
Subject: Re: God save me!

Posted by [zbjiang803109](#) on Sun, 26 Jan 2014 14:02:33 GMT

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> On Thu, 16 Jan 2014 05:58:28 -0800 (PST), ??? wrote:

>

>

>

>> Thank a lot, Heinz. Adding `compile_opt idl2` works. But I wonder why sometimes the compilation passes even without the option. And later when I remove the line (`compile_opt idl2`) the compilation also passes.

>

>>

>

> Zhibo, it is nothing wrong with not using the compile option. However,

>

> if you allow round brackets for array indexing (i.e. no compile

>

> option), the IDL compiler or interpreter has to find out if

>

> "colorbar(...)" is a variable or a function.

>

>

>

> I have never read (or investigated) how IDL is doing this. (Because

>

> for me it is convenient, to use square brackets for arrays.) I think,

>

> IDL makes it's decision on basis of it's lists of defined variables

>

> and compiled functions. But I don't really know.

>

>

>

> You can try to find it out. Does the compilation pass without an error

>

> message, when the colorbar function is already compiled? (You can

>

> check this with "help,/routines".)

>

>

>

> If you allow round brackets for arrays, then you must not use the same

>

> name (in this case "colorbar") for a variable as well for a function.

>

> (This is meant for inside of one routine. You may use "colorbar" for a

>
> function within one routine and for a variable within another
>
> routine.)
>
>
>
> If you use the said compile option, everything is simple:
>
> "y=colorbar(...)" is a function call, and "y=colorbar[...]" is array
>
> subscripting. Note that "y=colorbar[0]" and "y=colorbar[*]" are
>
> allowed also for scalar variables.
>
>
>
> Hope this helps.
>
>
>
> Cheers, Heinz

Yes, you're right. When I use the previous option, the error message appears again. When I run .compile COLORBAR and then compile the program, it passes.
