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Subject: Re: Object Funkiness

Posted by [J.D. Smith](#) on Wed, 30 Jul 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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I just realized that this isn't actually a good test of dynamic method binding. So I made a and b \*different\* kinds of objects, each with a Message method. The same problem persists, with the same properties.

JD

> P.S. Except for this problem, dynamic binding seems to work well.

This is verified.

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Subject: Re: Object Funkiness

Posted by [J.D. Smith](#) on Thu, 31 Jul 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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J.D. Smith wrote:

>

> OK OOP experts. Here's a conundrum...

>

> here's a procedure to test dynamic binding of methods in IDL...

>

> pro testdb

> a=obj\_new('eeke','a')

> b=obj\_new('eeke','b')

> list=[a,b]

> ran=fix(randomu(sd) ge .5)

> list[ran]->Message, ran, 1-ran

> obj\_destroy,list

> return

> end

>

> and the file eeke\_\_define.pro contains:

>

> pro eeke::Message, ran, ran2

> print,self.val,' random: ',ran, ran2

> return

> end

> function eeke::Init,val

> self.val=val

> return,1

> end

> pro eeke\_\_define

> struct={eeke,val:''}

> return

```
> end
>
> When I run it I get
>
> IDL> testdb
>
> list[ran]->Message, ran, 1-ran
>      ^
> % MESSAGE: Incorrect number of arguments.
> At: /u/jdsmith/idl/pro/mylib/testdb.pro, Line 6
> % Compiled module: TESTDB.
> % Attempt to call undefined procedure/function: 'TESTDB'.
> % Execution halted at: $MAIN$
>
> If I change the name of Message to something else, or take away the
> arguments to message in both the method definition and the call, the
> error disappears. Is 'message' somehow different than other names? I
> thought it could be shadowing the idl built-in message, and screwing up
> the dynamic binding, but I've tried tons of other built-in names (like
> 'print', 'xmanager', etc.) with nary a problem. Perhaps 'Message' is
> some IDL internal method for all objects... anyway it is very
> troublesome, and I'd like to figure out the cause. Any help would be
> greatly appreciated.
>
> JD
>
> P.S. Except for this problem, dynamic binding seems to work well.
```

I've found that this isn't limited to dynamic binding. Indeed, if you just try:

```
a=obj_new('eek','aval')
```

and then, e.g.:

```
a->Message,1,0
```

you will still get the error. I've alerted the tech support crew at RSI. At least a list of which method names we're not allowed to use would be good. But, really, this bug needs resolution.

JD

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Subject: Re: Object Funkiness

Posted by [Phil Williams](#) on Fri, 01 Aug 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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J.D. Smith wrote:

>

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>>

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>> end

>> function eeke::Init,val

>> self.val=val

>> return,1

>> end

>> pro eeke\_\_define

~~~~~

The \_\_define method should be a FUNCTION. I'm sure once this is done everything should work fine.

>> struct={eeke,val:''}

>> return

>> end

>>

phil

--

/\*\*\*\*\* \*/

Phil Williams, Ph.D.

Research Instructor

Children's Hospital Medical Center "One man gathers what

Imaging Research Center another man spills..."

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