
Subject: Re: Automatic Compilation of IDL Programs, Was: Lost Functions
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Wed, 05 Nov 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

>
> M. Hegde (hegde@PROBLEM_WITH_INEWS_DOMAIN_FILE) takes
> exception with several things I wrote, but finally
> ends up with this:
>
>> This feature might be good for running few things from IDL prompt. But as a
>> programmer, I would like to better manage source code instead of pondering
>> each time I call a function whether IDL would have compiled it before.
>
> I clearly mangled whatever point it was that I was trying
> to make, because I couldn't agree more with *this* statement. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David

Hmmm... This sounds to me like you are fond of make files etc. I
actually
like IDL's way of automatic compilation, EXCEPT if one wants to
distribute
a program package and has to find out which files are needed. It would
certainly be useful to have a tool which would look for all
the routines that may be called from a "command" (i.e. pro or function
identical to filename), and lists the files in which they are found. Of
course, this does depend on your installation (order of searchable
libraries). I guess it would come down to a real or pseudo compilation
and could possibly be achieved by
some tricky use of the journal output ??? Has anyone written something
like this ?
Another useful option of such a program would be to filter out dead or
duplicate routines which linger around from old versions of a code.

Regards,
Martin

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