
Subject: Re: Erasing common block variables
Posted by [chase](#) on Wed, 25 Sep 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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>>>> > "Liam" == Liam Gumley <liam.gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> writes:
In article <3247E4DA.C23@ssec.wisc.edu> Liam Gumley <liam.gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> writes:

Liam> Runar Joergensen wrote:

>> Neither the command .run nor .rnew erases
>> the common block variables (2-11U). So whenever I need to
>> change my common blocks I need to terminate IDL and
>> restart IDL again. Very unpractical.
>> The same problem arises when dealing with structures.
>> Is there a way around this?

Liam> Try using handles. See Section 11-16 of the IDL 4.01 User's Guide.

Indeed, handles and anonymous structures are the best solution for this. If you must have a common block for global access then put either a single anonymous structure or a handle ID into the common block. Then you "change" your common block by changing the anonymous structure or the values in the tree reference by the handle. A long time ago I switched to using an anonymous structure in common blocks to avoid the problem Runar describes.

Chris

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