On Thu, 02 Jun 2005 14:25:46 +0200, David Fanning wrote:

> saplizki@gmail.com wrote:
>
>> I need to delete my variable from the variable name list.
>> but i don't locate at the top level (i'm in a gui program) so i can't
>> 'delvar' it.
>> also i can't (don't want to) zero it because it won't remove from the
>> variable list (when i press help or use ROUTINE_NAMES or ROUTINE_INFO)
>> and i use that list at my program.
>
> Try UNDEFINE:
>
>   http://www.dfanning.com/programs/undefine.pro

Note that there is a difference between a deleted variable and an
undefined variable:

IDL> a=12

IDL> help
% At $MAIN$
A   INT   =   12

IDL> delvar,a

IDL> help
% At $MAIN$

IDL> a=12

IDL> undefine,a
% Compiled module: UNDEFINE.

IDL> help
% At $MAIN$
A   UNDEFINED = <Undefined>

IDL> print,routine_info('$MAIN$',/VARIABLES)
A

I.e. the TEMPORARY tricks leave a reference to the variable as
UNDEFINED, whereas DELVAR removes any notion of ever having seen such

a variable. They are equivalent if you are using, e.g., N_ELEMENTS()
eq 0 as a test for a variable's presence, since whether a variable is
non-existent, or exists but is undefined, N_ELEMENTS is 0. An
undefined variable, however, is still a variable, and will show up in
ROUTINE_INFO, among other places.

JD