Subject: Re: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by Craig Markwardt on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

0 17

davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

- > And, anyway, I consider the use of FORWARD_FUNCTION to
- > be an admission of a program structure that is out of
- > control. Nothing against it, you just wouldn't find it
- > in any of my programs. :-)

FORWARD_FUNCTION is not the best, but I do find it useful in some special cases, like when there is an IDL version dependency. It's a little bit of insurance that I stick at the top of my program file to give more precise behavior.

But I do see what you are saying here: pre-5.3 IDL STRPOS functions don't take keywords. Then your only alternative is to use call function as suggested.

Subject: Re: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by mallors on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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In article <MPG.131f2aeb52253995989a57@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

- > J.D. Smith (jdsmith@astro.cornell.edu) writes:
- >> It's there.

>

>>

- >> You just need to add lib/obsolete under rsi/idl to your IDL search path, or,
- >> equivalently, search all sub-paths of lib. I do this as a matter
- >> of course, to ensure such things don't happen.
- > Yes, or alternatively (this is what I decided to do recently),
- > include the code in the source that uses it. I did this because
- > I *know* people don't have the OBSOLETE directory on their
- > path and I get tired of finding 10 e-mails in the morning
- > asking why my programs don't work. :-(

But at the top of rstrpos.pro, you will find this wonderful statement:

; \$Id: rstrpos.pro,v 1.7 1999/01/16 01:25:38 scottm Exp \$

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Of course since I reproduced this, I guess I could be in trouble :-)

Regards,

-bob

Robert S. Mallozzi

256-544-0887

Mail Code SD 50

http://gammaray.msfc.nasa.gov/ Marshall Space Flight Center http://cspar.uah.edu/~mallozzir/

Huntsville, AL 35812

Subject: Re: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by davidf on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Craig Markwardt (craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu) writes:

- FORWARD_FUNCTION STRPOS, RSTRPOS >
- > IF Float(!Version.Release) GT 5.2 THEN BEGIN
- >> dot = StrPos(line, ".", /Reverse_Search)
- **ENDIF ELSE BEGIN** >>
- dot = RStrPos(line, ".") >>
- **ENDELSE** >>
- >>
- >> Although that *seemed* like a good idea at the time,
- >> I found that the line won't compile in versions of
- >> IDL older than IDL 5.3. :-(

>

> The above FORWARD_FUNCTION declaration should solve your problems, no?

I don't think so, because the problem is the keyword. But using JD's Call_Function gets around this with the compiler because the program isn't compiled (which is when the number of keywords is "attached" to the program module) until run-time.

And, anyway, I consider the use of FORWARD_FUNCTION to be an admission of a program structure that is out of control. Nothing against it, you just wouldn't find it in any of my programs. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. I don't think I have the energy for another long thread. Let's just write it off as one of my personal quirks. :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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

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

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

Subject: Re: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by Craig Markwardt on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

> I resorted to this after first trying something like this:

>

FORWARD_FUNCTION STRPOS, RSTRPOS

- > IF Float(!Version.Release) GT 5.2 THEN BEGIN
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The above FORWARD FUNCTION declaration should solve your problems, no? Craig Craig B. Markwardt, Ph.D. EMAIL: craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response Subject: Re: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by davidf on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message David Fanning (davidf@dfanning.com) writes: JD is correct. This syntax compiles in versions of IDL less than IDL 5.3: IF Float(!Version.Release) LT 5.3 THEN index = RStrPos(theName, sep) ELSE \$ index = Call Function('StrPos', theName, sep, /Reverse Search) 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: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by davidf on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message David Fanning (davidf@dfanning.com) writes: > The problem is not that IDL doesn't like the function.

> The problem is that it doesn't like the new keyword:

> IDL> dot=call_function("StrPos",'coyote.dat',".",/Reverse_Search)

- > % Keyword parameters not allowed in call.
- > % Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$

Whoops! I think I missed the point. I didn't want it to *execute*, I wanted it to compile. Back to the testing phase...

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by davidf on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

J.D. Smith (jdsmith@astro.cornell.edu) writes:

- > IDL objects to the mentioning of a function it can't find. Simply use
- > call_function and it can't complain (how can it object to a string?).

- > IF Float(!Version.Release) GT 5.2 THEN \$
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- > ELSE \$
- > dot=call_function("RStrPos",line, ".")

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

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IF Float(!Version.Release) GT 5.2 THEN $
dot=call_function("StrPos",line,".",/Reverse_Search) $
ELSE $
dot=call_function("RStrPos",line, ".")
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: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by davidf on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting

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Subject: Re: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by John-David T. Smith on Thu, 24 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Andy Loughe wrote:

>

Hello,
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throw away the RSTRPOS function and replace it with
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or replace *all* my RSTRPOS with STRPOS(/REVERSE_SEARCH).
This kind of non-backwards compatability gives
IDL a bad name... I hear the complaint very often
from ex-IDL programmers.

It's there.

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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: rstrpos: version 5.2 and version 5.3 Posted by Martin Schultz on Fri, 25 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Andy Loughe wrote:

>

> Hello,

>

>

- > In their latest software upgrade, did RSI really
- > throw away the RSTRPOS function and replace it with
- > STRPOS(/REVERSE SEARCH) ?
- > Would they like to fix all the code I have that uses
- > RSTRPOS? No... I'll go write my own RSTRPOS.pro, thank you,
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>

- > This kind of non-backwards compatability gives
- > IDL a bad name... I hear the complaint very often

```
> from ex-IDL programmers.
>
>
Oh! I do agree!! They should really be more careful in labeling routines
"obsolete". I think it would be fair to keep a routine as rstrpos in the
main
lib path (or replace it by a wrapper which uses the new functionality)
and only
change the documentation to tell users there is a better way now so they
can
slowly migrate to the new form. In my opinion this worked out not too
bad with
these () -> [] array indices...
Believe it or not: some people ned to rerun code only after several
years of
IDL development went by!
Cheers,
Martin
> Andrew F. Loughe email:loughe@fsl.noaa.gov
                                                phone:(303)497-6211
[[ Dr. Martin Schultz Max-Planck-Institut fuer Meteorologie
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                                                 [[
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             phone: +49 40 41173-308
                                               [[
             fax: +49 40 41173-298
                                             [[
[[ martin.schultz@dkrz.de
                                              [[
```