Subject: Re: 2-d histogram and Routines of same name
Posted by Kenneth P. Bowman on Tue, 18 May 2010 21:58:43 GMT

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In article
<55c0cb24-cb7b-4365-8258-c1b21601b133@b21g2000vbh.googlegroups.com>,
 Jeremy Bailin <astroconst@gmail.com> wrote:

>> In article <hsrli1$s0...@speranza.aioe.org>,
>>

>>> It seems that PRODUCT is a built-in, not .pro code or in a DLM. So I
>>> made my own PRODUCT routine, but couldn't get IDL to ever use it, even
>>> if I manually compiled it. IDL always found the built-in PRODUCT first
>>> and used it. Maybe this was different in older versions of IDL? The docs
>>> say PRODUCT was introduced in IDL 5.6, but I only have access back to
>>> IDL 6.4 where it still seems to be a built-in.
>>
>> For a few built-in IDL routines I have fixed bugs or made
>> minor modifications (routines for which ITT provides the

>> directory into the IDL search path ahead of the default search
>> path.
>>
>> Maybe that won't work for those routines for which ITT does
>> not provide source code (precompiled routines) ?
>>
>> Ken
>
> I'd be very hesitant to knowingly create a function with the same name
> as one that is part of the official distribution, for exactly the
> reasons we're seeing here. When I extend/bugfix ITT routines, I give
> them a slightly different name (usually either prefixed by JB or
> having some suffix that indicates what's been changed, e.g. MEAN_D).

Yes, what you suggest is normally the best approach.

Unfortunately these are functions that are called by other built-in
routines in the iTools library, and I don't have the fortitude to
attempt to duplicate that entire code base, change names, change all
references to the updated functions, etc.

I limit this practice to a handful of routines.

Cheers, Ken