
Subject: Re: Changing a structure
Posted by [thompson](#) on Fri, 24 Jun 1994 20:40:35 GMT
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kkobayas@husc9.harvard.edu (Ken Kobayashi) writes:

> In IDL, is there any way to change the structure of an existing structured
> variable? Or do I have to break it down to the components, save, exit, start
> idl again, restore, and re-assemble a new structure?

If you use anonymous structures, then you don't have to go through all that.
Simply create the new structure out of the old structure. For example, suppose
you set

```
A = {IMAGE: indgen(100,100), LABEL: 'label', DATE: '24-JUN-94'}
```

and you want to multiply the image 3.74 to put it into physical units. Since
this would convert it from integer to floating point, you can't simply say

```
A.IMAGE = 3.74*A.IMAGE
```

However, you can say

```
A = {IMAGE: 3.74*A.IMAGE, LABEL: A.LABEL, DATE: A.DATE}
```

It's still a bit tedious, but better than dealing with named structures.

Bill Thompson
