David Fanning wrote:
>
> [This followup was also posted to comp.lang.idl-pvwave]
>
> Matthew Hanson (matt@ktaadn.com) writes:
>
[cut]
> Most of the time this kind of problem is resolved by having
> your programs be compiled automatically when they are needed.
> In other words, give your program files the same name as the
> procedure or function and let IDL find them when it needs them.

let me just add a little note on seperate files vs. "libraries", because
I don't think this is mentioned in the IDL manuals:
It seems as if the automatic compilation of IDL always compiles up to
the
point where it finds the procedure or function with the same name as the
filename. Hence, if you have some functions that are closely related,
and
you don't want them all in seperate files, you have to make sure that
you
call the last one first - or that all your *sub*routines precede your
*main*pro(cedure/gram). I use this for a usage mechanism, so instead of
writing out the usage lines within my procedure, I define a
use_<procname>
procedure and this is called when an error is detected in the parameters
passed.

Also, in this respect, it may be of interest to note that IDL is not
completely
case-insensitive when trying to match a filename with a procedure name.
I once
tried a procedure name test_3D.pro, and IDL did not like it, although
the procedure
is named completely identical. Here is what I got:

% Attempt to call undefined procedure/function: 'TEST_3D'.
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$

Regards,
Martin

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