
Subject: Caught in a catch loop

Posted by [LNpellen](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2017 13:48:35 GMT

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I'm not used to CATCH - I strive to write the code robust enough to not cause errors. No I need it and seem to not understand how.

Using RESTORE with a not valid save file causes
% RESTORE: Not a valid save file:

So I try with this catch, but the error occurs even though I get the dialog With the error-message I wrote (looping until I have to crash the program).

What have I misunderstood?

```
CATCH, err_stat
IF err_stat NE 0 THEN BEGIN
    CATCH, /CANCEL
    sv=DIALOG_MESSAGE('Not valid .sav file: '+adr, /INFORMATION)
ENDIF
RESTORE, adr
```

-Ellen

Subject: Re: Caught in a catch loop

Posted by [Jim Pendleton](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2017 14:10:37 GMT

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On Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 7:48:37 AM UTC-6, LNpellen wrote:

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>

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>

>

>

>

> CATCH, err_stat

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> IF err_stat NE 0 THEN BEGIN
>   CATCH, /CANCEL
>   sv=DIALOG_MESSAGE('Not valid .sav file: '+adr, /INFORMATION)
> ENDIF
> RESTORE, adr
>
>
>
> -Ellen
```

You will want a RETURN of some sort after your DIALOG_MESSAGE call otherwise the code will continue to run past the ENDIF statement. In this case it would execute the RESTORE a second time and stop.

Subject: Re: Caught in a catch loop

Posted by [Markus Schmassmann](#) on Wed, 18 Oct 2017 14:21:18 GMT

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On 10/18/2017 03:48 PM, LNpellen wrote:

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> not cause errors. No I need it and seem to not understand how.
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>   CATCH, /CANCEL
>   sv=DIALOG_MESSAGE('Not valid .sav file: '+adr, /INFORMATION)
> ENDIF
> RESTORE, adr
```

after pressing OK in the dialog window, the process continues, i.e. it tries again to run

RESTORE, adr

therefore after the line

```
sv=DIALOG_MESSAGE('Not valid .sav file: '+adr, /INFORMATION)
```

you have to either do something to fix `adr` to a correct filename, or
you have to abort the process, e.g. by a `RETURN`

alternatively you can replace the `DIALOG_MESSAGE` function by

```
message, 'Not valid .sav file: '+adr
```

in which case the program would stop at this line and the user could
enter a correct filename by entering at the console

```
IDL> adr='filename.sav'
```

```
IDL> .c
```

another possibility,

```
adr = DIALOG_PICKFILE(filter='*.sav',/must_exist,title='Not valid .sav  
file: '+adr)
```

```
if adr eq " then begin message, 'no file selected' & return & endif
```

I hope one of these is what you are looking for, Markus

Subject: Re: Caught in a catch loop

Posted by [LNpellen](#) on Thu, 19 Oct 2017 05:21:15 GMT

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Thank you! First I got a compilation error with the `RETURN` as it is within a function, but when I
made it `RETURN, -1` it worked out.

```
CATCH, err_stat
```

```
IF err_stat NE 0 THEN BEGIN
```

```
    CATCH, /CANCEL
```

```
    sv=DIALOG_MESSAGE('Not valid .sav file: '+adr, /INFORMATION)
```

```
    RETURN, -1
```

```
ENDIF
```

```
RESTORE, adr
```
