Subject: Re: User functions and data name conflicts Posted by David Fanning on Tue, 04 Sep 2001 17:31:00 GMT

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Richard Smart (smart@to.astro.it) writes:

- > Our system have just upgraded to a new IDL with more user
- > functions, one of these new ones is pm, and obsolete
- > procedure to print matrices, one of the structured variables I
- > have been using for the last few years also has this name
- > and I have a few 1000 lines of code using this variable in
- > various ways, now none of my code runs as the variable conflicts
- > with the function, is there any way to tell IDL to ignore this
- > particular user function or do I have to go back and change
- > my variable name?

Are you sure!?

I've heard of functions being confused with variables, but I've never, ever heard of variables being confused with functions.

In any case, take the darn PM function out of the obsolete directory if you aren't using it. Or, remove the obsolete directory from the path. Or, if you *have* to have the PM function available for someone in your organization, move it to a ReallyReallyObsolete subdirectory, and let them add that directory to their path. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David W. Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com

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

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

Subject: Re: User functions and data name conflicts
Posted by Kristine Hensel on Wed, 05 Sep 2001 01:40:43 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

>

> Richard Smart (smart@to.astro.it) writes:

>

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Are you sure!?

>

- > I've heard of functions being confused with variables,
- > but I've never, ever heard of variables being confused
- > with functions.

If pm is used as an array variable, the problem could come from using pm() instead of pm[]. In which case, the choice is between replacing the ()'s or replacing the pm's. (I'd choose the latter.)

Kristine

Subject: Re: User functions and data name conflicts Posted by R.Bauer on Wed, 05 Sep 2001 07:14:35 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

David Fanning wrote:

>

Richard Smart (smart@to.astro.it) writes:

- >> Our system have just upgraded to a new IDL with more user
- >> functions, one of these new ones is pm, and obsolete
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- >> particular user function or do I have to go back and change
- >> my variable name?

> Are you sure!?

Yes I am too.

First time we got such a problem was by an upgrade

to 5.4.1.

IDL> a={file info}

MODE

ATIME

CTIME

MTIME SIZE

The function file_info was added by Version 5.4.1. Version 5.4.1 is only available on unix systems as patch. In this version this function is undocumented. In the next version 5.5 it is documented.

(I got a lot of fun because this changes were done one day before I gave a lecture about some routines of our library. A lot of examples and routines were changed in the night before the lecture. The update was necesarry because of a bug in the license management by floating licenses.)

In our earlier library we had a same named function which returns a named structure too. The 5.4.1 function returns a same named structure with different tags.

The name is defined. So you can build the file_info "object-structure" by a={file_info}

```
IDL> help,a,/str
** Structure FILE_INFO, 21 tags, length=60:
 NAME
            STRING
 EXISTS
            BYTE
                      0
 READ
            BYTE
                     0
 WRITE
            BYTE
                      0
 EXECUTE
              BYTE
                       0
 REGULAR
              BYTE
                        0
 DIRECTORY
               BYTE
 BLOCK SPECIAL BYTE
                          0
 CHARACTER SPECIAL BYTE
                             = 0
 NAMED PIPE
               BYTE
                         0
 SETUID
             BYTE
                      0
 SETGID
             BYTE
                      0
 SOCKET
             BYTE
                       0
 STICKY_BIT
              BYTE
                        0
 SYMLINK
             BYTE
                       0
 DANGLING SYMLINK BYTE
                               0
```

LONG

LONG64

LONG64

LONG64

LONG64

If it is possible to start our own routine the routine itselfs stops by an error in the moment the structure is created because of the name conflict.

0

0

0

0

0

In our case it was necessary to change the routine name and the structure name

in all routines were it was used.

This is easy done by idlde.

First do a text search on all routines and load them into idlde.

By the replace you can select all windows and then replace your string to another.

Then try compile each routine and store it.

I expect some more problems because normally I am using names for routines and structures

by the meaning what the routine did. I welcome new routines by new versions because

RSI learns by what the users are doing which routines are necessary. I will not give stupid names to my routines because nobody else will found and use this routines.

So there is some risk that some versions later the routine name or structure name is used internal.

But I don't understand why patches are not documented!! In newer documentations should be a list of the named structures too and which changes were done to them.

cheers

Reimar

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```
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> and let them add that directory to their path. :-)
>
> Cheers,
> David
>
> David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting
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> Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155
Reimar Bauer
Institut fuer Stratosphaerische Chemie (ICG-1)
Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/
_____
a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich
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http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html
read something about linux / windows
http://www.suse.de/de/news/hotnews/MS.html
```

> but I've never, ever heard of variables being confused