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Subject: Re: Save file creation rules of the road  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 18 Feb 2010 13:23:22 GMT  
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Rob writes:

> I'm trying to create a distributable IDL save file via IDLDE > Project  
>> "Build Project". A save file was created without error -- some  
> initial complaints were issued, then automatically resolved. I then  
> restored this save file in a new IDL cli session. All expected  
> functions and procedures were listed, via "restore, /verbose" and  
> "help"; see below. However, an attempt to run one of the restored  
> procedures yielded the annoying "Variable is undefined:  
> SPIDR\_ASCII\_GET\_META.... EXCEPTION..." I've experienced this before  
> and the hack I employed wasn't pretty. It involved compiling  
> (via .compile) all functions and procedures I thought I needed and  
> creating a save file somewhat manually, then a sacrificial lamb and a  
> kabuki dance. Thus, I suppose I've never really learned how to create  
> a proper save file with just the functionality I need. Can someone  
> point me in the right direction?

I had something like this happen to me just the other day,  
too. In my case, I had two functions and the second was being  
called inside the first to provide a parameter for the first.  
Both the functions were named correctly in their respective  
files, and both resided in the coyote directory, which is  
ALWAYS on my IDL path.

But every time I would run this program after starting up  
IDL, it would barf on the same line. Said it couldn't find  
that second embedded function! I don't think I had ever  
seen this happen before in IDL.

In any case, I inserted a STRICTARR compile option into  
that program module, and the problem went away. I wonder  
if something changed in the way IDL resolves functions?

Cheers,

David

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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: Save file creation rules of the road

Posted by [Robert Moss, PhD](#) on Sat, 20 Feb 2010 05:12:25 GMT

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On Feb 18, 8:23 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

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> David

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> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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It might be a compile order issue. I use COMPILE\_OPT IDL2 in nearly everything (which includes STRICTARR as David mentioned), so it is

rarely a problem for me, but if this is not for you try compiling the second embedded function before the first when creating your save file. That will usually fix it.

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