
Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 12:43:05 GMT
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> I'm trying to standarize the way we programm in IDL , is there any
> rules or conventions programming IDL ?

Of course there are rules. It's just that nobody follows them. :-(

Here is a fairly interesting discussion for you:

<http://tinyurl.com/yqvp6>

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by [mmiller3](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 13:32:50 GMT
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>>>> > "Esteban" == Esteban Garcí½a Cuesta <egc@fis.uc3m.es> writes:

> Hello, I'm trying to standarize the way we programm in
> IDL , is there any rules or conventions programming IDL ?

This idea makes life on the IDL front enormously simpler:
<http://www.dfanning.com/tips/namefiles.html>

Mike

--

Michael A. Miller mmiller3@iupui.edu
Imaging Sciences, Department of Radiology, IU School of Medicine

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by [Antonio Santiago](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 13:47:49 GMT

Hola Esteban,

por lo general se suele escribir en mayusculas las palabras de IDL
(sentencias, funciones, etc.)

Hasta luego.
Antonio

Esteban Garcí½a Cuesta wrote:

> Hello,
> I'm trying to standarize the way we programm in IDL , is there any
> rules or conventions programming IDL ?
>
> Thanks a lot.
> Esteban Garcí½a Cuesta
>
>
>
>

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by [meinel](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 14:24:46 GMT
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"Esteban Garcí½a Cuesta" <egc@fis.uc3m.es> wrote in message
news:<c686up\$a84\$1@khitai.uc3m.es>...

> Hello,
> I'm trying to standarize the way we programm in IDL , is there any
> rules or conventions programming IDL ?
>
> Thanks a lot.
> Esteban Garcí½a Cuesta

Only personal preferences. If you use EMACS there is a plug-in that
will take care of most pretty-fying for you.

My personal preferences for ease of readability are:

Procedures/functions/keywords all UPPERCASE
Variables all lowercase
Indent FOR loops, CASE, IF, continuation lines
Keywords on separate continuation lines
Align multiple "=" or "\$" or anything else common to multiple lines
A keyword and its associated variable should have the same name

For example, call a procedure with multiple keywords:

```
-----  
PLOT, hist,          $  
  XMARGIN = [0, 0],  $  
  YMARGIN = [0, 0],  $  
  XSTYLE  = 1,       $  
  PSYM    = 10,      $  
  YRANGE  = [0, 0.9*MAX(hist)] , $  
  XRANGE  = [0, N_ELEMENTS(hist) - 1]
```

(I don't know how this will appear on GOOGLE, but if you use a fixed-pitch font, these lines will appear the way I described)

Multiple IF...THEN lines:

; Defaults for keywords

```
IF (N_ELEMENTS(title) EQ 0) THEN title = 'New Data'  
IF (N_ELEMENTS(latitude) EQ 0) THEN latitude = [0, 0, 0, 0]  
IF (N_ELEMENTS(longitude) EQ 0) THEN longitude = [0, 0, 0, 0]  
IF (N_ELEMENTS(filename) EQ 0) THEN filename = "  
IF (N_ELEMENTS(true) EQ 0) THEN true = 3
```

Of course, if you are devious and WANT to make your distribution code hard to read, you can remove all extra white space (all UPPERCASE strings need whitespace) and reassign the variables with random strings (search for lowercase strings).

Have fun!

Ed Meinel

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 19:24:41 GMT
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Thanks, I'm going to write a document of conventions style programming with all your ideas and the "Code conventions for the Java Programming Language" and I'll put it here to know your opinions about it.

Cheers.

news:c686up\$a84\$1@khitai.uc3m.es...

> Hello,
> I'm trying to standarize the way we programm in IDL , is there any
> rules or conventions programming IDL ?

>
> Thanks a lot.

>
>
>
>

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 19:52:43 GMT

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> Thanks, I'm going to write a document of conventions style programming with
> all your
> ideas and the "Code conventions for the Java Programming Language" and
> I'll put it here to
> know your opinions about it.

I don't like it!!

Oh, wait, I haven't even seen it. :-)

Uh, sure, put it here. I just hope you're not the type
of person who gets flustered by a little criticism. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

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

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?

Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Thu, 22 Apr 2004 20:49:03 GMT

news:c686up\$a84\$1@khitai.uc3m.es...

> Hello,
> I'm trying to standarize the way we programm in IDL , is there
any
> rules or conventions programming IDL ?

Mike Schienle has this available on the web:
http://www.customvisuals.com/IDL_Style.html

(for any of you who had links to it at www.ivsoftware.com, please note
the change of name!)

Cheers,

--
-Dick

Dick Jackson / dick@d-jackson.com
D-Jackson Software Consulting / <http://www.d-jackson.com>
Calgary, Alberta, Canada / +1-403-242-7398 / Fax: 241-7392

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Fri, 23 Apr 2004 03:48:14 GMT
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> Mike Schienle has this available on the web:
> http://www.customvisuals.com/IDL_Style.html

This document combined with a couple of tips from David make a good set
of rules to follow. There are a couple things I think I'll adopt into
my personal style. However, I have to disagree with the use of
Hungarian notation. IDL is a weakly-typed, dynamic language and
enforcing Hungarian rules removes some of the benefits of such a
language. I don't have the time now to get into the details, but I see
it as more of a hindrance rather than a help.

Hungarian notation is not suited to weakly-typed dynamic languages such
as IDL, Python or Perl or object-oriented languages such as Java or C++.

Hungarian notation does have it's place in the strongly-typed
procedural languages like good ol' C. I actually use Hungarian notation
a lot when doing C -- it makes casting and variable type mistakes so
much easier to catch.

