

## Ruby - Bug #6067

### Conditional assignment of a nested constant raises a SyntaxError

02/23/2012 12:02 PM - brixen (Brian Shirai)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                  |                                 |
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| <b>Status:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Closed                                                           | <b>Backport:</b>                |
| <b>Priority:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Normal                                                           |                                 |
| <b>Assignee:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)                                        |                                 |
| <b>Target version:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                  |                                 |
| <b>ruby -v:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | ruby 1.9.3p125 (2012-02-16 revision 34643) [x86_64-darwin10.8.0] |                                 |
| <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                  |                                 |
| <p>I can conditionally assign a simple constant:</p> <pre>\$ ruby -v -e 'p X   = 1' ruby 1.9.3p125 (2012-02-16 revision 34643) [x86_64-darwin10.8.0] 1</pre> <p>However, conditional assignment of a nested constant raises a <code>SyntaxError</code>:</p> <pre>\$ ruby -v -e 'module A; end; p A::X   = 1' ruby 1.9.3p125 (2012-02-16 revision 34643) [x86_64-darwin10.8.0] -e:1: constant re-assignment</pre> <p>But I can assign the constant unconditionally, of course:</p> <pre>\$ ruby -v -e 'module A; end; p A::X = 1' ruby 1.9.3p125 (2012-02-16 revision 34643) [x86_64-darwin10.8.0] 1</pre> <p>Is this a bug?</p> <p>Thanks,<br/>Brian</p> |                                                                  |                                 |
| <b>Related issues:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                  |                                 |
| Is duplicate of Ruby - Bug #5449: nested constant opassign not working                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                  | <b>Closed</b> <b>10/15/2011</b> |

#### History

##### #1 - 03/06/2012 12:09 AM - steakknife (Barry Allard)

One would think it would evaluate similar to:

```
(A::X = 1 if ! defined? A::X or A::X.nil? ; A::X)
```

For comparison, these also fail:

```
ruby -e 'module A; end; p A::X = 2; p A::X ||= 1'  
ruby -e 'module B module Inner end end; B::Inner::X ||= 4; p B::Inner::X'
```

Also, these correctly succeed:

```
ruby -e 'module F X ||= 2 end; p F::X'  
ruby -e 'module G class Foo; X ||= 3 end end; p G::Foo::X'  
ruby -e 'module H module Inner end end; H::Inner::X = 4; p H::Inner::X'
```

##### #2 - 03/11/2012 05:40 PM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

- Assignee set to matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

##### #3 - 03/18/2012 06:46 PM - shyouhei (Shyouhei Urabe)

- Status changed from Open to Assigned

##### #4 - 07/14/2012 04:15 PM - nahi (Hiroshi Nakamura)

Closing as a duplicate, since [#5449](#) was confirmed as a bug by Matz. [#5449](#) will fix it.

**#5 - 07/14/2012 04:16 PM - nahi (Hiroshi Nakamura)**

- *Status changed from Assigned to Closed*