### Ruby - Bug #18235

## try\_var in mkmf.rb recognizes a variable that is not declared

10/01/2021 04:39 PM - ReiOdaira (Rei Odaira)

Status: Closed

Priority: Normal

Assignee:

Target version:

ruby -v: ruby 3.1.0dev (2021-09-30T14:50:31Z

master 529fc204af) [powerpc-aix7.2.0]

Backport: 2.6: UNKNOWN, 2.7: UNKNOWN, 3.0:

UNKNOWN

#### Description

In 524513be399e81bb170ec88aa0d501f33cbde8c3, try\_var in mkmf.rb has been modified to recognize a variable that exists but is not declared. What was the rationale behind this change?

In ext/date/extconf.rb, it checks have\_var("altzone", "time.h", opt) . Strangely, in AIX, the variable altzone is not declared in time.h but does exist somewhere in the library. As a result, extconf.rb regards altzone as a valid variable, but compile fails because it is not declared. I think the library of AIX is weird, but the logic of try\_var looks as weird to me. I thought the intent of have\_var/try\_var was to pre-check whether the compile succeeds if you use the variable, wasn't it?

In any case, an ad-hoc solution to this particular issue in the date module is just adding #if defined(\_AIX) to ext/date/date\_core.c, but I'm curious if try var could lead to other issues in the future.

Thanks,

#### **Associated revisions**

#### Revision ea64e742f5feddbdfb6526cd0a54a9986097a34d - 10/03/2021 09:23 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

Revert "mkmf.rb: try linking at try\_var" [Bug #18235]

This reverts commit 524513be399e81bb170ec88aa0d501f33cbde8c3, which can return false positive by existing but unusable symbol, including functions.

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### Revision ea64e742 - 10/03/2021 09:23 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

Revert "mkmf.rb: try linking at try var" [Bug #18235]

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### History

## #1 - 10/03/2021 09:31 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

- Status changed from Open to Closed

Applied in changeset gitlea64e742f5feddbdfb6526cd0a54a9986097a34d.

Revert "mkmf.rb: try linking at try\_var" [Bug #18235]

This reverts commit 524513be399e81bb170ec88aa0d501f33cbde8c3, which can return false positive by existing but unusable symbol, including functions.

06/14/2025