
Subject: Writing programs to use static methods but still compile in IDL 7

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Sun, 30 Aug 2015 16:05:40 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I am trying to update my code to use the static methods introduced in IDL 8.4 when the user has V8.4 or later. So I write a statement like the following

```
if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then return,str.replace(in,out)
```

This works in IDL 8.0 and later but in IDL 7.1.1 and earlier it gives a compilation syntax error.

```
compile_opt idl2
```

```
if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then return,str.replace(in,out)
```

```
% Syntax Error. Attempt to subscript array with parenthesis. Please use '[]'.
```

Is there a way to have a program use the static methods when the user has IDL 8.4 or later without causing a compilation syntax error in IDL 7?

An example program is

<http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/misc/repstr.pro>

Thanks, --Wayne

Subject: Re: Writing programs to use static methods but still compile in IDL 7

Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Sun, 30 Aug 2015 17:29:13 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Sun, 30 Aug 2015 09:05:40 -0700 (PDT), wlandsman wrote:

> I am trying to update my code to use the static methods introduced in IDL 8.4 when the user has V8.4 or later. So I write a statement like the following

```
>  
> if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then return,str.replace(in,out)  
>  
> This works in IDL 8.0 and later but in IDL 7.1.1 and earlier it gives a compilation syntax error.
```

```
>  
>  
> compile_opt idl2  
> if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then return,str.replace(in,out)  
> % Syntax Error. Attempt to subscript array with parenthesis. Please use '[]'.
```

```
>  
> Is there a way to have a program use the static methods when the user has IDL 8.4 or later  
without causing a compilation syntax error in IDL 7?
```

```
>  
> An example program is
```

> http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/misc/repstr.pro
>
> Thanks, --Wayne

Just an idea: Does

```
if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then $  
    return,call_method('replace',a,in,out)  
work? I don't have version 7 installed on my computer.
```

Cheers, Heinz

Subject: Re: Writing programs to use static methods but still compile in IDL 7
Posted by [Heinz Stege](#) on Sun, 30 Aug 2015 17:35:24 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Sun, 30 Aug 2015 19:29:13 +0200, Heinz Stege wrote:

```
> Just an idea: Does  
> if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then $  
>     return,call_method('replace',a,in,out)  
> work? I don't have version 7 installed on my computer.
```

No, I wanted to write:

```
if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then $  
    return,call_method('replace',str,in,out)
```

Heinz

Subject: Re: Writing programs to use static methods but still compile in IDL 7
Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Mon, 31 Aug 2015 14:57:36 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Heinz,

Thanks! This syntax works in IDL 8.4 and later but still compiles in IDL 7.1. --Wayne

On Sunday, August 30, 2015 at 1:34:49 PM UTC-4, Heinz Stege wrote:

```
>  
  
> No, I wanted to write:  
> if !VERSION.RELEASE GE '8.4' then $  
>     return,call_method('replace',str,in,out)  
>  
> Heinz
```
