
Subject: Re: no backwards compatibility in IDL 5.6
Posted by [Alexander Rauscher](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2003 06:52:11 GMT
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On Thu, 27 Feb 2003, David Fanning wrote:

```
*  
*I've added an article on my web page with a little  
*program that produces the same results in IDL 5.4, 5.5,  
*and 5.6 on my machine.  
*  
* http://www.dfanning.com/math_tips/atan_change.html  
*  
*I'd be curious to know if this solves the problem for  
*everyone:  
*  
* FUNCTION ATAN_COMPLEX_WRAPPER, complexNum  
*  
*   returnValue = 0.0  
*   version = Float(!VERSION.Release)  
*   CASE 1 OF  
*     (version LE 5.4): ok = Execute('returnValue = ATAN(complexNum)')  
*     (version EQ 5.5): BEGIN  
*       realpart = Real_Part(complexNum)  
*       imgpart = Imaginary(complexNum)  
*       ok = Execute('returnValue = ATAN(realpart, imgpart)')  
*       END  
*     (version GE 5.6): ok = Execute('returnValue = ' + $  
*       'ATAN(complexNum, /Phase)')  
*   ENDCASE  
*   RETURN, returnValue  
*   END  
*
```

*Cheers,

*
*David

*--

```
*David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
*Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
*Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com  
*Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/  
*Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155  
*
```

cool! that looks like a useful solution. especially because one can use a
simple sed script to replace every atan in every *.pro. we could only
test it with 5.4 (yep, we actually "disupgraded". but who knows, with this we
might "undisupgrade" soon...) and it works...

regards,
alex
