
Subject: Re: STRUCT_ASSIGN
Posted by [rivers](#) on Sat, 22 Aug 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <6rn2tk\$nn\$1@hammer.msfc.nasa.gov>, mallors@crazyhorse.msfc.nasa.gov (Robert S. Mallozzi) writes:

```
> I have a structure defined as follows:
>
>   a = { f1: 0, f2: { x: 0, y: 0} }
>
> I want to initialize the substructure f2
> in a subroutine by having an instance of the f2
> structure, then copying it field-by-field to
> a.f2. STRUCT_ASSIGN seemed ideal for this,
> except one problem - it doesn't work :- )
>
> Assuming I have initialized an instance of
> f2 (called data) with some values
>
>   data = {x: 10, y: 20}
```

The problem is that data is NOT an instance of f2, but rather another anonymous structure, which IDL does not realize is the same as f2. If IDL did realize this then you could simply type:
a.f2 = data

There are 2 ways to get this to work:

1) Use named structures rather than anonymous ones.

```
a = { f1: 0, f2: {f2, x: 0, y: 0} }
data = {f2, x: 10, y: 20}
a.f2 = data
```

2) Create data from a

```
a = { f1: 0, f2: { x: 0, y: 0} }
data = a.f2 & data.x=10 & data.y=20
a.f2 = data
```

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