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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 12:31:45 GMT

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Ingo von Borstel writes:

- > is there a way to suppress warnings like
- > % Type conversion error: Unable to convert given STRING to Double.
- > % Detected at: READ\_TABLE 58 /home/ingo/idltools/read\_table.pro
- > in order to not spam the console entirely? I'd rather have the programme
- > issue one warning for the entire read process instead of one for each
- > line of the table I'm reading...
- >
- > I've been looking through the docs, but it was my impression that the
- > usage of on\_error doesn't help...

If we told you how to suppress error messages, I'm pretty sure you would be back here in five minutes wondering how to prevent crap in your input variables.

I don't think we can win on this one. Error messages do tend to disappear when you write the code correctly. And nothing focuses the mind so much as an entire screen of someone yelling at you. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. The one person I know who (accidentally) suppressed \*all\* error messages (by borrowing a start-up file from someone who was a sorrier programmer than she was) was the most confused, unhappy programmer on the planet. Very difficult to do your job without feedback.

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 13:57:08 GMT

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Ingo von Borstel wrote:

- > Hello,

>  
> is there a way to suppress warnings like  
> % Type conversion error: Unable to convert given STRING to Double.  
> % Detected at: READ\_TABLE 58 /home/ingo/idltools/read\_table.pro  
> in order to not spam the console entirely?

Ummm...but that's not a warning. It's an error.

When you see errors popping up, you fix your code.

> I'd rather have the programme  
> issue one warning for the entire read process instead of one for each  
> line of the table I'm reading...

You can use CATCH (I think) to do this, but one would assume that you would stop the program at the very first error, fix your code, and then re-run.

> I've been looking through the docs, but it was my impression that the  
> usage of on\_error doesn't help...

Did I mention you should fix your code?

:o)

cheers,

paulv

---

Subject: Re: how to suppress warning  
Posted by [Ingo von Borstel](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 14:02:22 GMT  
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Hi,

> If we told you how to suppress error messages, I'm pretty sure  
> you would be back here in five minutes wondering how to prevent  
> crap in your input variables.

I'm sure I wouldn't and I know how to fix it with some detailed treatment of the data lines.

I know my input file, and I know I could read the input lines, and treat every string section as something special or defining a mask which handles only the relevant columns and rows. That'd be too much hassle in this case as it's only trailing comments in a data file which I want to ignore and not each throw a "conversion error" message. Actually I hoped to get a useful hint, especially as I knew you as a usually very helpful person... :S

> Very difficult to do your job without feedback.  
Indeed, and very much so. But I don't want to over-complicate the code  
for a trivial thing.

Regards,  
Ingo

--

Ingo von Borstel <newsgroups@planetmaker.de>  
Public Key: <http://www.planetmaker.de/ingo.asc>

If you need an urgent reply, replace newsgroups by vgap.

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Subject: Re: how to suppres warning  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 14:18:01 GMT  
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Ingo von Borstel writes:

> Actually I hoped  
> to get a useful hint, especially as I knew you as a usually very  
> helpful person... :S

If I knew a useful hint, I'd probably offer it. But all  
that comes to mind is "fix the code". :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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Subject: Re: how to suppres warning  
Posted by [Ingo von Borstel](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 14:26:44 GMT  
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Hi David,

> If I knew a useful hint, I'd probably offer it. But all  
> that comes to mind is "fix the code". :-)

Hm, right. Then I miss read you probably, the bliss of online communication... Thanks anyway for your time.

Cheers,  
Ingo

--

Ingo von Borstel <newsgroups@planetmaker.de>  
Public Key: <http://www.planetmaker.de/ingo.asc>

If you need an urgent reply, replace newsgroups by vgap.

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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning  
Posted by [astroboy2k](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 14:30:22 GMT  
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Well, as long as this topic has come up....

In a lot of my code (running bash on unix) I get this warning printed to the screen:

```
bash: defaults: command not found
```

along with other occasional warnings that bash isn't happy for some reason I can't comprehend.

