
Subject: Re: no backwards compatibility in IDL 5.6
Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Thu, 27 Feb 2003 15:13:54 GMT
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Alexander Rauscher wrote:

> sorry for posting the same thing twice under different subjects, but i
> think this is important...
>
> many of idl programs have to be adapted due do the non existing
> backwards compatibility of atan (and probably many other functions) .
> one wouldn't expect a change in such a fundamental function. so now
> atan(z, /phase) gives the same result as atan(z) in older versions did,
> where z is (re,im)... this is worse than stupid. this is dangerous.
>
> or does anybody know away to circumvent the new "features" of IDL 5.6?
>
> alex

(Perhaps I am missing something here.)

```
RELEASE      STRING  '5.5a'
IDL> print,atan(complex(4,4))
(   1.44452,   0.123674)
IDL> print,atan(complex(4,4),/phase)
% Keyword PHASE not allowed in call to: ATAN
IDL> print,atan(10,10)
    0.785398
```

```
RELEASE      STRING  '5.6'
IDL> print,atan(complex(4,4))
(   1.44452,   0.123674)
IDL> print,atan(complex(4,4),/phase)
0.785398
IDL> print,atan(10,10)
    0.785398
```

The same thing for the case of atan(complex), and also for the case of atan([float array]). What has broken? Also, in 5.6, in the use of atan(10,10, /phase), the "/phase" is ignored (according to the help file).

It seems to me that functionality has been added in a way the preserves the previous functionality, so no legacy code should have any effect.

So I don't think you have to worry.

Cheers,

bob
