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Subject: Re: Is your IDL5.4 windows interface flaky too?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Aug 2001 17:01:38 GMT  
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Mirko Vukovic (mvukovic@taz.telusa.com) writes:

- > It it me, or the IDLDE (development environment, I guess) of IDL 5.4
- > on windows NT is flaky.
- >
- > I only recently installed 5.4, and every once in a while I cannot set
- > or clear a breakpoint.

I've used IDL 5.4 on Windows NT for a long time. I've never noticed any problems setting breakpoints, although there *is* a certain sequence you have to go through to do it. (I don't even know what it is, I just know it involves hitting the "compile" button frequently.) I guess my fingers have gotten so adept at it I just do the right thing all the time, now. :-)

- > The variable watcher is out of step most of
- > the time, and ctrl-W that is supposed to move the cursor to the
- > command window sometimes fails.

The variable watcher gave me a headache from the first day I used it. I turned it off and haven't seen it since. :-)

- > Finally, (and this is from 5.3 at
- > least), single-stepping will not function in the MAIN routine, only
- > subroutines.

What in the world are you using a main routine for!? I thought all there were were procedures and functions. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: Is your IDL5.4 windows interface flaky too?  
Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Thu, 30 Aug 2001 17:47:57 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

>  
> The variable watcher gave me a headache from  
> the first day I used it. I turned it off and  
> haven't seen it since. :-)

At least in 5.4 it does not crash IDL anymore. It is a big improvement.  
In 5.2 it crashed IDL if I tried to check out a pointer value (not  
always but often).

Cheers,  
Pavel

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Subject: Re: Is your IDL5.4 windows interface flaky too?  
Posted by [Steve Hartmann](#) on Thu, 30 Aug 2001 18:38:36 GMT  
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Mirko Vukovic (mvukovic@taz.telusa.com) writes:

> It it me, or the IDLDE (development environment, I guess) of IDL 5.4  
> on windows NT is flaky.  
>  
> I only recently installed 5.4, and every once in a while I cannot set  
> or clear a breakpoint.  
>

I've had problems with this in the last three versions of IDL under NT  
and now with Win2K. I can usually \*set\* the breakpoints ok, but many  
times they get removed while the colored dot does not. Of course, then  
the program just zooms on past this line. This often happens when I  
have added or deleted some lines of code. Now I usually go to the  
"Edit Breakpoints" window (launched by the icon with the 4 red dots)  
and clear all points and reset them where I want them. Kind of a pain  
but better than crossing my fingers for a breakpoint stop.

>  
> The variable watcher is out of step most of  
> the time, and ctrl-W that is supposed to move the cursor to the  
> command window sometimes fails.  
>

I agree with David and never use this. I find it easier to type:

help, variable (or print, variable)  
then to search for the variable in the list.

I've never seen ctrl-W fail. However, when a program stops at a breakpoint, most of the time the focus is then in the command window. Sometimes it's in the edit window. Sometimes I don't know where it is. The second case is the worse for me because I'm usually half done typing a command before I realize I've been editing my code.

-Steve

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Subject: Re: Is your IDL5.4 windows interface flaky too?  
Posted by [mvukovic](#) on Thu, 30 Aug 2001 21:14:52 GMT  
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Steve Hartmann <s.l.h@badspam.home.com> wrote in message  
news:<7oSOO8iD8n9foBe9R+Xk2NtOBx6k@4ax.com>...

> Mirko Vukovic (mvukovic@taz.telusa.com) writes:

>

>> It it me, or the IDLDE (development environment, I guess) of IDL 5.4  
>> on windows NT is flaky.

>>

>> I only recently installed 5.4, and every once in a while I cannot set  
>> or clear a breakpoint.

>>

>

> I've had problems with this in the last three versions of IDL under NT  
> and now with Win2K. I can usually \*set\* the breakpoints ok, but many  
> times they get removed while the colored dot does not. Of course, then  
> the program just zooms on past this line. This often happens when I  
> have added or deleted some lines of code. Now I usually go to the  
> "Edit Breakpoints" window (launched by the icon with the 4 red dots)  
> and clear all points and reset them where I want them. Kind of a pain  
> but better than crossing my fingers for a breakpoint stop.

Thanks, I have completely forgotten about that one. Off course, I  
could go back to the old days and use the breakpoint command:-)

>

>>

>> The variable watcher is out of step most of  
>> the time, and ctrl-W that is supposed to move the cursor to the  
>> command window sometimes fails.

>>

>

> I agree with David and never use this. I find it easier to type:  
> help, variable (or print, variable)

> then to search for the variable in the list.

Ahem, I only started using it now that I have a 21" monitor, and I can splurge on open windows

>

> I've never seen ctrl-W fail. However, when a program stops at a  
> breakpoint, most of the time the focus is then in the command window.  
> Sometimes it's in the edit window. Sometimes I don't know where it is.  
> The second case is the worse for me because I'm usually half done  
> typing a command before I realize I've been editing my code.

That is so frustrating. Thank god they provided for the file/revert command.

Thanks for all the comments. BTW (David), I use Main's only to get things going off course :-)

Mirko

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Subject: Re: Is your IDL5.4 windows interface flaky too?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 30 Aug 2001 21:40:51 GMT  
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Mirko Vukovic (mvukovic@taz.telusa.com) writes:

> Thanks for all the comments. BTW (David), I use Main's only to get  
> things going off course :-)

I suspected something like that. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.  
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