Subject: "Variable is undefined: conversion destination variable."
Posted by MarioIncandenza on Wed, 27 Jun 2007 00:42:46 GMT
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Hi IDL folks,

Exciting! A First-Time IDL Error!

This is a variant, of sorts, on the problem IDL has with "functions
that return UNDEFINED" (http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-
pvwave/browse_thread/thread/954c06bc4c1714/3682f2ba899b68d2?
lnk=gst&q=undefined+return&rnum=1&hl=en#3682f2ba 899b68d2)

Like that older problem, this one halts execution with no indication
of where the error occurred:

% Variable is undefined: Conversion destination variable.
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$

This time, I'm running an IDL script with '.run' (forget what the IDLy
term is for that), which calls a bunch of subroutines to do its
business. For those who don't use it regularly, this run-mode does
give line numbers where errors occurred, since the file is "compiled"
before running. Except in this case, it doesn't.

I said it in the previous thread and I'll say it again here: this
should *never* happen. The existence of an exception that causes IDL
to halt execution and not say where it stopped indicates a bug.

Without any indication of where the error occurs, I'll probably just
fiddle until it goes away and not be any wiser. I'll repost if I
actually uncover the root cause, or if I whittle my script down to a
small case that illustrates this problem.

Happy hacking,

Edward H.