Subject: Re: too many local variables
Posted by knighton on Mon, 24 Jul 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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In <DC1IFL.K1v@ireq.hydro.qc.ca> brooker@toka.ireq-ccfm.hydro.qc.ca writes:

> Help!!

> I have a data analysis procedure that is up to 679 lines and when I try to add
> some new code to it I get the error
> "program unit has too many local variables"

> I then delete the new code and rerun the program. Just before the end I placed a
> STOP statement. After typing HELP I see that I have 236 local variables.

> I take it then that the limit for local variables is slighly bigger than 236?

> Has anybody else had this problem? How do you delete variables that you no
> longer need in a procedure?

There is a limit on local variable names. There are several ways to get around
this limit:

1. Use common blocks, these don't count against the local variable limit.
    Be sure to keep less than 64 variables per common block however or you
    will run up against another limit.
2. Partition your problem so that you use structures and arrays. A structure
    or an array uses just one local variable name but can store numerous pieces
    of information.
3. Break your program up into functions and procedures that are small and
    accomplish simple, well-defined tasks. These modules should have only a
    few variables and perhaps 25-100 lines of code each.

I have personally written applications that are thousands of lines long that
don't even come close to reaching the limit on local variables.

I think it would be helpful if all of these limits were documented somewhere.
RSI?

I hope this helps.

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