
Subject: Re: IDL 5.3 serious problem: save files sneakily restored
Posted by [kashyap](#) on Thu, 24 Aug 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <MPG.140f7e12fd8ffd61989bf0@news.frii.com>, David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

>
> Uh, I'm not sure it's a hull breach. If I understand
> you correctly this has been a behavior of IDL for a
> long, long time.

Good lord. It's a miracle we haven't shot ourselves in the foot yet with a Gatling.

There is an easy enough workaround (".save"), but please, why isn't this listed prominently somewhere, at least in the FFAQ?

> think IDL goes looking in the !Path for a file junker.pro,
> but in fact it looks for a file junker.sav *first*. This

Which, if you are still taking requests for top 10 enhancements, has just made my personal list at -1:
LOOK FOR THE .SAV FILE *LAST*

> It's not an unknown problem in IDL, but a relatively
> rare one, given the huge number of functions and variables
> people create.

That's what makes this feature dangerous. There's such a tremendous number of functions floating around that it's practically impossible not to have *some* .sav files around that inadvertently match a function name.

Vinay

--

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