
Subject: Re: Common block conundrum
Posted by [wonko](#) on Tue, 04 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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williams@skrymir.srl.caltech.edu (Daniel Williams) wrote:

- > When developing programs in IDL, I often work with common blocks.
- > However, if I try to change the definition of an existing common
- > block, I get an error because it IDL thinks that I am trying to use a
- > pre-existing common block in a naughty manner. According to the
- > user's manual (v3.6 p6-10) this is what IDL should do.
- > However, when creating new programs, I often want to change the
- > definition of the common block as the program develops. How can I do
- > this, short of exiting IDL and starting over? Is there some "delvar"
- > equivalent for deleting common blocks or programs from memory?

I don't think there is any. So I just exit IDL and restart -- our SUNs
are getting faster and faster :)

Another idea would be the usage of global variables. They can be created
and changed with DEFSYSV at the main level.

I usually prefer this, only in my actual project I use common blocks,
just out of curiosity, I wanted to know what's so hot about them. Are
there drawbacks I don't see?

Alex

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