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Subject: Re: syntax for calling parent class `_overloadPlus` method  
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Thu, 28 Apr 2016 20:35:40 GMT  
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On 4/28/16 7:01 AM, Markus Schmassmann wrote:

```
> i'm trying to overload operators for my subclass of idl_variable, but
> don't find the correct syntax for calling the parent classes' operator
> function.
>
> How do i have to correct the line below marked ';problem' without using
> 'left+right'?
> i guess i have to put something like   XXX.idl_variable::_overload...
> but what would then be XXX?
>
> ---
> pro sandbox__define
>   struct={sandbox, $
>     inherits idl_variable, $
>     reps:    ptr_new() $
>   }
> end
>
> function sandbox::Init, array, reps
>   ; a bit of code
>   void=self.idl_variable::init()
>   void=self.idl_variable::set_value(array)
>   *self.reps=reps
>   return, 1
> end
>
> function sandbox::_overloadPlus, left, right
>   ; some code
>   out=idl_variable::_overloadPlus(left,right)    ;problem
>   ; some more code
>   return, out
> end
> ---
>
> PS: Sorry, stupid question of a beginner, but i failed to find the
> solution elsewhere.
> PPS: There may be more errors, but the rest at least compiles.
```

In general, you would use something like the following to call a parent's implementation:

```
out = self->IDL_Variable::overloadPlus(left, right)
```

You can use the `.` notation you used in `::init` as well:

```
out = self.IDL_Variable::overloadPlus(left, right)
```

But, in your case, you are calling some methods that don't exist. As far as I can tell, there are no IDL\_Variable::init, IDL\_Variable::set\_value, and IDL\_Variable::\_overloadPlus methods.

Mike

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Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)

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