
Subject: forcing variable definition in IDL?

Posted by [Gernot Hassenpflug](#) on Tue, 01 May 2001 06:19:42 GMT

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I have seen some threads on Google about the lack of 'implicit none' Fortran type statement in IDL. However, those threads are, a) short, b) date from 1995. I have not seen anything later than this.

So, my question: is it possible in IDL 5.4 to force definition of variables, or at least to automate a variable-check in IDL.

Alternatively, maybe I need to write a function that automatically checks the first use of a variable in a program. I have used the `routine_info` and `routine_names` functions to obtain information about variables in scope at the time.

Does anyone know of either how to get IDL to check variables' definition, or how to write a function to do that?

I have also toyed with the idea of using each variable as a single-element array (eg. `b(0) = 1`), but that is most inelegant and lengthy.

Best regards,

Gernot Hassenpflug

PS email address in header includes SPAM TRAP. please note.

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