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Subject: Re: IDLgrLegend broken

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Mon, 11 Dec 2000 21:22:15 GMT

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"Pavel A. Romashkin" <pavel.romashkin@noaa.gov> wrote in message news:3A351026.2C587812@noaa.gov...

>> You are right [and I was wrong]

>

> Oh, no. Mark, I never meant to make it sound like that. I apologize if

> you feel I insisted \*you\* were wrong.

Please don't apologise. You didn't insist I was wrong. I was wrong all by myself! I've been wrong about this subject (order of searching for method definitions) for a couple of years now and it's good to have someone actually check things out and correct me.

Perhaps my posting (quoted above in its full) sounded disgruntled...or tragic? I thought it was just succinct. Somehow people misunderstand me when I am succinct. I used to have a message on my answerphone that said

"Mark here. Please leave a message."

I thought that said it all, but I had to alter it because of the complaints. (I got one of the females in my household to record a more human-friendly message. You know the sort of thing: "You have reached the house of ..... No-one can come to the phone right now but we'd love to hear from you so please leave a message after the beep." Me, I find it slightly insulting to be told stuff I already know (like I don't know to leave the message after the beep?) but I accept that the rest of the human race (well, the female half anyway) likes to use redundant communication for personal affirmation, sort of a form of verbal grooming. (I read about it in "Men are from Mars. Women are from Venus".)

But I digress...

> ...use explicit naming to avoid \*all\* confusion. Who will follow

> this path, anyway, with dozens of methods for every object.

I don't think that it's out of the question to have each method definition in a separate file. This wouldn't cause excessive clutter if you put each class definition in its own directory. I'm not sure what the effect on performance would be: more directory searching would be required but time would be saved in not compiling methods until they're used (if ever).

The only reason cited in the IDL documentation for bundling class definitions into a single file is this one:

"Note - If you are working in an environment where the length of

filenames is limited, you may want to consider defining all object methods in the same .pro file you use to define the class structure. This practice avoids any problems caused by the need to prepend the classname and the two underscore characters to the method name. If you must use different .pro files, make sure that all class (and superclass) definition filenames are unique in the first eight characters.

But who uses IDL on "environments where the length of file names is limited" these days?

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