-Mike

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by on Fri, 23 Apr 2004 08:52:13 GMT
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No I don't have problems whit criticism , I only hope you won't have problems whit spanish ;-)

(You have to understand me because I'm writting the document in my language and I dont fell to translate it, at least not now, not time).

Cheers,

news:MPG.1af1d0713e280b95989729@news.frii.com...

>
>> Thanks, I'm going to write a document of conventions style programming with
>> all your
>> ideas and the "Code conventions for the Java Programming Language" and
>> I'll put it here to
>> know your opinions about it.
>
> I don't like it!!
>
> Oh, wait, I haven't even seen it. :-(
>
> Uh, sure, put it here. I just hope you're not the type
> of person who gets flustered by a little criticism. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?
Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Fri, 23 Apr 2004 17:56:58 GMT
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"Michael Wallace" <mwallace_spam@spam.swri.edu.invalid> wrote in message
news:108h4fvomj43c49@corp.supernews.com...

>
> Dick Jackson wrote:
>

>> Mike Schienle has this available on the web:
>> http://www.customvisuals.com/IDL_Style.html
>
> This document combined with a couple of tips from David make a good set
> of rules to follow. There are a couple things I think I'll adopt into
> my personal style. However, I have to disagree with the use of
> Hungarian notation. IDL is a weakly-typed, dynamic language and
> enforcing Hungarian rules removes some of the benefits of such a
> language. I don't have the time now to get into the details, but I
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> it as more of a hindrance rather than a help.
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> Hungarian notation is not suited to weakly-typed dynamic languages
such
> as IDL, Python or Perl or object-oriented languages such as Java or
C++.
> Hungarian notation does have it's place in the strongly-typed
> procedural languages like good ol' C. I actually use Hungarian
notation
> a lot when doing C -- it makes casting and variable type mistakes so
> much easier to catch.
>
> -Mike

For those who are wondering (like I was) "Hungarian Notation" refers to what Mike Schienle suggests, as in:

Variables of type Byte shall begin with the letter "b"

A full description of this and other aspects of naming identifiers is this article at Microsoft's MSDN site:

<http://tinyurl.com/ezmr>

I agree with Mike Wallace in general, but I find it useful to identify two kinds of identifiers in special ways: objects and pointers. I do this since we work with them in ways quite different from the other types. For example, when I see variable plInfo, the 'p' reminds me that I need to dereference with '*' before using the thing itself.

Just my CAD 0.02 (two Canadian cents' worth)

Cheers,

--

-Dick

Dick Jackson / dick@d-jackson.com

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Fri, 23 Apr 2004 18:39:14 GMT

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- > For those who are wondering (like I was) "Hungarian Notation" refers to
- > what Mike Schienle suggests, as in:
- >
- > Variables of type Byte shall begin with the letter "b"
- >
- > A full description of this and other aspects of naming identifiers is
- > this article at Microsoft's MSDN site:
- >
- > <http://tinyurl.com/ezmr>

Thanks for the link. I tend to forget that folks in this newsgroup aren't always programmers like myself and may not know some of these computer science ideas I throw out. For anyone too lazy to click the above link, Hungarian notation refers to prefixing a variable name with some sort descriptor that indicates the variable's type. For the curious, it's called Hungarian notation because the creator of system was a Hungarian.

-Mike

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?

Posted by [Paul Sorenson](#) on Sun, 25 Apr 2004 07:32:30 GMT

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"Dick Jackson" <dick@d-jackson.com> wrote in message
news:KNcic.223564\$Pk3.78786@pd7tw1no...

- >
- > I agree with Mike Wallace in general, but I find it useful to identify
- > two kinds of identifiers in special ways: objects and pointers. I do
- > this since we work with them in ways quite different from the other
- > types. For example, when I see variable plnfo, the 'p' reminds me that I
- > need to dereference with '*' before using the thing itself.
- >

Yeah. What he said. Objects and pointers.

-Paul Sorenson
www.paulsorenson.com

Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?

Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Mon, 26 Apr 2004 20:32:00 GMT

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"Dick Jackson" <dick@d-jackson.com> wrote in message
news:KNcic.223564\$Pk3.78786@pd7tw1no...

>
> For those who are wondering (like I was) "Hungarian Notation" refers
to
> what Mike Schienle suggests, as in:
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>
> A full description of this and other aspects of naming identifiers is
> this article at Microsoft's MSDN site:
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> <http://tinyurl.com/ezmr>
>
> I agree with Mike Wallace in general, but I find it useful to identify
> two kinds of identifiers in special ways: objects and pointers. I do
> this since we work with them in ways quite different from the other
> types. For example, when I see variable pInfo, the 'p' reminds me that
I
> need to dereference with '*' before using the thing itself.
>
> Just my CAD 0.02 (two Canadian cents' worth)

Mirko Vukovic asked me to forward this to the group:

I find Hungarian very usefull in designating the ``role" of variables.

That is one level higher than type. Consider the foolwing
multiple-usage of File and FileName. The hungarian notation allows (me)
a simple naming convention.

```
vFileName=['file.1','file.2','file.3'...]  
cFile=n_elements(vFileName)  
for iFile=0,cFile-1 do begin  
  FileName=vFileName[iFile]  
  ...
```

In the above, c stands for count, i for index, v for vector. I even use
it in combinations, such as

```
viGoodPixel=where(mPixel eq ...,cGoodPixel)
```

Now, vi is a vector of pixels, and cGoodPixel is the count of good
pixels. And so it goes.

Dr.Ko
