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Subject: Re: Call object cleanup method when IDL exits  
Posted by [Moritz Fischer](#) on Thu, 22 Aug 2013 14:31:59 GMT  
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Hi David,

sorry, I didn't mean to pm you.  
However, I just figured out you can do this:

```
PRO my_exit
  help, LEVEL=-1, OUTPUT=o
  funny_array = strsplit( strjoin( o, ' '), ' ', /EXTRACT)
  foreach var, funny_array do $
    tmp = temporary( scope_varfetch(var, LEVEL=-1, /ENTER) )
  tmp=42
  exit
END
```

Neverthe less: Let me know if you find something more elegant!

cheers

Am 22.08.2013 15:04, schrieb David Grier:

```
> Dear Folks,
>
> I want to ensure that my object's cleanup method is called when IDL exits.
> What's the right way to do this?
>
> The issue is that my object spawns a background process that it subsequently
> kills when the object is cleaned up. It appears that IDL does not automatically
> call objects' cleanup methods when it shuts down normally.
> Consequently, the background process can be left running.
>
> This isn't a problem for well-written programs that explicitly call obj_destroy.
> It arises all the time during interactive sessions, however.
>
> Is there a switch that tells IDL to be extra fastidious about cleaning up objects?
> Perhaps an equivalent to IDL_STARTUP that works on shutdown? Or is there some
> other technique to ensure that every object on the heap is cleaned up before
> IDL shuts down?
>
> Many thanks,
>
> David
>
```

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