
Subject: Re: SAVE files with /ROUTINES for Previous Versions
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 24 May 2006 21:19:42 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> Gianluca Li Causi writes:

>

>> I've the following question: if I have a project written in IDL 6.2 but
>> which only uses IDL 6.0 routines and no routines or functionality of
>> versions later than IDL 6.0, can I make a .sav file by

>>

>> SAVE, /ROUTINES

>>

>> which can be run under IDL 6.0 ?

>> Or IDL 6.2 is necessary even if no new routines are used?

>

> Only save files with *data* in them are guaranteed to
> be backward compatible. It is more than routines that
> change from one version of IDL to another. Wouldn't hurt
> to try, but I expect the chances for success must be
> slim and none.

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

There are groups of IDL versions that you can do this within, but they are not documented. The only way to insure that it will work is to actually compile it with IDL 6.0. If it is compiled with IDL 6.0, then it is supposed to work for later versions (I would test it). For this particular case, IDL 6.0 generated much larger SAV files than previous or subsequent versions, so check that out if it matters to you.

Mike

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