
Subject: Re: IDL Virtual Machine Woes
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 18 Nov 2008 21:19:48 GMT
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Hi

usually I do create all my sav files by compile
<http://tinyurl.com/6cchbh>

it does create inside of the sav file also a temporary function which
tells you something about the version of the routines used in the sav file.

```
IDL> compile, 'example'  
IDL> help, example_info(),/str  
** Structure <842fea4>, 2 tags, length=12284, data length=12284, refs=1:  
   TIME      DOUBLE      2.8035811e+08  
   ROUTINES   STRING   Array[3, 341]
```

Th sav files do run on windows and on linux. I think they also run on
Mac, but I can't try.

cheers
Reima

M. Katz schrieb:

- > I think there's still a misconception out there that when you write an
- > IDL application for other people to run on VM, that they need to
- > download and install the IDL distribution. That is simply not
- > necessary.
- >
- > I have now installed my VM application on several different Windows
- > and Mac machines that are not licensed for IDL and do not have IDL
- > installed. In no cases was it necessary to download the 260 MB IDL
- > installation from ITT. As David correctly mentioned in this thread
- > from Oct 28 (<http://tinyurl.com/66lwmk>), the make_rt output is about
- > ~50 MB. It seems to include much more than is actually necessary, so
- > you can probably go into the subfolders and probably remove hundreds
- > of unused routines and files, if you're picky. (Note that the distro
- > can be much larger if you use the 64bit keyword because it seems to
- > create 2 distributions at once.) IDL support told me that installing
- > the full IDL on Windows may be necessary only if the OS is way out of
- > date.
- >
- > While I have not yet created the perfect 3-platform distribution CD,
- > having a 50 MB program-distribution size that zips down to about 28 MB
- > on Windows, means that you can distribute all three versions from
- > three different links online, if you want.

>
> **The most important thing I have learned is that the Windows distro
> cannot be created on a Mac. You have to MAKE_RT from a Windows-
> licensed IDL session. IDL Help does not tell you this. I do not yet
> know if you can successfully create the Mac distro from Windows, and
> I'll wait to hear from the Linux folks about their experience. When
> you create the Windows distro from the Mac, the VM quits with an
> 'error 53' or some such thing.
>
> That said, the .sav file created from Mac or Windows can be run on Mac
> or Windows, once it is married to the larger portion of the
> distribution that was created by MAKE_RT. You can exploit this fact to
> create program updates that are just a few MB and include only
> your .sav file (if only your programs have changed.)
>
> M.
