Subject: probable mistake in IDL manual Posted by szoonem on Fri, 28 Nov 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi,

I was reading "Building IDL Applications" manual (version 5) and noticed the procedure on p. 76 which is supposed to count the number of times that the word "dog" appears in the string "dog cat duck rabbit dog cat dog";

pro Animals
animals = 'dog cat duck rabbit dog cat dog'
i = 0
cnt = 0
while (i ne -1) do begin
i = strpos(animals,'dog', i)
if (i ne -1) then cnt = cnt + 1
endwhile
print, 'Found ',cnt, "occurances of 'dog'"
end

When I read it, it struck me as being wrong. I tested it later and it seems to have gone into an infinite loop (as I suspected it would). Is it some thing VERY obvious that I am missing or is it simply wrong?

I am rather confused about this simple procedure. Any comments would be appreciated,

- Saeid

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Subject: Re: probable mistake in IDL manual Posted by David Foster on Tue, 02 Dec 1997 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Saeid Zoonematkermani wrote:

>

```
> pro Animals
> animals = 'dog cat duck rabbit dog cat dog'
> i = 0
> cnt = 0
> while (i ne -1) do begin
   i = strpos(animals, 'dog', i)
    if (i ne -1) then cnt = cnt + 1
> endwhile
> print, 'Found ',cnt, "occurances of 'dog'"
> end
> -----
>
> When I read it, it struck me as being wrong. I tested it later and it
> seems to have gone into an infinite loop (as I suspected it would). Is it
> some thing VERY obvious that I am missing or is it simply wrong?
> I am rather confused about this simple procedure. Any comments would be
> appreciated,
Yep, looks like an infinite loop to me. Needs the following line at
the end of the while loop:
i = i + strlen('dog'); maybe i = i + 3 is faster;-)
Dave
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