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Subject: Re: Error handling and tracebacks

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 21 Jul 2004 23:26:47 GMT

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Michael Wallace writes:

> How do I disable tracebacks associated with the message procedure?

My goodness, you are having a tough day, today. :-)

> Before the programming gurus yell at me for potentially hiding bugs my  
> code, let me explain why I want to do this. I have a library of  
> procedures and in certain cases I am creating my own errors via message  
> which are several calls down in the stack. When the error comes out,  
> there is a long traceback, but I only want the end user to see the  
> message itself and not the entire traceback since the traceback is going  
> several layers down into code that the end user shouldn't even be aware  
> of. I do want the user to see the error, but not all the files and line  
> numbers.

I think your only hope here is to CATCH the errors  
thrown by MESSAGE yourself, then prune the error traceback  
(which you maybe save in a string variable, with the OUTPUT  
keyword) and pass it on to the user:

```
Catch, theError
IF theError NE 0 THEN BEGIN
  Help, /Traceback, Output=helpString
  Prune, helpString
  Print, helpString
ENDIF
```

I don't have any idea what the PRUNE procedure  
might look like. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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