I really have no idea at what point in the code(s) that this warning originates from, but since everything works fine I'd just as soon suppress it. Does anyone know how this might be done easily, either in IDL or unix?

Thanks,

Mark

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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning  
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 14:53:39 GMT  
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Mark wrote:

> Well, as long as this topic has come up....  
>

> In alot of my code (running bash on unix) I get this warning printed  
> to the screen:  
>  
> bash: defaults: command not found  
>  
> along with other occasional warnings that bash isn't happy for some  
> reason I can't comprehend.  
>  
>  
> I really have no idea at what point in the code(s) that this warning  
> originates from, but since everything works fine I'd just as soon  
> suppress it. Does anyone know how this might be done easily, either in  
> IDL or unix?

Err...this is also off-topic, but don't you have any curiosity to find out what is causing the problem? With google at your fingertips it's easy to get at least an idea if not the outright answer. E.g. Have you checked your .profile, .login, .bashrc, .bash\_profile, or the various /etc forms of those files to see where the "defaults" command is being called, why is it being called, and why it isn't in your path?

You know, this topic reminds me of callers to the NPR show "Car Talk". People describe these sometimes bizarre things that are happening (noises, shaking, other weird stuff) as they drive their cars. The inevitable question "How long has this been going on?" comes up and the answers typically range from several weeks to months in some cases. It never ceases to amaze me what people will put up with. :o)

cheers,

paulv

---

Subject: Re: how to suppres warning  
Posted by [Carsten Lechte](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 14:59:20 GMT  
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Hi

is your problem that you get megabytes of warning texts, but execution continues?

Or do you get a run-time error and execution of your program stops, even though you do not care that some part of your data was not read correctly?

If it is the former, maybe it is better to suffer the warnings than to waste effort in suppressing them.

If it is the latter, one could put the offending read statements into an EXECUTE() call and set the QuietExecution option. Of course, this only really works if there is no important data after the read error, since that won't get read. Also, make

sure that you delete the program afterwards, or forever the dark side of the force  
your destiny will control.

chl

---

Subject: Re: how to suppres warning  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 15:09:57 GMT  
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Paul van Delst writes:

> Err...this is also off-topic, but don't you have any curiosity to find out what is causing  
> the problem?

Paul, give it up. Kids don't program like this anymore.  
Probably why they are gonna love the new IDL 7.1 release. ;-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---

Subject: Re: how to suppres warning  
Posted by [edward.s.meinel@aero](mailto:edward.s.meinel@aero) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 15:42:39 GMT  
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On Oct 22, 10:18 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Ingo von Borstel writes:  
>> Actually I hoped  
>> to get a useful hint, especially as I knew you as a usually very  
>> helpful person... :S  
>  
> If I knew a useful hint, I'd probably offer it. But all  
> that comes to mind is "fix the code". :-)  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David  
> --

- > David Fanning, Ph.D.
- > Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
- > Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>
- > Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

If only control-o still worked...

Ed "I've been doing this too long" Meinel

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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning  
Posted by [pgrigis](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 15:51:44 GMT  
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edward.s.meinel@aero.org wrote:

- >> Ingo von Borstel writes:
  - >>> Actually I hoped
  
  - >>> helpful person... :S
  - >>
  - >> If I knew a useful hint, I'd probably offer it. But all
  - >> that comes to mind is "fix the code". :-)
  - >>
  - >> Cheers,
  - >>
  - >> David
  - >> --
  - >> David Fanning, Ph.D.
  - >> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
  - >> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>
  - >> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
  - >
  - > If only control-o still worked...
- What did it do?

Ciao,  
Paolo

- >
  - > Ed "I've been doing this too long" Meinel
- 

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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning  
Posted by [astroboy2k](#) on Wed, 22 Oct 2008 16:59:48 GMT  
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On Oct 22, 10:53 am, Paul van Delst <Paul.vanDe...@noaa.gov> wrote:

> Mark wrote:

>> Well, as long as this topic has come up....

