
Subject: Nice ways to compile

Posted by [Robert Barnett](#) on Sun, 10 Apr 2005 02:38:37 GMT

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Hi,

I'm looking for an easier way to compile my code into a .sav file. It would save a considerable of time an effort if compilation was just one step only. It would also make it much more repoducible and less bug prone.

I've included a synopsis of how I go about things starting with my development workflow:

- * Program concept and design
- * Demonstrate concept using snippets of code and interactive mode
- * Package the code so it can be easily accessed and reused
- * Test the package, particularly for interoperability with other pakcages.
- * Continually refine test and refine package until it does what it is supposed to do
- + Compile the package and depenancies to a save file and run in an IDL VM "sandbox" environment.
- * Briefly test that it works in the VM as I would expect it to.
- * Install application on target computer.

I develop using emacs. I expect to be able to compile my IDL packages with a single UNIX script (step marked as a +). I also expect that my compilation depends solely on the contents of the filesystem rather than the current state of the IDL command prompt. This ensures that I can always return to a snapshot of my idl directory as it was when I compiled my code.

For example, I currently compile like the following:

```
./compiler.pl ../deployed/ra_dualrenal.sav robbies_tools/ snaptools/  
renal_analysis/
```

compiler.pl is just a simple perl script with the syntax:

```
./compiler <save file> <path1> <path2> ...
```

compiler.pl compiles all .pro files in any sub-directories in the given paths. I always run a cvs commit or do a backup of my IDL directory when I do this step.

I appreciate that
there are smart compilation scripts out there, but I prefer to specify

each path individually because I use `call_method`, `call_procedure`, `call_function` and `obj_new` quite a bit. I also cannot afford to find out that I missed a dependency buried somewhere in a widget control. This is particularly troublesome after I've installed the IDL runtime application at a hospital which is an hours drive away.

Specifically, I've had problems reliably compiling some IDL graphics classes for use on the IDL VM. I thought that running `IDLITRESOLVEITTOOLS` might do the trick, but it evidently hasn't. At the same time I don't really want to compile the entire IDL library every time. I just want to resolve the IDL graphics classes which I want to use (or at least just compile a single category of classes).

Perhaps I am looking at this problem completely wrong. I would expect there to be some way I can append a compiler directive which indicates that `blah__define.pro` requires `'idlgrlegend__define'`. Compiler directives are not really in the IDL idiom, so I'm wondering what other choices I might have.

Cheers,
Robbie

--

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Subject: Re: Nice ways to compile
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Sat, 16 Apr 2005 22:32:59 GMT
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Dear Robert,

The sav files of our library were all created by

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_source/idl_html/dbase_compile_dbase.pro.html

```
; EXAMPLE:
; compile,'f_names'
;
```

cheers

Reimar

Robert Barnett wrote:

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> choices I might have.
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> Cheers,
> Robbie
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--

Forschungszentrum Juelich
email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de
<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/>

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich
http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
