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Subject: Re: yet another idl memory question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2009 17:06:09 GMT

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Jean H. writes:

> in which case you may want to save the  
> variable(s) to a file, free the memory (data=0B) and start processing  
> the next file.

Of course, data=0B doesn't free \*all\* the memory, and doing this many times leads, I suspect, to the memory fragmentation that is the heart of the problem. I suggest you use UNDEFINE. That really does release \*all\* the memory associated with a variable. And it elegantly indicates what the code is actually doing, too, a significant advantage for people reading your code after you have run off to the tropics with that hot financial analyst over in the head shed. :-)

<http://www.dfanning.com/programs/undefine.pro>

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming ([www.dfanning.com](http://www.dfanning.com))

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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