David Fanning wrote:
<...>
Anyway, I was sitting here wondering why we don't have any
beer in the house again, and it occurred to me that I should
have a page listing the 10 or 15 most common IDL programming
errors with their solutions. But I can only think of three.
<...>

Some others...

Forgetting about a "catch" statement that lies buried somewhere, hiding
other bugs or making a total mystery of execution problems.

Forgetting to use "reform" - stumbling on an unwanted array dimension of 1
that's left after pulling out an array subset.   (Actually I don't know if
this one's still there.   I'm a bit behind the times maybe.)

Getting "rows" mixed up with "columns" (whatever they are) when using IDL
calls that involve matrices.

Cheers
Peter