
Subject: Re: Preserving Variables

Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 28 Oct 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Matthew Hanson (matt@ktaadn.com) writes:

> Anyone know how to make statis variables? That is, upon returning to a
> function, how can i create a variable that has the same value as when i
> left the function before? I really don't want to use Common Blocks.

I'm not sure how this could be done in a regular IDL
function without common blocks (I say this knowing I
am risking my reputation among students who have heard
my anti-common block lectures :-). Perhaps with Save/Restore
functionality, but I have to think, why bother?

In a widget program this kind of thing is easily accomplished
with either pointers or user values. See any of the widget
programs on my web page for examples. I guess you could do
it with pointers with a regular function too, as long as
the pointer was passed into the function as a parameter.

```
output = My_Function(ptrToStaticVariables)
```

Cheers,

David

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