
Subject: Re: something like perl's 'require 5.4'

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Wed, 18 Apr 2001 11:58:39 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

JD Smith wrote:

>

> Paul van Delst wrote:

>>

>> JD Smith wrote:

>>>

>>> Paul van Delst wrote:

>>>>

>>>> wot about

>>>>

>>>> IDL> print, double('5.4.1') ge 5.4d0

>>>> 1

>>>>

>>>

>>> Because it's exactly the same! Yes it's ge, but is it gt?

>>>

>>> IDL> print, double('5.4.1') gt 5.4d0

>>> 0

>>>

>>> IDL> print, double('5.4.1') eq 5.4d0

>>> 1

>>>

>>> No it's not, it's eq. Same problem. So use this if you don't care

>>> about the last digit and don't want to be open about it (it's not

>>> exactly obvious this is the case). Use the string compare method

>>> otherwise.

>>>

>>>> Doesn't assuage your other concerns regarding the significance of the last digit however.

>>>> I use comparisons like the above for code that contains BREAK, CONTINUE, SWITCH, etc

>>>> statements. Or similar for the version in which pointers and objects were introduced (5.2?

>>>> can't remember).

>>>

>>> The problem here is you'll not err cleanly... unknown control statements

>>> will cause compile errors. Not a lot that we can do about this.

>>

>> Nuh-uh. They're interpreted as user functions/procedures.

>

> Right. I stand corrected. Just hope they don't have any such named

> routines lying about on their path.

Me too. :o)

> Dereferencing pointers will cause

> compile error in old versions though, right?

I would hope so. But I do have utility and wrapper codes that simply pass pointers along, i.e. doesn't dereference them.

paulv

--

Paul van Delst A little learning is a dangerous thing;
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring;
Ph: (301)763-8000 x7274 There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
Fax:(301)763-8545 And drinking largely sobers us again.
paul.vandelst@noaa.gov Alexander Pope.
