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Subject: Re: Hide functions from other procedures  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sat, 28 Feb 2009 10:56:57 GMT  
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mgalloy schrieb:

> fugu wrote:

>> I have two procedures, and in both .pro files, I define slightly  
>> different functions with the same name. I would like to make sure,  
>> that only the procedure in the same .pro file can see 'it's own'  
>> function, but no other procedure. The reason is, that I often define a  
>> plot function first (which I call my\_plot), which gets then called by  
>> the actual procedure several times, to plot on screen and to ps etc.

>

> IDL has a global namespace for routines. There is no way to ensure that  
> only the procedure in the same .pro file can see 'it's own' function  
> except by carefully managing manual re-compiles of the routines (as  
> successive compiles bump old routines of the same name out of memory).

>

>> I can off course, give the functions different names, but there are  
>> good reasons for calling it the same (mainly because I later know the  
>> function call my\_plot without having to look it up etc.)

>>

>> As an example:

>>

>> I have two files, called test1.pro and test2.pro, which hold the  
>> procedures (not surprisingly) test1 and test2.

>>

>> test1.pro looks like this

>>

>> HEADER

>> FUNCTION my\_plot

>> ...

>> END

>>

>> PRO TEST1

>> ...

>> calls my\_plot

>> END

>>

>>

>> and test2 looks exactly the same, but the function my\_plot in test2 is  
>> different from the function my\_plot in test1. Now I hoped, that  
>> compiling and running test2 would know nothing about the my\_plot  
>> function in test1 which I compiled before. But that does not seem to  
>> be the case.

>

> So starting from a fresh IDL session, compiling TEST1, then compiling  
> TEST2, and then calling MY\_PLOT results in TEST1's MY\_PLOT being called?

> I don't see how that's possible. Be careful with compile order: it  
> happens only the first time you use a function. So calling TEST2, then  
> TEST1, and then TEST2 again would cause a problem (TEST2 would be  
> calling TEST1's MY\_PLOT). Of course, using RESOLVE\_ROUTINE, manually  
> compiling, doing a .reset, etc. changes everything.  
>  
> My suggestion: name them TEST1\_MY\_PLOT and TEST2\_MY\_PLOT.  
>  
> Mike

Or do refactor this code into objects.

Then you can inherit from one object and overwrite the methods you want to have different.

If you want keep your plot function add cases and keywords to it. So that you have only one function as separate routine where you add every different part from the others.

cheers  
Reimar

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