Subject: Re: Changing common variable definition Posted by larkum on Tue, 26 Jul 1994 13:17:58 GMT

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In article fnd@reznor.larc.nasa.gov, tai@rockola.larc.nasa.gov (Alan Tai) writes:
> Matthew Larkum (larkum@optolab.unibe.ch) wrote:
> : common my_vars, x, y
> : and then add a variable:
> : common my_vars, x, y, z
> : and recompile, I get an error:
>: % Attemp to extend previously defined common: MY_VARS
> : Is there any way to redefine a common variable?
>
> No, your common block definitions must all be the same (ala Fortran).
> If you're using IDL version 3.6, you can just do the following:
>
>
    common my_vars, x, y
>
    common my_vars
>
> If you're using an earlier version, my suggestion is to go with an
> @include file.
>
> main program:
    @globals.pro
>
    @globals.pro
>
> globals.pro:
>
    common my_vars, x, y
> Hope this helps.
No, this isn't quite what I was getting at. I don't want to have
different common variable definitions in different modules, I
simply want to be able to add a variable to all modules, recompile
and proceed. Taking your example I tried:
pro subroutine
@globals.pro
print, 'This is the subroutine'
end
pro test
@globals.pro
print, 'This is the main routine'
```

end

The globals.pro file was initially: common my_vars, x, y

Works fine. Then I say, "Wait a minute. I forgot. I also need a variable 'z'. Fine, make the globals.pro file: common my_vars, x, y, z

run test

% Attempt to extend previously defined common: MY_VARS At: /\$DIRECTORY/globals

The only way I know to continue at the moment is to exit and restart. This happens running IDL for windows and PV-Wave 4.01 on a Sun workstation.

I'm sure there's something I don't understand, but I can't find anything about it in the manual or the FAQ.

Thanks again,

Matthew larkum@optolab.unibe.ch