>

>> In alot of my code (running bash on unix) I get this warning printed

>> to the screen:

>

>> bash: defaults: command not found

>

>> along with other occasional warnings that bash isn't happy for some

>> reason I can't comprehend.

>

>> I really have no idea at what point in the code(s) that this warning

>> originates from, but since everything works fine I'd just as soon

>> suppress it. Does anyone know how this might be done easily, either in

>> IDL or unix?

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> Err...this is also off-topic, but don't you have any curiosity to find out what is causing

> the problem? With google at your fingertips it's easy to get at least an idea if not the

> outright answer. E.g. Have you checked your .profile, .login, .bashrc, .bash\_profile, or

> the various /etc forms of those files to see where the "defaults" command is being called,

> why is it being called, and why it isn't in your path?

>

> You know, this topic reminds me of callers to the NPR show "Car Talk". People describe

> these sometimes bizarre things that are happening (noises, shaking, other weird stuff) as

> they drive their cars. The inevitable question "How long has this been going on?" comes up

> and the answers typically range from several weeks to months in some cases. It never

> ceases to amaze me what people will put up with. :o)

>

> cheers,

>

> paulv

Well yes, I am curious, and yes, I have looked into it, and no, I can't figure out what the problem is for the life of me.

Unfortunately, my employers don't pay me to program in IDL just for the sake of writing elegant IDL programs; they want answers. If I want to keep my job an occasional warning which does nothing but clutter my screen is something I have to write off after having given it the old college try to fix it.

As long as this topic had come up I thought I might mention it; I wouldn't have wasted the bandwidth or the time of the people who kindly have helped me out so many times otherwise. I thought possibly there was some IDL or unix fix that would suppress this sort of message that was likely common knowledge.

Having said that, I'm afraid my message did come across like I was asking someone else to do my thinking for me out of laziness. Sorry 'bout that.

Mark

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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning  
Posted by [Ingo von Borstel](#) on Thu, 23 Oct 2008 08:36:12 GMT  
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Hi,

> is your problem that you get megabytes of warning texts, but execution  
> continues?

The only error which I get is a type conversion error - which has no influence whatsoever and the programme happily continues to run.

> you do not care that some part of your data was not read correctly?  
Exactly. I'm reading a data files with different number of columns which as the first and last part of each line contains a textual comment - which of course fails to convert to a numerical value.

> If it is the former, maybe it is better to suffer the warnings than to  
> waste effort in suppressing them.

Well, yes, I can live with them. As it seems that it's not as easy (just changing a switch or compile option yet unknown to me), that's what it will be. I know it's not overtly complicated to get rid of them, but I would need to customize the read-in procedure (it can deal with leading, but not trailing text) which I wanted to avoid in order to avoid code duplication.

Thanks for your advice :)

Ingo

--

Ingo von Borstel <[newsgroups@planetmaker.de](mailto:newsgroups@planetmaker.de)>  
Public Key: <http://www.planetmaker.de/ingo.asc>

If you need an urgent reply, replace newsgroups by vgap.

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Subject: Re: how to suppress warning  
Posted by [edward.s.meinel@aero](mailto:edward.s.meinel@aero) on Thu, 23 Oct 2008 11:20:09 GMT  
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On Oct 22, 11:51 am, pgri...@gmail.com wrote:  
> edward.s.mei...@aero.org wrote:  
>> On Oct 22, 10:18 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:  
>>> Ingo von Borstel writes:  
>>>> Actually I hoped  
>>>> to get a useful hint, especially as I knew you as a usually very  
>>>> helpful person... :S  
>  
>>> If I knew a useful hint, I'd probably offer it. But all  
>>> that comes to mind is "fix the code". :-)  
>  
>>> Cheers,  
>  
>>> David  
>>> --  
>>> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
>>> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
>>> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>  
>>> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")  
>  
>> If only control-o still worked...  
>  
> What did it do?  
>  
> Ciao,  
> Paolo  
>  
>  
>  
>> Ed "I've been doing this too long" Meinel  
>  
>

Control-o would suppress output to the screen.

Ed

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