
Subject: arrays vs. functions conflicts

Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Fri, 05 Mar 2004 11:28:15 GMT

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Dear IDL experts,

since I was lucky enough to learn IDL after the []-brackets revolution, the potential conflicts between arrays() and function() calls never bothered me until I found out about it... then the nightmares really started. ;-)

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 (and no, I definitely do not want to override useful programs written by others with my own []-version, only to start all over again each time a new version or bug fix of the routine comes out).

Greetings,
Paolo

DISCLAIMER: any IDL code, variable names and procedure statements cited in this message are purely fictional and any resemblance to real code, variable names and procedure statements, living or dead, is coincidental.

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