Subject: Re: Feature, or bug? Posted by Lajos Foldy on Sun, 20 May 2012 12:08:12 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

```
On Saturday, May 19, 2012 9:20:40 PM UTC+2, whdaffer wrote:
> Found an interesting, ummm, feature.
>
  I frequently use the following construct.
>
> if n elements(a) * n elements(b) * ... * n elements(z) eq 0 then
> begin
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 with a catch block to do my preliminary argument processing.
  It turns out, there are circumstances where this product can equal 0.
  even when all the n element()'s return non-zero numbers
>
  To see this, consider...
>
> IDL> print, long(27072)^6
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> Any more than 5 arrays with 27072 elements followed by whatever else
> and that construct will always evaluate to 0. I had 6, plus a few that
> had fewer elements.
> I also tried a case where I put the arrays with fewer alements up
> front. It failed too.
> IDL> a=(b=(c=(d=(e=(f=fltarr(27072))))))
> IDL> print,(n_elements(fltarr(10)) *n_elements(1) *n_elements(a))
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> n_elements(e)*n_elements(f) & print,check_math()
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>
>
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```

```
> IDL> help,!version
  ** Structure !VERSION, 8 tags, length=76, data length=76:
    ARCH
                 STRING
                           'x86'
    OS
                        'linux'
               STRING
>
    OS FAMILY
                    STRING
                               'unix'
>
    OS_NAME
                    STRING
                              'linux'
>
    RELEASE
                   STRING
                              '8.1'
>
    BUILD_DATE
                     STRING 'Mar 9 2011'
>
    MEMORY BITS INT
                                  32
>
    FILE OFFSET BITS
>
             INT
                         64
>
> IDL>
>
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> Since n_elements returns a long (not even a ulong, which, when you
> think about it for a second, it really should, but that wouldn't have
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    OS
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                          'linux'
>
    OS_FAMILY
                     STRING
                               'unix'
>
    OS_NAME
                    STRING
                               'linux'
    RELEASE
                    STRING
                              '8.1'
>
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>
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regards, Lajos

Subject: Re: Feature, or bug?
Posted by whdaffer on Mon, 21 May 2012 16:31:30 GMT
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```
On May 20, 5:08 am, fawltylangu...@gmail.com wrote:
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                 STRING
                            'linux'
>>
     OS FAMILY
>>
                      STRING
                                 'unix'
     OS NAME
                     STRING
                                'linux'
>>
     RELEASE
                               '8.1'
                     STRING
>>
     BUILD DATE
                      STRING
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>>
     MEMORY_BITS
                        INT
                                    32
>>
     FILE_OFFSET_BITS
>>
               INT
                          64
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Hmmmm... Well check_math _does_ claim that it will report integer overflow, in bit 1.

But I wouldn't be using check_math to check for that condition in the construct I was using anyway, so it's moot that check_math apparently falls down on the job, at least in this case.

Thanks for the explanation.

whd

>

> regards,

> Lajos

Subject: Re: Feature, or bug?
Posted by Lajos Foldy on Mon, 21 May 2012 17:13:08 GMT
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Thanks for the explanation.whd>regards,Lajos
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The check_math help says: "Some hardware/operating system combinations may not report all of the math errors listed." Integer overflow is listed, but not checked and reported :-)

Integer overflow is "undefined behaviour" in standard C, so it can not be done in a portable way. The glibc manual says:

```
FPE_INTOVF_TRAP
```

Integer overflow (impossible in a C program unless you enable overflow trapping in a hardware-specific fashion).

regards, Lajos

```
Subject: Re: Feature, or bug?
Posted by whdaffer on Wed, 23 May 2012 19:32:06 GMT
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```

```
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>> Thanks for the explanation.

>> whd

>> regards,

>> Lajos

> The check_math help says: "Some hardware/operating system combinations may not report all
```

Why yes! So it does. And just one line after the table where it claims to report integer overflows!

of the math errors listed." Integer overflow is listed, but not checked and reported :-)

The right hand giveth, and the left taketh away, I guess ;-)

>

> Integer overflow is "undefined behaviour" in standard C, so it can not be done in a portable way. The glibc manual says:

> FPE_INTOVF_TRAP

Integer overflow (impossible in a C program unless you enable overflow trapping in a hardware-specific fashion).

Which, means, effectively, that check_math for integer overflow is worthless since I doubt that ITT or whatever they're called this week is going to enable overflow trapping in a hardware-specific fashion.

Is the situation similar for the other errors?

whd