
Subject: Re: Number of local variables in MAIN

Posted by [Dean Schulze](#) on Mon, 23 Dec 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> There is no way to increase the number of local variables allowed.

An RSI tech. support representative told me that the limit on the number of local variables would be removed (or maybe greatly increased) with version 5.0 of IDL. But for now there is no way to increase that number.

> There are *lots* of ways to decrease the number of local variables
> in your programs, starting with making your programs more modular.
> This has the wonderful side-effect of making you a *much* better
> IDL programmer automatically. :-)
>
> If it were me, I'd try to run fewer "scripts" and more "programs".

I use scripts because it gives me access to all of the variables used which makes debugging easier and lets me study intermediate calculations as well as results. For my current project it is the plotting scripts that are generating excess variables and they can be turned into .pro modules.

Thanks.

Dean Schulze

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"You plot the growth of the NEA [National Education Association] and the dropping of SAT scores, and they're inversely proportional. The problems are unions in the schools. The problem is bureaucracy. I'm one of these people who believes the best thing we could ever do is go to the full voucher system."

Steve Jobs
Wired Magazine, Feb. 96
<http://www.hotwired.com/wired/4.02/features/jobs.html>
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