Subject: Re: HELP: IDL Function/Variable Problem Posted by Tim Patterson on Fri, 13 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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Thomas A McGlynn <tam> wrote:

>>

- > It's not sufficient that you compile a function before you use it, you
- > must compile the function before you compile any reference to it. E.g.,
- > if you compile the main program then compile the function then execute
- > the main program, you'll get an undefined variable error. You need
- > to compile function, compile main, run main. Depending upon how your
- > functions call one another and how they are distributed amongst the .PRO
- > files, it may be impossible to run a program without compiling some
- > of your modules twice. Of course that probably indicates that
- > you need to restructure your code...
- > Tom McGlynn

Not guilty in this case.

The function is compiled before any reference to it. Still looking into it...

Tim

Subject: Re: HELP: IDL Function/Variable Problem Posted by hrebhan on Fri, 13 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT

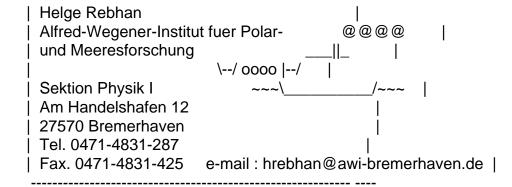
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In article <45k85r\$10e@newsstand.cit.cornell.edu> Tim Patterson <tgp4@cornell.edu> writes: Hallo,

- > I have a large IDL/FORTRAN/C program that seems to have suddenly
- > developed a strange bug. All IDL routines are compiled and then
- > the main program is run. However, when a certain widget button
- > is pressed and the program goes into the event handler, it
- > complains that one of my pre-compiled functions "CASPER_BORESIGHT"
- is a variable that it is undefined.

Be sure that the function CASPER_BORESIGHT is compiled *before* any reference to it. Otherwise a default variable is created.

Servus, Helge	
	



Subject: Re: HELP: IDL Function/Variable Problem Posted by thompson on Mon, 16 Oct 1995 07:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

hrebhan@awi-bremerhaven.de (Helge Rebhan) writes:

- > Be sure that the function CASPER_BORESIGHT is compiled *before* any
- > reference to it. Otherwise a default variable is created.

I'm not sure that this is entirely true. I believe that it is sufficient if the function is in the IDL search path !PATH. Presuming, of course, that it's in a file called casper boresight.pro. I almost never use .RUN directly. Instead I put each procedure or function in a .pro file of the same name and depend on IDL to automatically compile it for me.

One problem that I have run into is that if one has a function reference that uses a keyword, and that function is not in the path, and one tries to compile a procedure referencing that function, then IDL generates an error. IDL apparently goes through the following steps when it sees something that might be a function, going through each step until a match is found:

- 1. Checks to see if that function has already been compiled.
- 2. Looks for a .pro file of the same name in the current directory or in !PATH.
- 3. Assumes that it's a variable instead of a function.

The problem is that if step 3 is reached, but the function call uses a keyword, then a syntax error is generated.

Bill Thompson