
Subject: Re: Common blocks

Posted by [rivers](#) on Tue, 02 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <9505021847.AA14200@peace.med.ohio-state.edu>, phil@peace.med.ohio-state.edu (Phil) writes:

> I got a ? for y'all. I know how to use common blocks in procedures
> and functions but don't know hoe to do the following. Here's the
> scenario:
>
> 1) run program w/ a common block (it's a widget)
> 2) exit the widget
> 3) access the common block from the command line via
> IDL> common blockname
>
> Here's my ?. How do I get out of the common block and back to the
> 'main' variable space? I have tried retall, but that does not work.
> Any help would be appreciated.

You are not "in the common block". You ARE in the "main" variable space. However, that variables in that common block are now "visible" in the main program space, just like any other main program variable.

This can be useful in many circumstances. I don't think it is possible to make that common block "invisible" again. It should not be a problem unless you try to use a variable whose name is the same as one in the common block, which might then have undesirable side-effects.

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