
Subject: Re: IDLv5.4 (SAVE bug?)

Posted by [landsman](#) on Wed, 27 Dec 2000 17:13:02 GMT

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In article <MPG.14b3bd1a7e5de2f1989cd3@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:

- > Saved data should definitely be compatible. If structure
- > definitions change from one version to another, there
- > could be minor problems. Have you tried setting the
- > RELAXED_STRUCTURE_DEFINITION keyword when you restore?

I think the problem is more fundamental than this. Here is an example where I cannot restore a single scalar variable saved in V5.4, if I use V5.3 on the same (Solaris) machine.

I presume this is a bug in IDL V5.4 (and another reason to hold off until V5.4.1?) If the save file format has changed, then presumably there should be an /OLD keyword to allow one to write variables that can be read by earlier versions of IDL.

--Wayne Landsman

landsman@mpb.gsfc.nasa.gov

mpb{landsman}172: idl

IDL Version 5.4 (sunos sparc). (c) 2000, Research Systems, Inc.

IDL> a =3

IDL> save,a, /verbose

% SAVE: Portable (XDR) SAVE/RESTORE file.

% SAVE: Saved variable: A.

IDL> exit

mpb{landsman}924: idl53

IDL Version 5.3 (sunos sparc). (c) 1999, Research Systems, Inc.

IDL> restore,/ver

% RESTORE: Portable (XDR) SAVE/RESTORE file.

% RESTORE: Save file written by landsman@mpb, Wed Dec 27 12:02:16 2000.

% RESTORE: IDL version 5.4 (sunos, sparc).

% RESTORE: Unexpected item code found in save file.

IDL> help,a

A UNDEFINED = <Undefined>

Sent via Deja.com

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

Subject: Re: IDLv5.4 (SAVE bug?)

Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 27 Dec 2000 19:06:26 GMT

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Wayne Landsman (landsman@my-deja.com) writes:

- > I think the problem is more fundamental than this. Here is an example
- > where I cannot restore a single scalar variable saved in V5.4, if I use
- > V5.3 on the same (Solaris) machine.
- >
- > I presume this is a bug in IDL V5.4 (and another reason to hold off
- > until V5.4.1?) If the save file format has changed, then presumably
- > there should be an /OLD keyword to allow one to write variables that can
- > be read by earlier versions of IDL.

I think you are right, Wayne. I confirm this behavior on my Windows NT machine. I know that the people who work on this are adamant that saved data files be backwards compatible. This certainly looks like a bug to me.

Do you have plans to confirm this with RSI?

Cheers,

David

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

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