Subject: Re: MESSAGE facility

Posted by davidf on Tue, 22 Apr 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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## Wayne Landsman writes:

- > One change in IDL V5.0 is that the default response of the MESSAGE
- > facility is now to include a traceback. At least, as of V5.0B5 there
- > is no way to suppress this response, e.g. there is no /NOTRACEBACK
- > keyword. This can lead to the following disconcerting behavior. A
- > function call that in V4.0.1 yields the following response:

>

- > IDL> a = dbfind('dec>0')
- > % DB\_INFO: No data base file(s) opened

>

> becomes in V5.0B5

>

- > STIS>a = dbfind('dec>0')
- > % DB INFO: No data base file(s) opened
- > % Error occurred at: DB\_INFO 112/share/idl/astro\_util/db\_info.pro
- > % DBFIND 137/share/idl/astro\_util/dbfind.pro
- > % \$MAIN\$
- > % Execution halted at:\$MAIN\$

I am absolutely in favor of having a traceback option on the MESSAGE routine. How many times have I known there was an error in my code, but not where it was!

But I agree with Wayne. I don't want it as the default. I want my users to see something more gentle and helpful. Please give me a keyword that can turn the trace on and perhaps (am I asking too much?) a variable to save it in! :-)

Cheers!

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com