
Subject: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [Dave Brennan](#) on Tue, 01 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Hi,

Has anyone notice strange behavior from IDL 5.3 on unix systems? (Apart from bad programming!)

I have noticed 2 things.

1) When saving programs and then compiling them to run the compiler, on occasion, complains of syntax errors.

When I check what the problem is, I find that strange characters appear within the code (often near where I have edited) that resemble r's in subscript. Why do these appear? When I delete them the code works fine again.

2) If I have run a program which has finished, and I now edit the program, the processor on my sun continues to run at 100%. This is only resolved by exiting IDL and restarting.

These problems seem to have appeared only in IDL 5.3. Could it be related to the new colour editor now supplied with unix versions of IDL.

If others have noticed this I will mention it to .

Hopefully, there will be enough unix users to convince Research Systems to repair the bugs. (Sorry I am still grumpy about the lack of unix GUI!)

Cheers

Dave B

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [anne](#) on Fri, 04 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Dave Brennan wrote:

> Hi,

>

> Has anyone notice strange behavior from IDL 5.3 on unix systems? (Apart
> from bad programming!)

>

> I have noticed 2 things.

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> 1) When saving programs and then compiling them to run the compiler, on
> occasion, complains of syntax errors.
> When I check what the problem is, I find that strange characters appear
> within the code (often near where I have edited) that resemble r's in
> subscript. Why do these appear? When I delete them the code works fine
> again.
>

I have also had this problem on both Sun and SGI platforms and it's driving me nuts! Deleting the text and rewriting it doesn't always work so I've wasted time chasing bugs I can't even see! I have just started to use idlde instead of working from the old fashioned command prompt but I'm beginning to wonder if it's the right decision.

>
> 2) If I have run a program which has finished, and I now edit the
> program, the processor on my sun continues to run at 100%. This is only
> resolved by exiting IDL and restarting.
>
> These problems seem to have appeared only in IDL 5.3. Could it be
> related to the new colour editor now supplied with unix versions of IDL.
>

I'm not sure about the cause but I have also had to crash out of idlde several times because it's running some unknown process.

> Hopefully, there will be enough unix users to convince Research Systems
> to repair the bugs. (Sorry I am still grumpy about the lack of unix
> GUI!)
>

Yes - it does seem unfair that the gui editor isn't available on unix especially when unix users are paying significantly more for each license.

Anne M.

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix
Posted by [davidf](#) on Sat, 05 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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Anne (anne.martel@nottingham.ac.uk) writes:

> Yes - it does seem unfair that the gui editor isn't available on unix
> especially when unix users are paying significantly more for each license.

I'm going to give the crusade up after this, but I think

you really should be grateful for these small favors RSI
does for you. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [Mike Schienle](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <MPG.130ce487641460b7989a27@news.frii.com>,
davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

[tales of UNIX and PC woes deleted]

> The bottom line is this: even with buggy software, American
> worker production was up 5% last year. *Something* must be
> working right!

Mac sales were up.

Sorry, I couldn't resist. I'll go screw myself now.

--

Mike Schienle

mgs@ivsoftware.com

<http://www.ivsoftware.com/>

Interactive Visuals, Inc.

Remote Sensing and Image Processing

Analysis and Application Development

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Patrick Broos (pathb@astro.psu.edu) writes:

> Here at Penn State we're sticking with IDL 5.2 indefinitely because
> idlde under 5.3 (in Solaris) cannot deal with .pro files that are longer
> than about 1800 lines. RSI acknowledges the bug, says it's only Solaris

> and 5.3, and says they probably won't fix it until 5.4. It really stinks
> to be loyal to an OS (unix) that has so little market leverage.

The alternative is to join the Microsoft baggy-eye brigade and spend your weekend wee-hours trying to get your machine stable again. I'll say this for the pain: it takes your mind off IDL's deficiencies. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. I heard from someone this week who wanted to install Internet Explorer 5 on Windows NT 4. His IDL 5.3 installation went all to hell. Finally, RSI technical support told him the two pieces of software don't work together. Can't run IE5 and projects together, I guess. This came as news to me, since I've been running that particular combination of software in what I thought was a successful fashion for several months now. Let's just say I'm turning really, really red from holding my breath. :-(

The bottom line is this: even with buggy software, American worker production was up 5% last year. *Something* must be working right!

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [Patrick Broos](#) on Thu, 10 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Regards,

Pat

=====

Patrick S. Broos, Systems Analyst/Programmer patb@astro.psu.edu

Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics My office 814-863-5505

Penn State University

525 Davey Lab FAX 814-863-8686

University Park, PA 16802-6305

http://www.astro.psu.edu Group office 863-9550

=====

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Patrick Broos wrote:

>

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> idlde under 5.3 (in Solaris) cannot deal with .pro files that are longer
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> to be loyal to an OS (unix) that has so little market leverage.

Recommendation:

Command-Line IDL + IDLWAVE Emacs mode... you'll never look back.

JD

--

J.D. Smith |*| WORK: (607) 255-5842
Cornell University Dept. of Astronomy |*| (607) 255-6263
304 Space Sciences Bldg. |*| FAX: (607) 255-5875
Ithaca, NY 14853 |*|

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [Struan Gray](#) on Fri, 11 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning, davidf@dfanning.com writes:

> The bottom line is this: even with buggy software, American
> worker production was up 5% last year. *Something* must be
> working right!

What platform did they use to collate the stats?

Struan

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix
Posted by [George McCabe](#) on Wed, 16 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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"J.D. Smith" wrote:

- > Recommendation:
- > Command-Line IDL + IDLWAVE Emacs mode... you'll never look back.

i agree. the idlde is an undependable interface, whose benefits do not exceed its defecits. certainly in the unix environment where a little familiarity with shell configuration files goes a long way. the best development environment is your favorite text editor and a command shell.

george

--

George McCabe (Raytheon ITSS)
NASA / Goddard Space Flight Center / Code 693 / Greenbelt, MD
voice: (301)286-8283, fax: (301)286-0212
george.mccabe@gsfc.nasa.gov

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix
Posted by [Chris Mulliss](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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Yep,

I have noticed the problem with IDL 5.3 inserting the "r"-like character. I have also found that this often occurs when you cut-and-paste or otherwise edit text.

RSI told me that they bought the editor portion of the IDLDE environment from a software firm - guess they should have programmed it themselves.

-chris

Dave Brennan wrote:

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> GUI!)
>
> Cheers
>
> Dave B

Subject: Re: Strange behavior on Unix

Posted by [Chris Mulliss](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Nope,

I have the same problem running IDL 5.3 on an SGI (IRIX 6.5). They told me that they couldn't reproduce the error in their labs.

-Chris

Patrick Broos wrote:

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> Regards,
>
> Pat
> =====
> Patrick S. Broos, Systems Analyst/Programmer patb@astro.psu.edu
>
> Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics My office 814-863-5505
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> =====
