Subject: Re: Restoring Data within a Procedure
Posted by Marty Ryba on Fri, 04 Apr 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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D.H.Brooks wrote:
> I have a widget that I use to select IDL save/restore files and so when I pick
> one I'm within a compound widget at a lower level than the main program. This means
> that I get the message;
>
> % Identifiers can only be added or deleted at the main level: STRUCTURE.
>
> How would I go about getting rid of this? Can anyone help?

   The key is that you cannot *add* variables within a compiled
procedure. However, in IDL you can *always* change the size/type of any
already-declared variable. So, if your SAVE/RESTORE files always have
the same variables (which I assume is the case since you are picking one
of several files for supposedly identical processing), you pre-declare
the variables.

Here's a simple example:

FUNCTION do_restore, filename

structure = 0   ; Creates identifier for variable within
    ; save/restore file
restore, filename

return, structure ; return to calling function
END

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Dr. Marty Ryba | Of course nothing I say here is official
  MIT Lincoln Laboratory | policy, and Laboratory affililaton is
     ryba@ll.mit.edu | for identification purposes only,
                   | blah, blah, blah, ...