
Subject: Re: Happy Reasons to use IDL 8.1
Posted by [ameigs](#) on Wed, 25 May 2011 09:58:38 GMT
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On May 25, 9:42 am, FÖLDY Lajos <fo...@rmki.kfki.hu> wrote:

> On Tue, 24 May 2011, David Fanning wrote:

>> FÖLDY Lajos writes:

>

>>> Probably IDL does not know about your image function and tries to

>>> subscript the image variable. Does `compile_opt idl2` help?

>

>> Well, this occurs in a fresh IDL session, so `image`

>> is undefined. I've also checked to be sure no procedures

>> or functions named "image" are defined.

>

>> IDL> .reset

>> IDL> .compile -v 'C:\IDL\default\junk.pro'

>

>> `img = image(image, /current)`

>> ^

>> % Syntax error.

>> At: C:\IDL\default\junk.pro, Line 4

>> % 1 Compilation error(s) in module \$MAIN\$.

>

>> Yes, `Compile_Opt idl2` helps and seems to solve

>> the problem. Yet one more reason (if we need one!)

>> that this should finally be the default behavior!

>

>> The fact that I know how to work-around the problem

>> (naming my `image` "bob" also solves the problem!) doesn't

>> give me much satisfaction. What do you suppose the

>> problem is?

>

> The problem is that `image()` is ambiguous, it can be a function call or a

> variable subscript. IDL must choose after reading the tokens 'image' '('.

> I guess the rules are:

>

> - if the `image` function is defined, it is a function call

>

> - if the `image` variable is defined, it is a subscript

>

> - if the `image` function can be resolved using `!PATH`, it is a function call

>

> - it is a subscript

>

> (here defined means defined in the internal tables of the compiler)

>

> I think we have to live with it. "bob" or `compile_opt idl2` (`strictarray`)

- > removes the ambiguity. Probably IDL should add an -idl2 command line
- > switch to make it default globally.
- >
- > regards,
- > Lajos

Know you're trying to help, but ever heard of the "teaching an old dog to suck eggs". David is finding unexpected problems and well he is one of 5 experts that I know of in IDL. Sorry, I can't test this behaviour; my lab is stuck currently at IDL 7.1.1....

Andy
