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

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Tue, 17 Apr 2001 19:44:23 GMT

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JD Smith wrote:

>

> Craig Markwardt wrote:

>>

>> Vapuser <vapuser@catspaw.jpl.nasa.gov> writes:

>>> How about:

>>>

>>> version=strupcase(strjoin(strsplit(!version.release,['.-_'], /extract), ""))

>>> input_version=strupcase(strjoin(strsplit(desired_release,['.-_'],/extract), ""))

>>> if version lt input_version then 'eeek'

>>>

>>> Clearly `desired_release' would have to be input as a string.

>>>

>>> Of course, this method 'requires' IDL 5.3 (IIRC), to get the regular
>>> expression semantics of strsplit. The other question is will RSI use

>>> any separator in version designations besides these three?

>>

>> Umm, I never thought I'd be saying this, but aren't these a bit

>> overengineered? I have found that in 95% of the cases the DOUBLE

>> compare will work, and in 4% of the cases the STRING compare will

>> work.

>

> *cough*

>

> <REITERATE>

>

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

> 0

>

> </REITERATE>

wot about

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

1

?

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).

I think it would be pretty difficult (for unsophisticated ol' me) to maintain code that

contains version tests for when RSI fixes a bug -- like in the examples you listed....
although, HISTOGRAM and REBIN? Never use 'em. :o) What _possible_ use could they be??
(*).

paulv

(*) sarcasm alert for the irony impaired

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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.
