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Subject: Re: Automatic Structure Definition

Posted by [J.D. Smith](#) on Wed, 16 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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"R.Bauer" wrote:

>  
> Daniel Peduzzi wrote:  
>  
>> I recently spent quite a bit of time wondering why my automatic structure  
>> definition files could not be seen by IDL. All attempts to instantiate the structure  
>> in my calling program resulted in the error "attempt to call undefined procedure/function".  
>>  
>> As it turns out, the problem was that I had a capital letter in my filename containing  
>> the structure definition procedure. Renaming it from abc\_Struct\_\_define.pro to  
>> abc\_struct\_\_define.pro remedied the problem, even though all references still  
>> contained the capital "S".  
>>  
>> Has anybody else experienced this problem? Or perhaps it is not a problem  
>> at all, and I missed the explanation? This requirement is definitely not explained  
>> in the "Automatic Structure Definition" section.  
>>  
>> Dan Peduzzi  
>> peduzzi@mediaone.net  
>  
> This a problem using idl on unix.  
> IDL on windows did not distinguish lower or upper cases.  
>  
> R.Bauer

It's the only reasonable solution though, since IDL is case-insensitive and unix file systems are case-sensitive. How is IDL to know which file to use? Either it adopts a given convention (e.g., all lower-case), or it searches for all upper-lower permutations of the given name, which, for abc\_Struct\_\_define.pro, includes 262144 possibilities. (Or it becomes case-sensitive, which is a whole different kettle of fish).

A lesson learned: always use lower case for naming files containing IDL routines under unix.

JD

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J.D. Smith                   |\*|    WORK: (607) 255-5842  
Cornell University Dept. of Astronomy   |\*|    (607) 255-6263  
304 Space Sciences Bldg.           |\*|    FAX: (607) 255-5875  
Ithaca, NY 14853                   |\*|

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