...

> Hi there,

...

>

> IDL>plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor \$

> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor \$

> ^

> IDL: PLOT: Incorrect number of arguments.

>

> plot, indgen(23), indgen(23), xminor \$

> ^

> IDL: Syntax error.

Wild Guess (and referring to the fact you cannot reproduce it).

you had no space between xminor, and the \$
when you got the error.

It though you were passing 3 arrays, hence the error.

cheers,
bob
