
Subject: Re: "private" and "public" attributes in IDL.
Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Thu, 23 Aug 2001 14:21:56 GMT
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Martin Schultz wrote:

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>
> JD Smith <jdsmith@astro.cornell.edu> writes:
>
>>>
>>> JD Smith wrote:
>>>>
>> ... and I for one have pined for a native method
>> within IDL to allow this. This does not mean, however, that allowing
>> such carte blanche access is always good idea. Typically, a *small*
>> subset of a class' data fields are useful and stable for public
>> consumption.
>>
>> JD
>
> Wouldn't it be lovely, had the folks at RSI thought about a "public" and "private"
> attribute for object fields?
```

I don't use objects alot (but I'm working on it on the weekends) but your above statement is totally absolutely true. It would've be lovely - even for object-challenged folk like myself. The public and private attribute in fortran 90 (for entire modules, individual variables, structure components and/or internal subprograms) is one of the best additions to that language I reckon.

paulv

p.s. My weekend IDL object tinkerings have certainly improved my Fortran 90 coding techniques - or at the very least how I approach problems in that domain - that's fer sure. And I can write my "get_properties" methods to do whatever I like. :o)

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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.
 Alexander Pope.
