Subject: IDL Limits

Posted by mallozzi on Tue, 25 Jul 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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Reading some recent posts about IDL limits, here is a list off the top of my head. Please post any additions or corrections.

## IDL limits:

local variables <236 (?)
common block variables <64
pro/function parameters <64
CALL\_EXTERNAL parameters <64
structure tags <126 (?)
variables (v3.5.1 & earlier) <16 characters
pro/func names (?)

-Bob mallozzi@ssl.msfc.nasa.gov

Subject: Re: IDL limits

Posted by davidf on Mon, 03 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Dick French writes in response to Bob Mallozzi:

- > Robert One limit that I have run up against and can't find
- > documentation for relates to KEYWORD names. I tried to define
- > keywords XMIN\_ABSOLUTE and XMIN\_RELATIVE, say, and got
- > an error message about ambiguous keyword definitions. Can someone point
- > me to the documentation on unique keyword recognition? I have gotten
- > around this by using different names, but it would be nice to
- > know the rules of the game!

Dick, your description of the problem seems highly unlikely. If you had defined a procedure with these two keywords, like this:

PRO JUNK, XMIN\_Absolute=absolute, XMIN\_Relative=relative

there would be absolutely (pun intended) no problem. Where you MIGHT run into a problem is if you called the procedure like this:

JUNK, XMIN=5

In this case, you WOULD get an error message about ambiguous

keyword definitions because IDL would not have enough letters to distinguish between the two keywords in the "keyword table" that gets created when the procedure is compiled. You must use enough keyword letters in the keyword name to identify that keyword unambiguously.

For example, if you had named the keywords Absolute\_XMin and Relative\_XMin, you could call the procedure like this:

JUNK, A=5

Cheers.

David

--

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

Subject: Re: IDL limits

Posted by Richard G. French on Mon, 03 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Robert S. Mallozzi wrote:

>

> Hi all,

>

- > I thought I read somewhere that IDL 5 removed all
- > parameter limits, but I can't find it anywhere in
- > the docs. I see that there are still some limits
- > imposed:

>

Robert - One limit that I have run up against and can't find documentation for relates to KEYWORD names. I tried to define keywords XMIN\_ABSOLUTE and XMIN\_RELATIVE, say, and got an error message about ambiguous keyword definitions. Can someone point me to the documentation on unique keyword recognition? I have gotten around this by using different names, but it would be nice to know the rules of the game!

Dick French

Subject: Re: IDL limits

Posted by mirko\_vukovic on Tue, 04 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <35C63C37.C3103D4B@wellesley.edu>, rfrench@mediaone.net wrote:

> Robert S. Mallozzi wrote:

>>

- >> Hi all,
- > stuff deleted

>

- > Robert One limit that I have run up against and can't find
- > documentation for relates to KEYWORD names. I tried to define
- > keywords XMIN ABSOLUTE and XMIN RELATIVE, say, and got
- > an error message about ambiguous keyword definitions. Can someone point
- > me to the documentation on unique keyword recognition? I have gotten
- > around this by using different names, but it would be nice to
- > know the rules of the game!

>

> Dick French

>

I usually get an error message under those circumstances when I forget about the two similar keywords, and then call the routine with Xmin=.... Thus, are you sure that you are calling the routine and specifying unambiguously (that hurt) the keywords?

## mirko

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