
Subject: Re: Can an object's structure be redefined without restarting IDL

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Fri, 02 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Frank Morgan wrote:

> If you're working interactively at top-level you can delete the structure
> and recreate it from scratch with new fields - like:
>
> x = {a:0, b:2.0}
> delvar, x
> x = {a:0, b:2.0, c:5.2}
>
> This avoids the data structure conflict. You can't use delvar in procedures
> though.

Because X is an anonymous structure,

```
x = {a:0, b:2.0}  
x = {a:0, b:2.0, c:5.2}
```

will work just as well, and does not require DELVAR. You can redefine an anonymous structure on the command line, or in a procedure, function, or script.

Named structures however cannot be redefined; their definition is fixed until the end of the IDL session. For example, the second statement below is not allowed:

```
y = {TEST, a:0, b:2.0}  
y = {TEST, a:0, b:2.0, c:5.2}
```

Cheers,
Liam.

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