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Subject: Re: arrays vs. functions conflicts

Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Fri, 05 Mar 2004 15:17:14 GMT

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Paul van Delst wrote:

> Paolo Grigis wrote:

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>> David Fanning wrote:

>>

>>> Paolo Grigis writes:

>>>

>>>

>>>

>>>> Thus my problem:

>>>> To resolve the conflict {that is, limits.pro being already  
>>>> compiled and procedure.pro refusing to compile because it has  
>>>> an old-fashioned statement like var=limits(1:2) instead of  
>>>> var=limits[1:2]} I'm thinking of automatically compiling  
>>>> the (hopefully) few troubling routines like procedure.pro  
>>>> at startup using the resolve\_routine() statement.  
>>>> (BTW, why is the IDL compiler (5.5) not smart enough to  
>>>> understand that function(1:2) is an array? ":" is never allowed  
>>>> in function calls, after all.)

>>>>

>>>> But before going on, I just wanted to know if there is an  
>>>> easier way out of this that I have overlooked.

>>>

>>>

>>> IDL itself could care less about this issue. So if  
>>> you are having problems with it then \*you\* must  
>>> care about it. Does your procedure.pro have a compiler  
>>> option that forces strict arrays? Then take it out.  
>>> Problem solved. :-)

>>>

>>> Cheers,

>>>

>>> David

>>

>> No, the routine compiles just fine if there aren't  
>> any previously compiled functions called "limits", but  
>> \*fails\* to compile if this is the case, because then IDL  
>> thinks it is a function instead of an array.  
>> Hence I was thinking of compiling the routine at  
>> the idl start: if I do that then I don't have any problems  
>> at all.

>

>

> Hello Paolo,

>  
> Is there a COMPILE STRICTARR directive anywhere in your code or in any startup scripts?  
> This is the most obvious source of weirdness between [] and (). But.....  
>  
> Hang on a minute.... you say you have a limits.pro that compiles. Thus "limits" \_is\_ a  
> function, right? The you have a statement like var=limits(1:2) where "limits" is now an  
> array? Well, which do you want "limits" to be...a function or an array?  
>  
> Confusedly yours,  
>  
> paulv  
>

Dear Paul, that's the problem: in the procedure, limits is an array. No problem with that, it should be.

But sometimes it happens that I run \*another\* program before, which compile a function called limits. If then I compile the procedure, the compiler thinks limits is a function and all hell break loose.

The problem is that in general you don't have control on what other people define as a function, and so this problem does happen. The only way out I see, is to exit idl, and compile the procedure before the function.

Cheers,  
Paolo

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