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Subject: IDL SAVE file compatibility (followup)

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Mon, 05 Mar 2001 22:45:41 GMT

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I've gotten word from someone at RSI that the next version of IDL is planned to be able to create save files which are again compatible with old versions. To recap the problem, IDL 5.4 appears to create files on some platforms which are unreadable by older versions of IDL.

The next version of IDL should:

- \* read files generated by IDL 5.4 and earlier
- \* write files which are readable by IDL 5.4 and earlier  
(of course IDL < 5.3 won't be able to read > 2 gigabyte files)
- \* have a converter program to convert files generated by IDL 5.4 into the more compatible format.

I think the RSI people realized the difficulty that people were in, and are responding. Good stuff.

That being said, you can also try my SAVE library today, which is able to selectively read, selectively write, and perform directory listings of IDL SAVE files. The library can write and read files compatible with IDL 4 through 5.4.

<http://cow.physics.wisc.edu/~craigm/idl/idl.html> (under Save Files)

Craig

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